

BOTERO

Larger-than-life



OPERA GALLERY

BOTERO

20 September
— 6 October, 2023

Larger-than-life

FOREWORD

Opera Gallery

Gilles Dyan
FOUNDER & CHAIRMAN
Opera Gallery Group

Sylvain P. Gaillard
DIRECTOR
Opera Gallery Dubai

Opera Gallery Dubai is thrilled to host its first show in its new location at Atlantis The Royal.

Welcome to the extraordinary world of Fernando Botero, where beauty and voluptuousness converge in a harmonious dance of form and color. It is with great pleasure and excitement that we present this exclusive exhibition, showcasing the remarkable works of one of the most renowned artists of our time, Fernando Botero. Through this collection, we invite you to embark on a journey that transcends cultures, time, and space, exploring the unique connection between Botero’s masterpieces and the vibrant city of Dubai.

Fernando Botero, a Colombian painter and sculptor, possesses a singular artistic vision that has captivated audiences worldwide. With his unmistakable style, he has created a universe where proportions are exaggerated, shapes are inflated, and figures exude a sense of vitality and sensuality. Botero’s works evoke a sense of joy, inviting us to revel in the pleasures of life, while simultaneously prompting us to reflect on deeper social and political issues.

“Just like Botero’s art, Dubai is a place where larger-than-life dreams come true. It is a city that has emerged from the sands of the desert to become a symbol of innovation, progress, and cultural diversity.”

An accomplished contemporary artist, Fernando Botero has always used a variety of medium to illustrate his artistic universe. Accordingly, the artwork selection for this show is comprised of a curated selection of canvases, works on paper and sculptures.

Dubai, a city known for its grandeur, opulence, and visionary spirit, provides a fitting backdrop for this exceptional exhibition. Just like Botero’s art, Dubai is a place where larger-than-life dreams come true. It is a city that has emerged from the sands of the desert to become a symbol of innovation, progress, and cultural diversity. The juxtaposition of Botero’s exuberant figures against the skyline of Dubai creates a fascinating dialogue between art and architecture, tradition and modernity.

What makes this exhibition truly unique is the intrinsic connection between Botero’s works and the spirit of the region. Botero’s art celebrates the beauty of abundance, a quality that resonates deeply with the city’s essence. In both the artist’s portrayal of everyday life and his exploration of historical and mythological themes, there is a celebration of life’s richness, whether through the sumptuousness of a fruit bowl or the vitality of a group of musicians.

“His sculptures and paintings prompt us to reflect on the interplay between tradition and modernity, the pursuit of wealth and the preservation of cultural heritage.”

Furthermore, Botero’s art invites us to contemplate the human condition and societal dynamics. In Dubai, a city that embodies progress and multiculturalism, his sculptures and paintings prompt us to reflect on the interplay between tradition and modernity, the pursuit of wealth and the preservation of cultural heritage. Through his unique aesthetic language, Botero encourages us to embrace diversity and embrace the notion that true beauty lies in embracing our differences.

As you immerse yourself in this exhibition, I encourage you to let Botero’s art transport you to a realm where joy and contemplation coexist. Let the vibrant colors and ample forms inspire you to see the world through a new lens, one that celebrates life in all its abundance. And as you explore the connections between Botero’s works and the dynamic city of Dubai, may you discover the richness that lies within both artistic expression and cultural exchange.

We look forward to hosting collectors, hotel guests and residents to this exhibition.

مقدمة أوبرا جاليري

جيل ديان
رئيس مجلس الإدارة والرئيس
التنفيذي
مجموعة أوبرا جاليري

سيلفان جيلارد
المدير
أوبرا جاليري دبي

يسرّ معرض أوبرا جاليري دبي الإعلان عن أول عروضه من موقعه الجديد في منتجع رويال أتلانتس.

ويدعو المعرض ضيوفه للتعرف على عالم الفنان فيرناندو بوتيرو الاستثنائي، حيث يلتقي الجمال والتفاصيل الحسية في صورة متناغمة من الأشكال والألوان. ويتطلع أوبرا جاليري لاستضافة معرض حصري يضم أعمال فيرناندو بوتيرو، أحد أشهر الفنانين في عصرنا الحالي، ضمن تجربة غامرة تجمع بين الثقافات والأزمنة والأماكن المختلفة وتتيح للضيوف استكشاف الروابط الفريدة بين أعمال بوتيرو المذهلة وإمارة دبي النابضة بالحياة.

ويستقطب الرسام والنحات الكولومبي جمهوراً واسعاً من جميع أنحاء العالم برؤيته الإبداعية الخاصة، حيث يشتهر بأسلوبه الفني الفريد والمميز بالأبعاد الكبيرة والأشكال الضخمة والشخصيات المفعمة بالحياة. وتعكس أعماله الإحساس بالسعادة، كما تدعو للاستمتاع بالحياة والتفكير بالقضايا الاجتماعية والسياسية في الوقت نفسه.

ويعتمد بوتيرو، الفنان المعاصر والموهوب، على استخدام مواد متنوعة لابتكار عالمه الفني الخاص. كما يضم المعرض القادم تشكيلة من الأعمال الفنية المختارة مثل المنحوتات واللوحات القماشية والورقية.

وتُعد إمارة دبي الوجهة الأمثل لاستضافة المعرض الاستثنائي نظراً لاتساع مساحتها ومظاهر الفخامة التي تتميز بها ودعمها للابتكار والإبداع. وتتشابه دبي مع فن بوتيرو من ناحية التشجيع على تحقيق الطموحات والأحلام الكبيرة، كما تتفرد برحلتها الملهمة التي جعلتها رمزاً للابتكار والتطور والتنوع الثقافي. وتتناغم شخصيات بوتيرو الضخمة مع أفق دبي المذهل بصورة فريدة تجمع بين الفن والعمارة والتقاليد والحداثة.

ويتميز هذا المعرض بأوجه التشابه الجوهرية مع الطابع العام للمنطقة، حيث يحتفي فن بوتيرو بالوفرة، وهي المفهوم التي تشتهر به إمارة دبي. ويصور الفنان الطابع الغني للحياة في أعماله المستوحاة من الحياة اليومية أو الموضوعات التاريخية والثقافية، سواء جسدت هذه الأعمال طبقاً من الفاكهة أو مجموعة من الموسيقيين المميزين.

فن بوتيرو من ناحية التشجيع على تحقيق الطموحات والأحلام الكبيرة، كما تتفرد برحلتها الملهمة التي جعلتها رمزاً للابتكار والتطور والتنوع الثقافي

ويتيح فن بوتيرو فرصة النظر بشكل معمق إلى الظروف الإنسانية والتفاعلات الاجتماعية، كما تعكس لوحاته ومنحوتاته المعروضة في دبي العلاقة بين التقاليد والحداثة وتسلط الضوء على السعي لتحقيق الثراء والحفاظ على التراث الثقافي. ويشجع أسلوب بوتيرو الفني على احترام التنوع الثقافي، كما يؤكد على أن الجمال الحقيقي يكمن في هذا التنوع والاختلاف.

ويقدم معرض بوتيرو الفني تجربة غامرة مليئة بالبهجة والمشاعر الإنسانية العميقة، ويتيح الاحتفاء بروعة الحياة من خلال الألوان الحيوية والأشكال الضخمة، كما يتميز المعرض المقام في دبي بتفاصيل تعكس التنوع الفني والثقافي.

ونتطلع لاستقبال هواة جمع المقتنيات الفنية وضيوف الفندق وجميع السكان في هذا المعرض الاستثنائي.

كما تعكس لوحاته ومنحوتاته المعروضة في دبي العلاقة بين التقاليد والحداثة وتسلط الضوء على السعي لتحقيق الثراء والحفاظ على التراث الثقافي

FOREWORD

Atlantis

The Royal

Timothy Kelly
EXECUTIVE
VICE PRESIDENT
& MANAGING DIRECTOR
Atlantis Dubai

Artistic narratives sit at the heart of the Atlantis DNA and are central to every visitor experience to our resort. Regarded as the architectural jewel of the Palm Island and home to a vast array of sculptures, fountains, installations, and paintings – every moment at Atlantis The Royal is a journey of surprise and delight.

Since Atlantis The Royal opened, we have collaborated with some of the world’s leading names in fashion, music, art, design, and architecture. These relationships drive experiential value to our guests and like Atlantis, have the ability to unite people and transcend cultures via their offering. Sharing a mutual passion for art alongside a shared vision for aesthetic refinement, marvel and wonder, Opera Gallery were an obvious partner for our resort.

**“ Botero’s
larger-than-life
depictions, (...)
transcend Atlantis
The Royal’s values;
joy, vitality, and
the pleasures of life,
while challenging
the boundaries
of imagination.”**

To date, our partnership with Opera Gallery has gone from strength to strength. It transcends the retail space into the walls of the resort, supporting and enhancing our guests’ journey of discovery through art and design via curated pieces from Opera’s collections of established and emerging artists from across the globe.

In support of our ongoing quest to deliver the most exceptional experiences, we are thrilled to welcome Opera Gallery Dubai’s first in-resort exhibition by one of the world’s most famous living artists, Fernando Botero. Displayed in the beautiful setting of the resort’s avenue, we invite you to bask in the whimsical world of Botero’s larger-than-life depictions, which similarly transcend Atlantis The Royal’s values; joy, vitality, and the pleasures of life, while challenging the boundaries of imagination.

مقدمة

اتلانتس ذا رويال

تعكس الأعمال الفنية جوهر منتج رويال أتلانتس، وتلعب دوراً أساسياً في إثراء تجارب زوار منتجنا الذي يتفرد بتصميم معماري مذهل في جزيرة النخلة، حيث يحتضن مجموعة متنوعة من المنحوتات والنوافير والأعمال الفنية واللوحات ليمنح الضيوف تجربة فنية فريدة.

وشهد المنتج منذ افتتاحه التعاون مع أبرز الأسماء العالمية الرائدة في مختلف المجالات، مثل الأزياء والموسيقى والفن والتصميم والهندسة المعمارية، مما أسهم في الارتقاء بمكانة المنتج ومنح ضيوفنا فرصة الاطلاع على مختلف الثقافات. ويُعد معرض أوبرا جاليري شريكاً أساسياً لرويال أتلانتس، حيث نتشارك الشغف المتبادل بالفنون إلى جانب الإعجاب بالعناصر الجمالية والتحف.

تيموثي كيللي
نائب الرئيس التنفيذي والمدير
العام لمنتجات أتلانتس دبي

ويسجل تعاوننا مع أوبرا جاليري نجاحات متواصلة، إذ يعزز تجارب ضيوفنا بما يتجاوز مفهوم متجر البيع بالتجزئة من خلال توفير التصميم الفني المميزة لقطع مجموعات أوبرا المصممة من قبل فنانين معروفين وناشئين من مختلف دول العالم.

وتماشياً مع التزامنا بتقديم التجارب الأكثر تميزاً، يسعدنا أن نستضيف أول معرض في أوبرا جاليري دبي لفيرناندو بوتيرو، أحد أشهر فناني العالم. وندعوكم للاستمتاع بجمال أعمال بوتيرو الفنية الكبيرة، والتي تحاكي جوهر رويال أتلانتس المتمثل بالفرح والحيوية والجمال وإطلاق العنان للمخيلة.

أعمال بوتيرو الفنية
الكبيرة، والتي تحاكي
جوهر رويال أتلانتس
التمثل بالفرح والحيوية
والجمال وإطلاق العنان
للمخيلة.

CELEBRATING THE ESSENCE OF EXUBERANCE

Fernando Botero, a renowned Colombian artist, has left an indelible mark on the world of art with his distinctive style and unique interpretation of the human form. Born in Medellín, Colombia, in 1932, Botero's artistic journey began at an early age, and he has since become one of the most celebrated and recognizable artists of the 20th and 21st centuries.

Botero's signature style, often referred to as "Boterismo," is characterized by the exaggerated proportions of his subjects. Whether it be a voluptuous figure, a plump animal, or an inflated object, Botero's art captures the essence of exuberance. His paintings and sculptures are filled with rounded forms and a sense of volume that gives his subjects a sense of weight and presence.

One of Botero's notable contributions to the art world is his portrayal of the human figure. While many artists seek to idealize or represent an unattainable standard of beauty, Botero takes a different approach. He embraces the beauty of the ordinary, depicting everyday people with a sense of dignity and grandeur. Through his works, Botero challenges the conventional notions of beauty and invites viewers to appreciate the richness and diversity of the human body.

Botero draws inspiration from a myriad of sources, including historical events, societal issues, and everyday life. His art often reflects social and political commentary, addressing themes such as power, corruption, and the human condition. By incorporating satire and humor into his works, Botero offers a critical lens

through which to examine the world around us. The artist's Colombian heritage is also evident in his subject matter. He frequently portrays scenes from Colombian culture, featuring traditional festivities, musicians, and street life. Through these depictions, Botero celebrates the vibrancy and diversity of his homeland, creating a dialogue between the global and the local.

Botero's art has transcended borders and has been exhibited in renowned museums and galleries around the globe. His larger-than-life sculptures have become iconic landmarks in cities such as New York, Paris, and Singapore. These monumental figures, with their unmistakable proportions, stand as symbols of joy and resilience, captivating audiences and sparking conversations.

In addition to his visual art, Botero is also an accomplished sculptor, draftsman, and printmaker. His diverse body of work encompasses a wide range of subjects, from still life and landscapes to portraits and historical scenes. Each piece carries Botero's distinctive touch, capturing the viewer's attention with its vibrant colors, meticulous detail, and undeniable charm.

Fernando Botero's artistic legacy is a testament to his passion for art and his ability to create a visual language that speaks to people from all walks of life. Through his dedication to his craft and his unwavering commitment to his unique style, Botero has carved a permanent place in the annals of art history. His art continues to inspire, provoke, and bring joy to audiences worldwide, ensuring that his legacy will endure for generations to come.

ARTWORKS

Dos Hermanas

2018

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

129,2 x 100 cm | 50.9 x 39.4 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection

EXHIBITED

New York, Marlborough Gallery, *Botero, Recent Paintings*,
11 October – 24 November 2018, ill. p. 33

CERTIFICATE

The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Músicos

2017

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower right

119 x 96 cm | 46.9 x 37.8 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection

EXHIBITED
New York, Marlborough Gallery, *Botero, Recent Paintings*, 11 October – 24 November 2018, ill p. 23

CERTIFICATE
The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Woman with Fruit

2016

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower right

119 x 88,2 cm | 46.9 x 34.8 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection

CERTIFICATE
Certificate issued by the artist



A Family

2016

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower right

163,2 x 190,2 cm | 64.3 x 74.9 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection

CERTIFICATE
The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Carnival

2016

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

129 x 94 cm | 50.8 x 37 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection



The Saint
2014

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower right

186,7 x 100,3 cm | 73.5 x 39.5 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection



Lawyer and Secretary

2010

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower right

206 x 129 cm | 81.1 x 50.8 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection

CERTIFICATE
The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Circus Band

2008

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower right

185 x 141 cm | 72.8 x 55.5 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Opera Gallery Singapore
Private collection



Circus People

2008

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

132 x 109 cm | 52 x 42.9 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Galerie Gmurzynska, Zug, Switzerland

Private collection

CERTIFICATE

The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



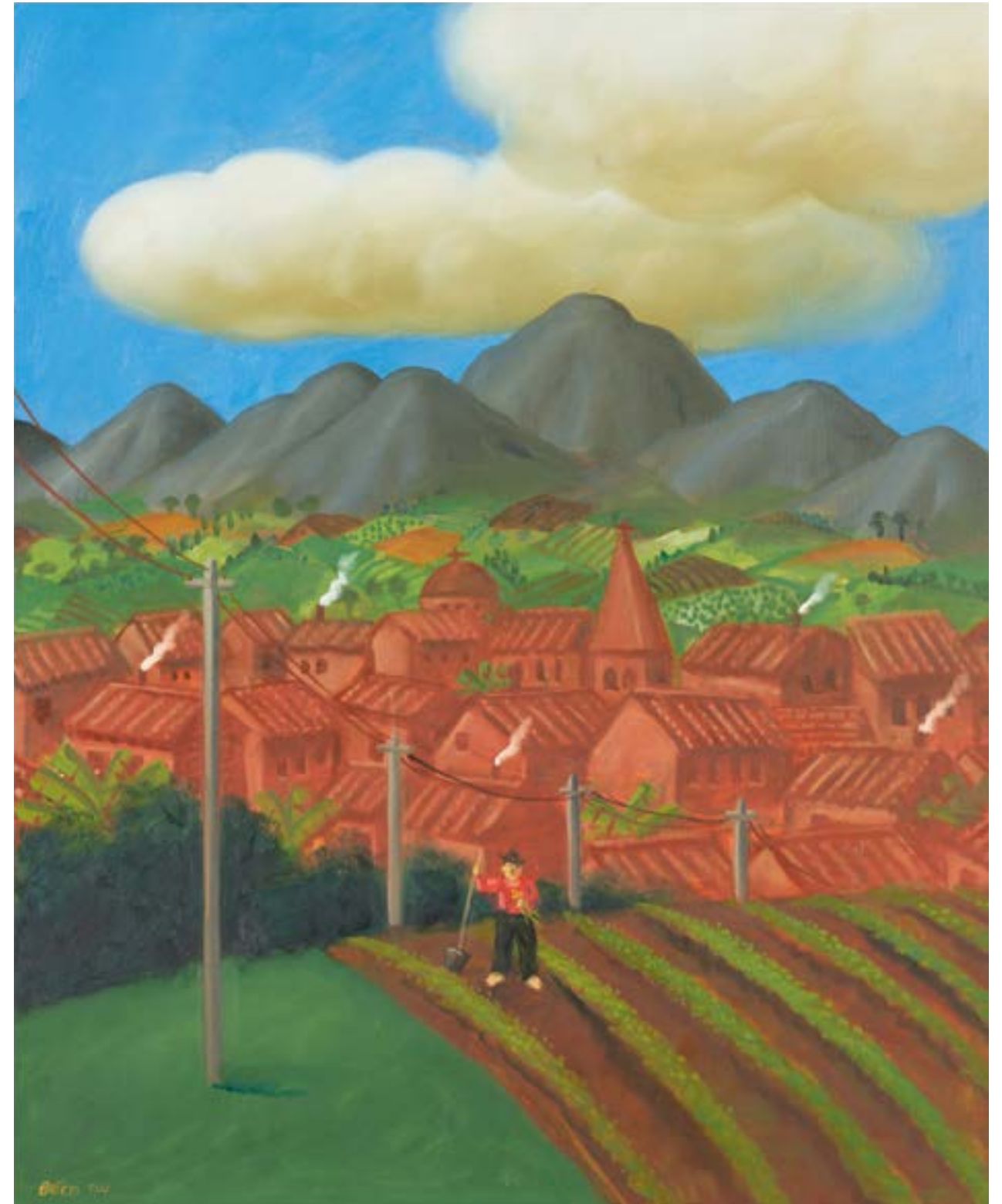
Paisaje

2004

Oil on canvas
Signed and dated on the lower left

76 x 62 cm | 29.9 x 24.4 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection



Picador

2002

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

193 x 136 cm | 76 x 53.5 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio



Still Life with Fruit Bowl

1999

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

98 x 135 cm | 38.6 x 53.1 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection

EXHIBITED

Locarno, Pinacoteca Comunale Casa Rusca, *Botero*,
20 March – 10 July 2011

CERTIFICATE

The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Portrait of Picasso

1998

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

187 x 128 cm | 73.6 x 50.4 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection

LITERATURE

Cecilia Braschi, 'Botero and Picasso : An Imaginary Dialogue'
in *Berkeley Review of Latin American Studies*, Fall – Winter 2018,
ill. in colour p. 41

EXHIBITED

Aix-en-Provence, Hôtel de Caumont, *Botero, dialogue avec Picasso*,
24 November 2017 – 11 March 2018

CERTIFICATE

The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Niño
1993

Sanguine and charcoal on canvas
Signed and dated on the center right

130,8 x 101 cm | 51.5 x 39.7 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Loudmer Scp., 15 December 1997, lot 25

Private collection

EXHIBITED

Buenos Aires, Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes,

Botero en Buenos Aires, April – May 1994, ill. in colour p. 130



The Street

1989

Oil on canvas

Signed and dated on the lower right

119 x 91 cm | 46.9 x 35.8 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection, Singapore

CERTIFICATE

The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Bailarina

2015

Bronze

Edition of 6

Signed, numbered and stamped with the foundry
mark 'Fonderia Artistica Versiliese Italy' on the base

120 x 40 x 65 cm | 47.2 x 15.7 x 25.6 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection

LITERATURE

Bruno Monnier, *Botero. Dialogue avec Picasso*,
Citadelles & Mazenod, Paris, 2017, ill. in colour p. 148
(an other edition)

CERTIFICATE

The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Uccello

2006

Bronze with brown Patina

Edition 1/2

36 x 36 x 24 cm | 14.2 x 14.2 x 9.4 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection



Gatto piccolo (con coda lunga)

Bronze

Edition 5/6

25 x 71 x 34 cm | 9.8 x 28 x 13.4 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection



Standing Woman

circa 1990

Bronze

Edition of 6

Signed, numbered and stamped with the foundry mark

‘Fonderia M Italy’ on the base

81,3 x 38,1 x 25,4 cm | 32 x 15 x 10 in

PROVENANCE

Artist’s studio

Helene Wasserman Fine Art, New York

Private collection, Palm Beach, May 1996



Gato
1981

Bronze
Edition of 6
Signed and numbered on the foot

34,3 x 108,6 x 31,8 cm | 13.5 x 42.7 x 12.5 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Christie's, New York, 22 May 1986, lot 101
Private collection

LITERATURE
Edward J. Sullivan, *Botero. Sculpture*, Abbeville Press,
New York, 1986, ill. p. 130 (other edition)

CERTIFICATE
The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



The Singer
2023

Signed and dated on the lower right
Watercolour on paper

31 x 41 cm | 12.2 x 16.1 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio

CERTIFICATE
Certificate issued by the artist



Flautista

2023

Watercolour on paper

Signed and dated on the lower right

41 x 31 cm | 16.1 x 12.2 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

CERTIFICATE

Certificate issued by the artist



Man and Woman with Umbrella

2023

Watercolour on paper

Signed and dated on the lower right

41 x 31 cm | 16.1 x 12.2 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

CERTIFICATE

Certificate issued by the artist



Woman with Fur
2023

Watercolour on paper
Signed and dated on the lower right

41 x 31 cm | 16.1 x 12.2 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio

CERTIFICATE
Certificate issued by the artist



Man and Woman Walking

2022

Watercolour on paper

Signed and dated on the lower right

41 x 31 cm | 16.1 x 12.2 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Private collection



Guitar Player
2022

Watercolour and graphite on paper
Signed and dated on the lower right

41 x 31 cm | 16.1 x 12.2 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection

CERTIFICATE
The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Dancer with a Cane
2007

Pencil and charcoal on paper
Signed and dated on the lower right

40 x 30 cm | 15.7 x 11.8 in

PROVENANCE
Artist's studio
Private collection

CERTIFICATE
The artist has confirmed the authenticity of this work



Picknick im Walde

1973

Graphite on paper

Signed and dated on the lower right

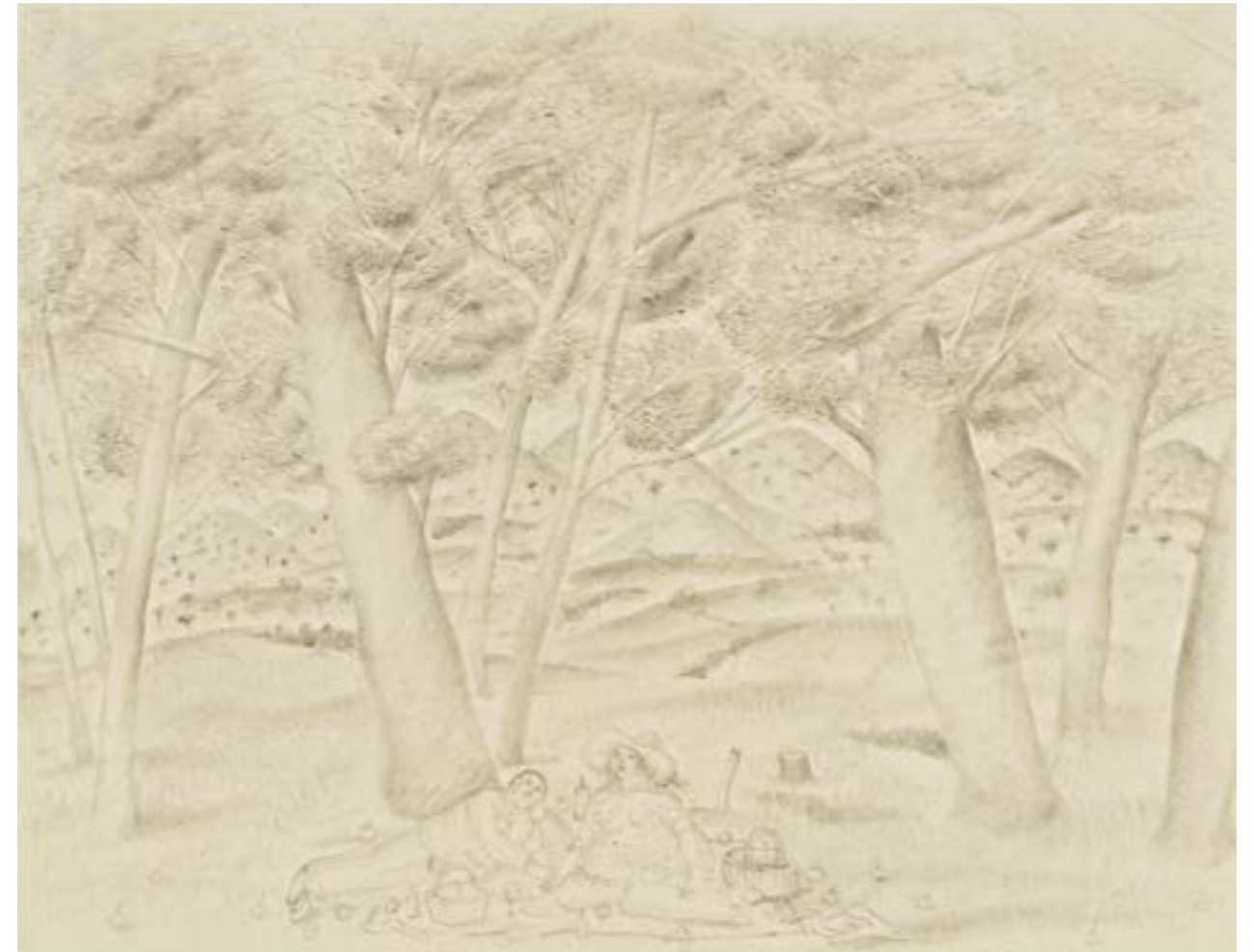
48 x 62,5 cm | 18.9 x 24.6 in

PROVENANCE

Artist's studio

Galerie Brusberg, Hanover, Germany

Private collection



BIOGRAPHY





Fernando Botero © Enrique Palacio

Fernando Botero, born in Medellín, Colombia in **1932**, is a Colombian figurative artist and sculptor.

Botero is best known for his distinctive style of smooth inflated shapes with unexpected shifts in scale which reflect the artist's constant search to give volume presence and reality. The extravagantly rounded figures characteristic of his work were influenced by the exuberance of the ornate Spanish colonial Baroque churches and palaces in Latin America. Botero appropriated the Baroque art and architecture omnipresent throughout his childhood, by synthesising the Spanish tradition of painting, foremost Velázquez and Zurbarán, and the Colombian fantastical folk imagery.

After winning second place at the 9th Salón Nacional de Artistas in Bogotá in **1952**, Botero travelled to Europe, studying art at Madrid's Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando. He subsequently moved to Paris, where he studied the works of the Old Masters at the Louvre. He then spent time in Florence, where he attended the Academy of Fine Arts to learn fresco technique. He studied Piero della Francesca's paintings, which he considered the pinnacle of Renaissance art, and Giotto di Bondone's ability to depict volume through form and colour. Botero settled in Mexico City in **1955** where he encountered first-hand the work of Mexican muralists, Diego Rivera, David Alfaro Siqueiros, and José Clemente Orozco. This encounter sparked his interest in monumental art and social realism. The following year, Botero painted "Still Life with Mandolin" (**1956**) in the exaggerated, large-scale style, which became his mature artistic expression.

In **1973**, after moving to Paris, Botero started creating bronze sculptures, transforming the voluptuous painted figures from his canvas into three-dimensional art. He embraced the medium wholeheartedly, stating that sculpture allowed him to create real volume and touchable forms. His monumental sculptures have been displayed in prominent public locations worldwide, such as Avenue des Champs-Élysées (Paris); Forte Belvedere (Florence); Broadgate (London); Park Avenue, (New York); Michigan Avenue (Chicago); Paseo de Recoletos (Madrid).

Fernando Botero has received numerous accolades throughout his career, including the International Sculpture Center's Lifetime Achievement in Contemporary Sculpture Award in **2012**. His works are found in many important private and public collections, such as the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution (Washington, D.C.); Ho-am Museum (Seoul); Israel Museum (Jerusalem); Kunsthalle Nuremberg (Nuremberg); Museo d'Arte Moderna del Vaticano (Rome); Museum Moderne Kunst (Vienna); Neue Pinakothek (Munich); Staatgalerie Moderne Kunst (Munich); Tel Aviv Museum of Art (Tel Aviv); The Metropolitan Museum of Art (New York); The Museum of Modern Art (New York); and The Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum (New York). In **2000**, Fernando Botero donated a significant art collection of 208 pieces consisting of 123 artworks created by Botero himself, along with 85 pieces by renowned international artists to Banco de la República. This collection allowed to establish the Museo Botero, which found its home in a restored colonial mansion nestled within La Candelaria, a neighborhood located in the heart of Bogotá's historic center.

Fernando Botero lives and works between Monte-Carlo, Pietrasanta (Italy) and Greece.

وُلد النحات والفنان التصويري فيرناندو بوتيرو في مدينة ميديلين الكولومبية في عام 1932.

واشتهر بأسلوبه المميز في رسم أشكال ضخمة بطابع هادئ وأبعاد غريبة، في سياق محاولاته منح الأحجام طابعاً مستقلاً ولمسات واقعية. واستوحى الفنان شخصيات أعماله من زخارف القصور ومعابد الباروك الإسبانية في أمريكا اللاتينية، حيث سادت عمارة وفن الباروك خلال طفولة بوتيرو مما أثر في أسلوبه الفني. كما تأثر بأساليب الرسم الإسبانية التقليدية، وعلى الأخص أساليب الفنانين فيلاثيكث وزورباران، بالإضافة إلى الثقافة الشعبية المذهلة من التراث الكولومبي.

وحاز بوتيرو على المرتبة الثانية في الصالون الوطني التاسع للفنانين في بوغوتا في عام 1952، ليسافر بعدها إلى أوروبا لدراسة الفنون في أكاديمية سان فيرناندو للفنون الجميلة بمدريد. وانتقل بعد ذلك إلى باريس ليدرس أعمال أهم الفنانين الكبار في اللوفر، كما أمضى بعض الوقت في فلورنسا، حيث قصد أكاديمية الفنون الجميلة ليتعلم أسلوب التصوير الجصي. ودرس بوتيرو لوحات بييرو ديلا فرانشيسكا التي اعتبرها أبرز ما قدمه عصر النهضة، كما درس قدرة جيوتو دي بوندوني على تصوير الحجم بالاعتماد على الشكل واللون. واستقر بوتيرو في المكسيك عام 1955، ليتعرف بشكل مباشر على رسامي الجدران ديبغو ريفيرا وديفيد ألفارو سيكيروس وخوسيه كليمنتي أوروذكو، مما جذب انتباهه إلى أسلوب التضخيم والواقعية الاجتماعية، حيث رسم في العام التالي (1956) لوحة لا تزال الحياة مع المندولين بأسلوب المبالغة في الأبعاد الذي تميّز به لاحقاً.

وبدأ بوتيرو تشكيل منحوتات من البرونز بعد انتقاله إلى باريس عام 1973، ليحوّل شخصيات لوحاته القماشية إلى فن ثلاثي الأبعاد، وسرعان ما أحب بوتيرو هذا الفن الذي سمح له بابتكار أحجام حقيقية وأشكال ملموسة على حد تعبيره. كما تم عرض منحوتاته في مواقع عالمية بارزة مثل شارع شانزليزيه في باريس، وقلعة فورت بيلفيدير في فلورنسا، وبرودجيت في لندن، وبارك أفينيو في نيويورك، وميشيغان أفينيو في شيكاغو، وباسيو دي ريكوليتوس في مدريد.

ونال فيرناندو بوتيرو العديد من الجوائز خلال مسيرته، مثل جائزة الإنجاز مدى الحياة في النحت المعاصر من المركز الدولي للنحت في عام 2012. وتظهر أعماله ضمن أهم الأعمال الفنية الخاصة والعامة، فتبرز في متحف هيرشورن وحديقة النحت في مؤسسة سميثسونيان في العاصمة الأمريكية واشنطن، ومتحف هوام في سيؤول، والمتحف الإسرائيلي في القدس، ومعرض الفنون في مدينة نورمبرج، والمتحف الوطني للفن الحديث في روما، ومتحف مودرن كونست فيينا، ومتحف بيناكوتيك الجديد في ميونخ، ومعرض الدولة للفن الحديث في ميونخ، ومتحف تل أبيب للفنون، ومتحف المتروبوليتان للفنون في نيويورك، إضافة إلى متحف الفن الحديث في نيويورك، ومتحف سولومون ر. غوغنهايم في نيويورك. وتبرّع فيرناندو بوتيرو في عام 2000 بتشكيلة مكونة من 208 قطعة فنية تضم 123 عملاً فنياً من ابتكاره و 85 قطعة فنية من توقيع فنانين عالميين لبنك كولومبيا المركزي، بهدف تأسيس متحف بوتيرو داخل أحد القصور المرممة التي تقع في حي لا كانديلاريا في قلب مركز بوغوتا التاريخي.

ويتابع بوتيرو مسيرته الفنية بين مونتري كارلو وبلدة بيبتراسانتا الإيطالية واليونان.



EXHIBITIONS

SELECTED SOLO EXHIBITIONS

1951 – 52	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Galerie Leo Matiz, Bogotá, Colombia	1986	<i>Fernando Botero: Pinturas – Dibujos – Esculturas</i> , Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain
1957	<i>Fernando Botero of Colombia</i> , Pan American Union, Washington D.C., USA		<i>Botero: Bilder, Zeichnungen, Skulpturen</i> (travelling exhibition); Kunsthalle München, Germany; Kunsthalle Bremen, Germany; Kunsthalle Frankfurt, Germany
1966	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Milwaukee Art Center, Milwaukee, USA		
1975	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Museum Boymans-van Beuningen, Rotterdam, The Netherlands	1987	<i>Botero, dibujante</i> , Centro Colombo-Americano, Bogotá, Colombia
1976	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Caracas, Venezuela		<i>Botero – La corrida</i> , Castello Sforzesco, Sala Viscontea, Milan, Italy
1977	<i>Sala Pedro Botero</i> , Museo de Arte de Medellín, Medellín, Colombia	1988	<i>La Corrida</i> (travelling exhibition); Castel dell’Ovo, Naples, Italy; Albergo dei Poveri, Palermo, Italy
1979	<i>Fernando Botero</i> (travelling exhition); Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C., USA; Corpus Christi, Art Museum of South Texas, USA		<i>Hommage to Botero</i> , Museo de Ponce, Ponce, Puerto Rico
1980	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Fondation Veranneman, Kruishoutem, Belgium	1989	<i>Botero – La corrida</i> (travelling exhibition); Museo de Arte, Coro, Venezuela; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Caracas,Venezuela; Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Internacional Rufino Tamayo, México DF, Mexico
1985	<i>Botero – Donación</i> , Museo Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia	1990	<i>Botero</i> , Fondation Pierre Gianadda, Martigny, Switzerland
	<i>Botero</i> , Museo de Ponce, Puerto Rico	1991	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy

1992	<i>Botero Sculpture</i> , Champs-Élysées, Paris, France	2002	<i>Botero</i> (travelling exhibition), Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden; Arken Museum of Modern Art, Copenhagen, Denmark
	The Pushkin State Museum of Fine Arts, Moscow, Russia; The State Hermitage Museum, Saint Petersburg, Russia	2003	<i>Botero, Œuvres Récentes</i> , Musée Maillol, Paris, France
1996	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Sonje Museum of Contemporary Art, Gyeongju, South Korea		<i>Botero a Venezia: sculture e dipinti</i> , Palazzo Ducale, Venice, Italy
	<i>Monumentals Sculptures</i> , The Israel Museum, Jerusalem, Israel	2004	<i>Botero in Singapore</i> , Esplanade Park, Singapore Art Museum, Singapore
1997	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Museum of Modern Art, Lugano, Switzerland	2005	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Kunsthalle Würth, Schwäbisch Hall, Germany
1998	<i>Botero no Rio de Janeiro</i> , National Museum of Fine Arts, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil		<i>Fernando Botero: gli ultimi quindici anni</i> , Palazzo Venezia, Rome, Italy
1999	<i>Botero</i> , Tel Aviv Museum, Tel Aviv, Israel		<i>Botero</i> , Palazzo Reale, Milan, Italy
	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico	2007	<i>The Baroque World of Fernando Botero</i> (travelling exhibition), Musée National des Beaux-Arts du Québec, Québec, Canada; Texas, USA; Oklahoma, USA; Florida, USA; Delaware, USA; Louisiana, USA; Tennessee, USA; Colorado, USA; Ohio, USA; California, USA
2000	<i>Donation Botero</i> , Museo de Antioquia, Medellín, Colombia		
2001	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden		
	<i>Fernando Botero, 50 años de vida artística</i> , Colegio de San Ildefonso, Mexico City, Mexico		

2009	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , National Museum of Contemporary Art, Seoul, South Korea	2015	<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Seoul Arts Center, Seoul, South Korea
2010	<i>Botero</i> , Pera Museum, Istanbul, Turkey		<i>Botero in China</i> (travelling exhibition), National Museum of China, Beijing, China; China Art Museum, Shanghai, China
	<i>The Baroque World of Fernando Botero</i> , Nevada Museum of Art, Reno, USA		<i>Fernando Botero</i> , Opera Gallery, London, UK
2011	<i>Botero</i> , Bank of Austria Kunsforum, Vienna, Austria		<i>Fernando Botero: Beauty in Volume II</i> , David Benrimon Fine Art, Midtown, New York, USA
	<i>Botero</i> , Pinacoteca Comunale Casa Rusca, Locarno, Switzerland	2016	<i>Botero: Celebrate Life!</i> , Kunsthall Museum, Rotterdam, The Netherlands
2012	<i>Fernando Botero. Una celebración</i> , Fine Arts Palace, México DF, Mexico		<i>Fernando Botero: The Way of the Cross</i> , Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, Italy
	<i>Fernando Botero, Disegnatore e scultore</i> , Pietrasanta, Italy		<i>Fernando Botero</i> , David Benrimon Fine Art, New York, USA
2013	<i>Botero, dibujos en tela y en papel</i> , National Museum of Fine Arts, Buenos Aires, Argentina		<i>Fernando Botero: Art for Human Rights</i> , Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley, USA
	<i>Botero a Parma</i> , Palazzo del Governatore, Parma, Italy		<i>Botero in HK, Monumental Sculpture exhibition</i> , Central Harbourfront Event Space, Hong Kong

2017	Boterustra, Museum Moderner Kunst, Passau, Germany		Fernando Botero: Permanent Accusation: Art For Human Rights, Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley, California, USA
	Botero, Amo Museum – Palazzo Forti, Verona, Italy		Fernando Botero: Recent Paintings, Marlborough, New York, USA
	Botero, dialogue avec Picasso, Hôtel de Caumont Centre d'Art, Aix-en-Provence, France, (through 2018)	2020	Botero. 60 años de pintura, CentroCentro, Madrid, Spain
	America America: Art For Human Rights, Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley, USA	2021	Fernando Botero. Au-delà des formes, Museum of Fine Arts (BAM), Mons, Belgium
	The Stations of the Cross, American University Museum, Washington D.C, District of Columbia, USA	2022	Fernando Botero: Homenaje en su 90 Cumpleaños, Galería Fernando Pradilla, Madrid, Spain
	Botero: 50 Anni d'Artista, Complesso del Vittoriano, Rome, Italy		Celebrating 90 Years of Botero, Art of the World Gallery, Houston, Texas, USA
2018	El Joven Maestro, Botero, Obra temprana (1948 — 1963), Museo Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, Colombia		Botero, Opera Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland
2019	Fernando Botero: A Still Life Retrospective, Custot Gallery Dubai, UAE		Botero: Magic in full Form, Kyoto City KYOCERA Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan
	Fernando Botero Show 2019, David Benrimon Fine Art, Midtown, New York, USA		Botero: Magic in Full Form, (travelling exhibition); Bunkamura Museum of Art, Tokyo, Japan, Nagoya City Art Museum, Nagoya, Japan, Kyoto City Kyocera Museum of Art, Kyoto, Japan
	Fernando Botero: Pinturas recientes, Malborough, Barcelona, Spain	2023	Fernando Botero : El Maestro, MOLAA, Museum of Latin American ART, Long Beach, California, USA

SELECTED
COLLECTIVE
EXHIBITIONS

1948	<i>Pintores antioqueños</i> , Medellín, Colombia	1987	<i>Recent Development in Latin-American Drawing</i> , The Art Institute, Chicago, USA
1958	<i>Venice Biennial</i> , Venice, Italy		<i>The International Art Show for the End of World Hunger</i> (travelling exhibition); Museum of Art, Minnesota, USA; Konstmuseum; Göteborg, Sweden; Kölnischer Kunstverein, Köln, Germany; Musée des Arts Africains et Océaniens, Paris, France; Barbican Art Gallery, London, UK
1959	<i>São Paulo Biennial</i> , São Paulo, Brazil		
1975	<i>Paisaje 1900 — 1975</i> , Museo de Arte Moderno, Bogotá, Colombia	1988	<i>The Latin American Spirit</i> , The Bronx Museum of the Arts, New York, USA
1976	<i>L’art colombien à travers les siècles</i> , Musée du Petit Palais, Paris, France	1989	<i>Paysage dans l’art contemporain</i> , École Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts, Paris, France
	<i>Foire Internationale d’Art Contemporain</i> , Paris, France		<i>Masters of Latin America and the Caribbean in Washington Metropolitan Area Private collections</i> , Museum of Modern Art of Latin America, Washington, D.C., USA
1979	<i>Summer Loan Exhibition</i> , Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA	1990	<i>Figurative-Abstract. Selections from the Latin-American Collection</i> , Huntington Art Gallery, Austin, USA
1983	<i>Modern Nude Paintings: 1880 – 1980</i> , National Art Museum, Osaka, Japan	2008	<i>Picasso – Botero</i> , Opera Gallery, Hong Kong
1984	<i>New Narrative Painting: Selected Works from the Metropolitan Museum of Art</i> , The Museum of Art, Fort Lauderdale, USA	2009	<i>Latin American Masters</i> , Marlborough, New York, USA
	<i>One-Hundred Works from its Collection</i> , Museo de Arte Contemporáneo, Caracas, Venezuela		
	<i>Five Colombian Masters</i> , Museum of Modern Art of Latin America, Washington, D.C., USA		

2011 *Speaking with Hands: Photographs and Sculptures from the Buhl Collection*, Macao Museum of Art, Macao

2013 *Contemporary Masters*, Opera Gallery, New York, New York, USA

Painting and Sculptures, Marlborough, Monaco

2015 *Icons of Art*, Opera Gallery, Dubai, UAE

DESIRE: Fantastic Pieces of Jewelry and Art, Galerie Gmurzynska, Zug, Switzerland

Tempo, Opera Gallery, Monaco

2016 *Icons of Art II*, Opera Gallery, Dubai, UAE

Large Sculptures, Marlborough, New York, USA

2017 *Black, White...*, Custot Gallery, Dubai, UAE

Fernando Botero & Antonio Seguí, Opera Gallery, New York, USA

Information in the Flesh: Art for Human Rights, Berkeley Art Museum & Pacific Film Archive, University of California, Berkeley, USA

Medellín: A Colombian Story, from the 1950s to the present, Les Abattoirs, Toulouse, France

2018 *Modern Masters from Latin America: The Pérez Simón Collection*, San Diego Museum of ART, San Diego, California, USA

Figura y Forma, Opera Gallery, Hong Kong

Ghisla Collection, Fondazione Ghisla Art Collection, Locarno, Switzerland

2019 *Waddington Custot*, Fiac, Paris, France

Art Basel Miami Beach, Miami, USA

Sculpt-Ure, Nohra Hame Gallery, New York, USA

2020 *Taipei Dangdai*, Nangang Exhibition Center, Taipei, Taiwan

Nature Morte, The Hole, New York, USA

On The Bright Side, Opera Gallery, Geneva, Switzerland

Le Cinquième Printemps, Custot Gallery, Al Quoz, Dubai, UAE

Revolving, Nohra Haime Gallery, New York, USA

Botticelli: His Time. And Our Time, Mart, Museum of Modern and Contemporary art of Trento and Rovereto, Rovereto, Italy

2022 *Voices in Pastel: Pastel Society of the West Coast*, Hilbert Museum of California Art, Chapman University, Orange, California, USA

2023 *Ernesto Wuthenow's Art Collection*, Galería Leandro Navarro, Madrid, Spain

Figurative Masters of the Americas, Ann Norton Sculpture Gardens, West Palm Beach, Florida, USA

Los Intocables/The Untouchables, Nohra Haime Gallery, New York, USA

On Form, Opera Gallery, Singapore

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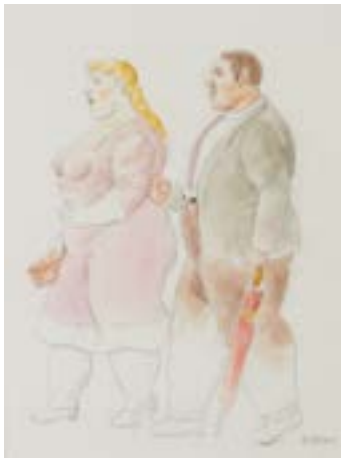
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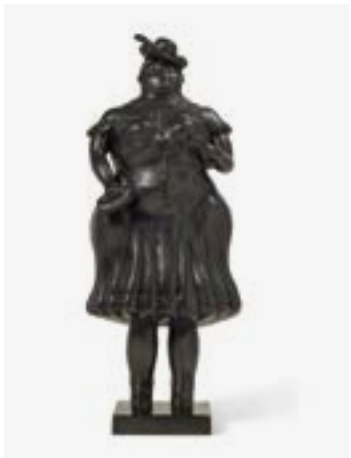
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CREDITS

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