

FEATURED EXHIBITIONS

Isaac Julien: Lina Bo Bardi – A Marvellous Entanglement
October 30, 2021 – February 27, 2022



Isaac Julien: Lina Bo Bardi—A Marvellous Entanglement is an exciting tribute to the legendary Italian-Brazilian architect Lina Bo Bardi by the British artist and filmmaker Isaac Julien. In this nine-screen film installation, Julien examines Bo Bardi’s life and work through dramatic enactments of her words and ideas performed amid her most prized buildings.

Filmed in several locations in Brazil, including the São Paulo Museum of Art, the Museum of Modern Art in Bahia and the Teatro Gregório de Matos in Salvador, the work acts as an open-ended reflection on the architect’s Brazilian projects from the 1960s to the 1980s. Bo Bardi’s life story is

interpreted by Brazilian actresses Fernanda Montenegro and Fernanda Torres, mother and daughter in real life, who portray the mature and the younger version of the Bo Bardi.

Isaac Julien, CBE RA (b. 1960), rose to fame in the art world in the late 1980s with his cinematic exploration of Black gay desire and the Harlem Renaissance in *Looking for Langston*. Over the last three decades, Julien has remained at the forefront of contemporary art by breaking down the barriers that exist between artistic disciplines and exploring themes such as history, narrative, race, Global South and migration through the mediums of installation and filmmaking. His work is held in the permanent collections of museums worldwide and has been exhibited at the Museum of Modern Art in New York, and the Centre Pompidou in Paris, among other leading contemporary museums around the world.

The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art is the first U.S. museum to exhibit *Lina Bo Bardi — A Marvellous Entanglement*. It was previously on view in Rome, Italy, at MAXXI, the National Museum of 21st Century Arts.

Image credit: Isaac Julien, *O que é um museu? / What is a Museum? (Lina Bo Bardi – A Marvellous Entanglement)*, 2019. Endura Ultra photograph facemounted. ©Isaac Julien. Courtesy the artist and Jessica Silverman Gallery

Annemarie Schwarzenbach: Departure Without Destination
April 2, 2022 – June 19, 2022



Annemarie Schwarzenbach: Departure Without Destination, presented in collaboration with Zentrum Paul Klee in Bern, Switzerland, is the first major retrospective dedicated to the photography of the Swiss writer, photographer, and journalist Annemarie Schwarzenbach (1908–1942). Despite her early death, she left behind an impressive body of work that is of great emotional intensity and political relevance. Consumed by wanderlust, a desire for social progress, and a sense of adventure, between 1933 and her death in 1942, she traveled extensively through Europe, Asia, Africa, and the United States, documenting in both text and image, the social and political struggles, tensions, and conflicts of the period leading up to World War II. Schwarzenbach’s photographs also convey personal themes, such as life in exile, the search for identity, homosexuality, or the desire to transgress conventional gender roles.

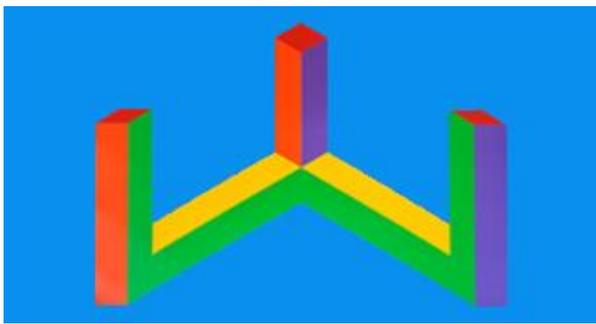
Above all, though, they express Schwarzenbach's unbridled passion for travel— and her search for encounters with the unknown, the “departure without destination” as an existential experience.

When her literary work was rediscovered in the 1980s, she became celebrated as a writer, female pioneer, and gay icon. It was not until recently, however, that her contributions to photography have been recognized. The focal point of this exhibition is Schwarzenbach's estate of approximately 4,000 photographs, preserved within the Swiss Literary Archives (Schweizerisches Literaturarchiv), located in Bern. Relatively unknown to date and rarely exhibited, these photographs have recently been digitized by the Swiss Literary Archives and made available for research, exhibition, and publication. Here, for the first time, the parallels between both of her practices, as a writer and as a photographer, are presented in a compelling exhibition accompanied by archival materials and film. *Annemarie Schwarzenbach: Departure Without Destination* is an exhibition produced by the Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland. The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art's presentation will be adapted from the exhibition's first iteration to include English translations and regionally specific photographs.

Image credit: Annemarie Schwarzenbach, *A Visit to the Highlander Folk School, Mont eagle, Tennessee, USA, 1937*. Courtesy the Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern Switzerland and Swiss Literature Archive and Swiss National Library, Bern, Estate of Annemarie Schwarzenbach

Sol LeWitt: All Ideas Are Art

October 15, 2022 – February 19, 2023



Considered one of the founders of both Minimalism and Conceptual Art, the American artist Sol LeWitt (1908–2007) created nearly 1,350 wall drawings between 1969 and his death in 2007. LeWitt is best known for his proposition that an artist need only provide an idea or a set of instructions for a work of art, leaving the actual production of the work to someone else. LeWitt was championed by the Bechtler family, who purchased an early sculpture by the artist in 1969 and also brought two significant wall drawings to Charlotte-- Wall Drawing #683 at the Carillon Building, and Wall Drawing #995,

currently installed in the lobby of the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art.

In the first major museum survey of LeWitt's work in the Southern United States in almost 50 years, *Sol LeWitt: All Ideas Are Art*, supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, will provide unprecedented access for residents of the southern region to works of art by one of the most important artists of the 20th century. Featuring ten of LeWitt's large scale wall drawings and a selection of sculptures spanning four decades of his career, the exhibition, presented in collaboration with the Sol LeWitt Estate, will be installed in conversation with the museum's signature Mario Botta designed architecture, providing visitors with the experience of engaging with an intimate and site-specific installation.

Image credit: Sol LeWitt, *Wall Drawing #995*, 2001 © 2021 Courtesy of the Estate of Sol LeWitt / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Bechtler Collection Exhibitions

The Bechtler Collection

Opens September 3, 2021



The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art is the only museum in the Southern United States dedicated to European and American Modern Art and its legacies. Capturing a remarkable era of art history from the collection of the Zürich-based Bechtler family, the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art collection includes works by some of the most important and influential figures of modernism. Featuring 28 key works of art from the

Bechtler collection, this intimate exhibition highlights works by Alexander Calder, Le Corbusier, Edgar Degas, Max Ernst, Alberto Giacometti, Hans Hartung, Barbara Hepworth, Jasper Johns, Paul Klee, Fernand Legér, Alfred Manessier, Joan Miró, Kenneth Noland, Pablo Picasso, Bridget Riley, Niki de Saint Phalle, Gustave Singier, Nicolas de Staël, and Andy Warhol.

Image credit: Andy Warhol, *Hans Bechtler Family*, 1973 © 2021 The Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, Inc. / Licensed by Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

Jean Tinguely: A Life in Motion
Opens October 16, 2021



Jean Tinguely (1925–1991) was a Swiss sculptor best known for his mechanical sculptures, officially known as “metamatics,” that extended the Dada tradition into the later part of the twentieth century. Born in Fribourg, Switzerland, and raised in Basel, Tinguely studied art at the Allgemeine Gewerbeschule (General Trade School) before moving to Paris in 1952. There, he lived and worked among a vibrant community of European artists who came together in search of radical alternatives to the dominant aesthetics of their time, specifically lyrical abstract painting. Using collage and assemblage techniques, this new generation of artists sought to dissolve the traditional boundaries between art and life. For Tinguely, this meant developing a compelling body of kinetic motorized sculptures and related works cobbled together from scraps and the detritus of urban life that barely hold together when in motion.

In addition to being one of the most important and forward-thinking European artists to emerge in the latter half of the twentieth century, Jean Tinguely was also the partner of Niki de Saint Phalle, a close friend of the Bechtler family and the artist who created the iconic *Le Grand Oiseau de Feu sur l'Arche* on the Bechtler Museum's entrance plaza. On view are three major sculptures and a selection of painted and collaged illustrated letters sent to various members of the Bechtler family.

Image credit: Jean Tinguely, "La Fontaine Stravinsky," 1984, drawing © 2021 Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York / ADAGP, Paris

Multiples: Prints & Editions from the Bechtler Collection
July 2, 2022 – September 5, 2022



The Bechtler Museum of Art was founded by Andreas Bechtler, a Swiss-born entrepreneur, artist, musician, and art collector. With singular vision and taste, Andreas' parents, Hans and Bessie Bechtler of Zürich, Switzerland developed a cutting-edge collection of modern art capturing a remarkable era in art history. After inheriting a portion of his parents' collection, Andreas Bechtler made plans for a museum in his resident city of

Charlotte, North Carolina that would honor both the art and the way in which it was collected over a period of fifty years. This exhibition presents a selection of prints, artist's books, and editions from the Bechtler Collection and highlights the democratic nature and collaborative characteristics of editioned works of art. Artists in the exhibition include Pierre Alechinsky, Jean Arp, Georges Braque, Alexander Calder, Le Corbusier, Max Ernst, Alberto Giacometti, Jasper Johns, Fernand Léger, Henri Matisse, Joan Miró, Henry Moore, Méret Oppenheim, Pablo Picasso, Germaine Richier, Kumi Sugai, Antoni Tàpies, Walasse Ting, and Italo Valenti.

Image credit: Alexander Calder, *Untitled from Fêtes artist book*, 1971, print © 2021 Calder Foundation, New York / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

About the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art

The Bechtler Museum of Modern Art is the only museum in the Southern United States exclusively dedicated to European and American Modern Art and its legacies. Capturing a remarkable era of art history from the collection of the Zürich-based Bechtler family, the Bechtler Museum of Modern Art collection includes works by some of the most important and influential figures of modernism, including Alexander Calder, Le Corbusier, Edgar Degas, Max Ernst, Alberto Giacometti, Barbara Hepworth, Jasper Johns, Paul Klee, Alfred Manessier, Joan Miró, Kenneth Noland, Pablo Picasso, Bridget Riley, Nicolas de Staël, Andy Warhol and a wealth of other 20th-century notables. The museum, designed by Swiss architect Mario Botta, prominently features the Niki de Saint Phalle's iconic *Le Grand Oiseau de Feu sur l'Arche* on its entrance plaza. Located in the heart of Uptown, the Bechtler is a light-filled community space created to inspire and engage first-time visitors and long-term supporters alike.

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Interviews and images available upon request