A tribute to Latin American female artists: the Julius Baer Art Prize

Latin American women have a richness that contributes enormously to art and overall cultural identity. Throughout the entire course of all the history of Latin America, there have been so many and such relevant women, "a treasure that is not sufficiently highlighted and which represents diversity, progressiveness and sensibility of artistic highlights art", explains Beatriz Sarrelles, Member of the Executive Board and Head of Region Americas at Julius Baer.

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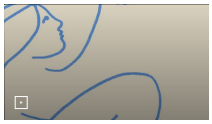
The inaugural Julius Baer Art Prize, in collaboration with the Modern Art Museum in Bogota – MAMBO, pays tribute to the production of Latin American female artists for their innovation, research and influence on modern art, offering a fund to develop a site-specific artwork that will be exhibited on the Julius Baer hall on the third floor of the MAMBO in 2021.

About the jury panel for Julius Baer Art Prize 2020-2021

- Cecilia Fagiolo Hill del Valle, Curator, former curator of the Ella Cisneros Collection and curator, C-2021 of the Radical Women Latin American Art 1960-1980 exhibition
- Guadalupe Ibañez , Chief Curator of the University Museum of Modern Art in Mexico (MUAM)
- Agustín Pérez Rubio, Curator of the Reina Sofía Museum and former director of the MALBA in Buenos Aires
- Barbara Duzdil, Curator of the Julius Baer Art Collection
- Eugenio Viola, Chief Curator of the MAMBO



Veloupe Jarpa – winner of the Julius Baer Art Prize for Latin American female artists
Among the five finalists Sandra Gamarra Heshiki, Veloupe Jarpa, Sandra Monteiroso, Rosângela Rennó, and Mariela Scafati, the jury awards the prize to the project "MEMORIA" by the Chilean artist, Veloupe Jarpa.

In "MEMORIA" the artist analyses the social unrest from October 2019 to March 2020 in Chile, including the Covid-19 sanitary crisis that has added a different perspective to the street disturbances. The project involves collaborative thatching together experiences and knowledge to think about the phenomenon of protest, of resistance, of violence and rebellion", highlights Barbara Duzdil, curator of the Julius Baer Art Collection and member of the jury panel of the Julius Baer Art Prize.

Veloupe Jarpa – winner of the Julius Baer Art Prize

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A memory built by archives and bear history to hold, are some of the topics in Veloupe's work. She deals with these questions, trying to frame how society remembers the past by tracking down archives and evaluating political and social documents. She has kept up an extensive artistic production since the year 1994, taking part in collective and solo exhibitions both in Chile and abroad. In 1994, she presented her first solo exhibition Fotosa mueqUI («Ven de Barranquia [Petal Painting] The cage of Barranquia) in the Pablo Neruda Museum.

In 2014, she presented the site-specific, solo exhibition entitled En nuestro pequeño regalo de paz ad (Our little region over here), in the MAMBA in Buenos Aires, which was exhibited again in 2017 in the Centro Cultural Matucana 100 in Santiago de Chile, the same year that the exhibit Making Space was presented in Paris. In 2018, she took part in the XV Shanghai Biennale, Primaryna, curated by Eugenio Viola, Chief Curator of the MAMBO, and in the Bienal Nacional Bienal Arte Joven, curated by Agustín Pérez Rubio, in the Chilean pavilion in the 2019 edition of the Venice Biennale.

> "These artists represent an effective snapshot of the current situation of art, not only in the vibrant Latin American context, but also in the global scenario."
>
> Eugenio Viola, Chief Curator of the MAMBO

Among the accolades Jarpa has received we should underline the fly prize, which she was awarded by the International Art Fair of Madrid in its 2012 edition for her work entitled Primal Cause. In 2014 she was a finalist in the Prix Pierrette in Paris, and in 2016, Veloupe Jarpa was also topped with the Universidad Castilla de Chile Artistic Creation Award.

+ Video portrait of Veloupe Jarpa (Spanish)

Female artists dealing with the contradictions of the contemporary world
There have been many and such relevant women throughout the entire course of all the history of Latin America that we can acquire a more prominent female influence in the artistic discourse in the future.

"These artists represent an effective snapshot of the current situation of art, not only in the vibrant Latin American context, but also in the global scenario. Their artistic production is based on a deep artistic research, such of these women reflect about reality in a poetic and political way, showing suppressed narratives, which may be uncomfortable but still necessary", explained Eugenio Viola, Chief Curator of the MAMBO.

Sandra Gamarra Heshiki
In 2003 Gamarra created Ulay (Lima Contemporary Art Museum), a nonprofit research, art-inspiration and exhibition space in Lima, Peru. Initially made up of a library, a gallery, a public bookstore and a café, Gamarra could complete Ulay with her collection, based on polished appropriations and her architectural project as an invisible building commissioned under the Lima desert.

Within the context of her interest for cultural production, she organizes her exhibitions as meta-exhibitions to strip down the strategies to which art resorts to create reality. The constant use of painting, always camouflaged or hybrid acts like a mirror in which Gamarra alters the narratives and ownership of cultures.

+ Video portrait of Sandra Gamarra Heshiki (Spanish)

Sandra Gamarra Heshiki, Lima, Peru, 2019

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Sandra Monteiroso
The figure for artistic career is point-war and performance art in 1999. Formal in Mexico and Austria, she has represented Guatemala in over a dozen biennials including the 57 Venice Biennale, the 55 Havana Biennal and the Pontevedra Biennal in Brazil.

In her work, Monteiroso analyses the dynamics of indigenous cultures journal by a historic memory. Inserted with the wound of colonialism, which, moreover, forms part of the issue of global violence. The artist combines photography, video, installations, and performances. Her work has been exhibited in the circuitous such as textile, print, video, installation and performance art. Her work forms part of the permanent collections of the Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía (Madrid, Spain); the Tate Contemporary (Miami, USA); The Museum of Contemporary Art and Design (MADC), of Costa Rica; The University of Essex Collection of Latin American Art (United Kingdom); the Ortiz-Gurdián Foundation (Managua, Nicaragua); the Paiz Foundation (Guatemala), together with numerous private collections.

+ Video portrait of Sandra Monteiroso (Spanish)

Sandra Monteiroso

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Rosângela Rennó
She lives and works in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Her work is marked by the appropriations of regional/household images found in street markets and fairs and by her research into the relationship between memory and oblivion. In her photographs, objects, videos or installations, she works with family albums and images obtained from public or private archives. She also creates artbook's books.

She has also been awarded prizes such as the CIFO Sponsorship and Commissions Program (Cisneros Fontanals Art Foundation, Miami, USA), the Pollock-Krasner Foundation Grant (New York, USA) in 2015 plus The Hilario Bisilli Prize (Sao Bernarnno, Brazil), 2015, the Pro-SACD Prize – Artistic-reference in contemporary experience (Global Contemporary Art Fair/Brazil 2012), the Labor Prize (The Brazilian Bank (Caixina, São Paulo, 2006), the Lux Director a prize winner in the XXI International Festival of Electronic Art (Videobrasil, São Paulo, 2002) and she obtained a Guggenheim Fellowship, granted by the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation of New York in 1999.

+ Video portrait of Rosângela Rennó (Spanish)

Rosângela Rennó, Rio Janeiro, Brazil, 2019

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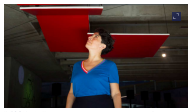
Mariela Scafati
Scafati is a member of the Antipoliticas Group ("Anne Screen Prime") movement, a painter and lecturer. She has lived and worked in Buenos Aires since 1997. She has shown her work in collective exhibitions in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay, Peru, Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, Africa, Spain, France, the United States and Germany.

She has taken part in group and collaboration projects to do with screen-printing, education, radio and theatre. In 2002, she co-founded TPS Taller Popular Serigrafía. Since 2010, she has been a member of Antipoliticas Grupo, a non-group that holds gatherings where they discuss the guiding principles and motive are standified for subsequent printing in the context of LIBETTTOS- public reactive and feminist demonstrations. Scafati is with forms part of the Museum of Latin American Art of Buenos Aires, she has taken part in residencies in Madrid, Barcelona, the Reina Sofía Research in Madrid and the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao amongst other collections.

+ Video portrait of Mariela Scafati (Spanish)


Mariela Scafati, Argentina, 2019

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About the MAMBO
The Museum of Modern Art of Bogotá is one of the leading institutions in art and culture in Colombia. Founded in 1955, its mission is to promote critical thought concerning artistic and cultural practices in this country and in Latin America as a whole.

The Julius Baer Art Collection

The Julius Baer Art Collection highlights our corporate values and supports our social responsibility through supporting artists. "I am very happy that successful our commitment to promote the visualiarts by initiating the Julius Baer Art Prize for Latin American Female Artists," says Barbara Duzdil, curator of the Julius Baer Art Collection and a member of the jury panel for the Julius Baer Art Prize.

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