

FUNDACIÓN JUMEX ARTE CONTEMPORÁNEO MARKS 20 YEARS OF ADVANCING CONTEMPORARY ART & ARTISTS IN MEXICO

MEXICO CITY – March 3, 2021 – Today, Fundación Jumex Arte Contemporáneo (Fundación Jumex) marks the 20th anniversary of its founding by philanthropist, visionary, and Foundation President Eugenio López Alonso, who established the philanthropic organization to create new opportunities and resources for contemporary art and artists in Mexico.

The Fundación Jumex Arte Contemporáneo was formally established on March 3, 2001—with the invaluable support of Mr. Eugenio López Rodea and Mrs. Isabel Alonso de López—with the presentation of first exhibition of the Colección Jumex in the Galería Jumex, a 15,000 square-foot space in Ecatepec designed by Gerardo García on the premises of the Grupo Jumex. Although the art community was largely surprised by the location—an industrial zone far from the art circuit of Mexico City—López Alonso and his colleagues were convinced that this laboratory of experimentation would consolidate the advancement of contemporary art in Mexico.

Throughout the 1990s, López Alonso dedicated himself to studying contemporary art, as well as traveling and researching ways to build a collection that would support the development of art in Mexico.

During its first decade, the Fundación Jumex was incorporated as a private, non-profit institution that supports curators and artists who are now part of the national and international contemporary art scene. The Fundación Jumex is also known for Museo Jumex, an internationally recognized museum of contemporary art designed by architect David Chipperfield.

Throughout the last two decades the Foundation has offered robust public programming; supported the postgraduate studies of artists and curators; and contributed to individual artists and art institutions around the world. It has also published a variety of books, including exhibition catalogues, artist books, and academic publications, in addition to collaborating globally with cultural organizations including Dia Art Foundation; Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA); Museo de Arte Latinoamericano de Buenos Aires (MALBA); Colección Costantini; The Museum of Modern Art, New York (MoMA); and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation of New York.

“Twenty years ago I never could have imagined the impact Fundación Jumex would end up having today. It has been my great joy and honor to see how the Foundation has touched the lives of so many artists, students, and art lovers both in Mexico and across the globe,” said Fundación Jumex President Eugenio López Alonso. “This past year has put many things into focus, and it has solidified for me the vitality and need for contemporary art in society. Today, I have hope for our future and for the role the arts will play in the recovery of our city, our country, and the world. Fundación Jumex will do all that it can to contribute to these efforts.”

Fundación Jumex's granting and scholarship programs further expand its reach and impact in the contemporary art field. For the past two decades, the Foundation has provided more than 160 scholarships and 180 sponsorships for the production of contemporary art and independent projects, as well as for curatorial and artistic research, the creation of publications, and programs that further disseminate information about contemporary art.

Fundación Jumex's scholarship program seeks to stimulate the production and research of contemporary art in Mexico by supporting Mexican students to pursue full-time, face-to-face master's or doctoral programs abroad. The 2021 call for submissions is now open and can be found here: <https://cdn.filepicker.io/api/file/cbjlfl8TiQBgajK9YVlg?&fit=max>

Since the opening of Museo Jumex in 2013, the Foundation has presented more than 100 exhibitions including Cy Twombly. Paradise (2014); Calder: derechos de la danza (2015); Andy Warhol. Estrella oscura (2017); and Apariencia desnuda: el deseo y el objeto en la obra de Marcel Duchamp y Jeff Koons, aun (2019). It has also organized retrospectives and exhibitions of artists such as John Baldessari, Lina Bo Bardi, Peter Fischli & David Weiss, Pablo Helguera, Xavier Le Roy, Walid Raad, Robert Ryman, and James Turrell. Other series of significant exhibitions include those drawn from Colección Jumex, which has more than 3,300 contemporary works from the middle of the 20th century to today, making it one of the most significant collections of contemporary art in Latin America.

During its 20th anniversary year, Museo Jumex will present Normal Exceptions: Contemporary Art in Mexico, a thematic survey of contemporary art in Mexico over the past 20 years. Drawing primarily from the Colección Jumex with additional works by invited artists and collaborators, the exhibition will fill the entire museum with more than 60 works by artists based in Mexico, including those of international origin, and Mexican artists living and working abroad. The museum's galleries will be stripped down to their original design for the exhibition, allowing for the installation of large-scale conceptual works and ample natural light throughout the galleries.

The Foundation also operates one of the most extensive libraries in Mexico devoted to the research and study of the history and theory of modern and contemporary art in Mexico, comprising more than 8,500 titles that include specialized art periodicals, catalogues of group exhibitions held in Mexico and abroad, monographic books, as well as projects and studies on museography and curatorship.

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