

# Mexico City with The Barnes and Thom Collins

February 4-10, 2024



**The Barnes Foundation** invites you to join Thom Collins, executive director and president of the Barnes Foundation, and Dr. Nancy Ireson, deputy director for collections and exhibitions & Gund Family Chief Curator for **a unique in-depth exploration of the art scene in Mexico City from February 4-10, 2024**. Mexico City or Ciudad de Mexico is the capital of Mexico and the most important political, cultural, educational, and financial center in North America.

We will explore the best of Mexico City's museums, artists and private collections. This will include **Frida Kahlo Museum, Casa Estudio of Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera, Museo Tamayo arte contemporaneo, Soumaya Museum** (Carlos Slim museum), and **Jumex Museum**.

We are excited to explore the practices of several local Mexican artists both established and emerging. We will be invited into the homes of special private collections. When our eyes are not being immersed with powerful art, our other senses will be treated by culinary experiences in what is one of the great food cities in the country. We will also visit some of Mexico City's most amazing food markets including Roma Norte and Jamaica Market where we invite you to eat like a local.

On **SUNDAY**, following individual arrivals to Mexico City and check-in at the five-star **St Regis Hotel**, we will meet in the hotel lobby in the late afternoon and depart by private coach to a private collection or artist studio visit, depending on our hosts' availability. Options include the artist **Gabriel de la Mora** and the home of collector **Cesar Cervantes**, designed by Mexican architect Luis Barragán. This will be followed by dinner at **Emilia**.

On **MONDAY**, following a breakfast at your leisure, we will gather in the hotel lobby in the morning and depart the hotel by private coach to **Casa Luis Barragán** for a guided tour.

Built in 1948, Casa Luis Barragán, represents one of the most internationally transcendent works of contemporary architecture and it has been included in

the UNESCO World Heritage list since 2004. It is a masterpiece that contributed to the development of the modern architecture movement and marks Luis Barragán's significant influence on global architecture. The house is kept just the way it was when inhabited by Barragán himself until his death in 1988 and it is one of the key sites in Mexico City for architects and art connoisseurs from around the world.

We will then walk next door to gallery **Labor** for a visit to the exhibition on show.

Founded in 2009 by curator **Pamela Echeverría** to promote national and international art, Labor represents artists that act as social and political actors and question the establishment, generating new reflections and perspectives on the contemporary art world as a means to create a more equitable model.

We then continue by private coach to gallery **Kurimanzutto** for a visit of the exhibition on show with gallery owner and director Monica Manzutto.



Kurimanzutto was conceived in the late 1990s in New York by Mónica Manzutto, José Kuri and Gabriel Orozco to support the up-and-coming generation of young Mexican artists that needed a structure to establish their careers within Mexico as well as abroad. Today the gallery represents thirty eight Mexican and international artists, and continues to organize and support exhibitions in diverse cultural spaces.

The afternoon continues with a visit to the studio of artist **Abraham Cruzvillegas**.

Afternoon ends with a visit at the gallery **Proyectos Monclova** with gallery founders Teofilo Cohen and Polina Stroganova.

Established in 2005, PROYECTOS MONCLOVA is a leading contemporary art gallery based in Mexico City. Representing a roster of some of Mexico's most acclaimed contemporary artists and young talents, the gallery plays a significant role in expanding Mexico's participation on the global arena while participating in numerous prestigious international art fairs.

Following a transfer back to the hotel and down time before the evening program, we will then reconvene in the hotel lobby and depart for a visit to the home of a private collector (TBA according to our hosts' availability). Dinner to follow at restaurant **Carmela y Sal**.

On **TUESDAY**, we will gather in the hotel lobby and depart by private coach for a full morning walking tour of the Zócalo, the historic center of Mexico City.

Stops will include:

- **Palacio de Bellas Artes**
- **The Metropolitan Cathedral**
- **Museo del Templo Mayor**
- **Palacio del Gobierno** to explore **José Clemente Orozco's** famous murals
- **Colegio de San Ildefonso**, to see the very first murals by **José Clemente Orozco** (time permitting)

Morning ends with a traditional Mexican lunch at restaurant **Azul Historico** located inside the same historic palace of the boutique hotel Downtown.

You will then have time at leisure to shop at **The Shops at Downtown**, an exclusive shopping area with more than 20 Mexican design stores simply named, **The Shops**. Here, you can find boutiques specialized in fashion, art, culture, gastronomy and design.

Our afternoon will continue with a visit of the artist **Minerva Cuevas** and a transfer back to the hotel and down time before the evening program.

We reconvene in the evening and depart for a visit to an artist studio (TBA according to our hosts' availability, options include **Dahn Vo** and **Carlos Amoraes**.) Dinner to follow at restaurant **Rosetta**.



Bottom: Father Hidalgo mural at Government Palace in Guadalajara Mexico. Via Alamy.



On WEDNESDAY, we will gather in the hotel lobby and depart the hotel by private coach to **ZONA MACO** for a full morning at the VIP Preview of the fair.

Latin America's largest art fair **ZONA MACO** is set to arrive in Mexico City from 7–10 February 2024, bringing the best of modern and contemporary art to the thriving capital. Founded in 2002 by Zélica García, it is held annually at Centro Citibanamex in Mexico City and counts 4 sections:

- ZONAMACO MÉXICO ARTE CONTEMPORÁNEO brings together leading and emerging national and international art galleries;
- ZONAMACO DESIGN, established in 2011, exhibits furniture, jewelry, textiles, limited editions and decorative objects;
- ZONAMACO SALON, created in 2014, exhibits antiques;
- ZONAMACO FOTO that features vintage, modern and contemporary photography since 2015.

ZONAMACO aims to encompass and promote the art, design, antiques and art photography sectors in Mexico.

This will be followed by lunch at **Lago Algo**, a cultural center created and run by galleries CMR and OMR, located in Bosque de Chapultepec, emphasizing

contemporary art and sustainable food in a stunning building designed in the 1960s overlooking the lake.

We continue with a short architecture tour of **Museo Soumaya** and a visit to the exhibition on show at **Museo Jumex**.

Wrapped in a skin of mirrored hexagons and featuring a fluid form and interiors, **Museo Soumaya** is an architectural icon designed by Mexican architect Fernando Romero. Founded by one of the world's wealthiest men, Mexican businessman Carlos Slim Helú, the museum houses an eclectic and impressive art collection of over 60,000 works, mainly 19th and 20th century Mexican art and European art from 15th to 20th century, including the largest collection of sculptures by Auguste Rodin outside France, the world's largest private collection of his art.

On the opposite side of Plaza Carso Square stands the **Museo Jumex**, opened in November 2013 in a stunning building designed by British architect David Chipperfield. The museum is the main exhibition space of the Colección Jumex, a private art collection owned by Eugenio López Alonso that includes around 2,800 works by Damien Hirst, Andy Warhol, Gabriel Orozco, Cy Twombly, Jeff Koons, Marcel Duchamp, Andreas Gursky, Olafur Eliasson, Bruce Nauman, Francis Alÿs, Urs Fischer and Donald Judd among the others.



Bottom left: Visitors at ZONAMACO 2023 via [zonamaco.com](http://zonamaco.com). Bottom right: Façade of the Plaza Carso building of Museo Soumaya via [museosoumaya.org](http://museosoumaya.org).

We will depart the hotel on Wednesday evening by private coach for a studio visit with artist **Betsabee Romero**, followed by a Mexican dinner in her home.

On **THURSDAY**, we depart in the morning to explore the museums and artist studios in the south of the Mexico City. Artist studio visit options might include **Damian Ortega** and **Pedro Reyes** (TBA depending on their availability).

With his sense of wit and humor, **Damián Ortega** deconstructs familiar objects and processes, altering their functions and transforming them into novel experiences and scenarios. Ortega's work plays with a scale that ranges from the molecular to the cosmic, combining the cosmic with the accidental, applying the concepts of physics to human interactions.

**Pedro Reyes** designs ongoing projects that propose playful solutions to social problems. From turning guns into musical instruments, to offering ecologically-friendly grasshopper burgers from a food cart, Reyes transforms existing problems into ideas for a better world.

The morning will continue with a guided visit at **Museo Anahuacalli**. The word Anahuacalli comes from Nahuatl and means "house surrounded by water" and it perfectly describes the extravagant architecture of this building inspired by Mesoamerican structures, with a unique style that mixes Mayan and Toltec influences. Designed by the Mexican muralist Diego Rivera, the museum houses the extensive collection of pre-Columbian art of the artist, and it is at the center of an Ecological Space that protects endemic flora and fauna. Today the Museum counts on a number of new premises that have been designed to continue the dialogue between contemporary art and pre-Hispanic art and architecture and allow the Anahuacalli to offer a variety of artistic, environmental and multidisciplinary workshops, as well as contemporary art installations.

Following a lunch, our afternoon visits continue to **MUAC (Museo Universitario de Arte Contemporáneo)** for a guided tour of the exhibition on show. The Museo Universitario Arte Contemporáneo, MUAC, opened only in 2008. The 14,000 square-foot contemporary art museum is located on the grounds of

Mexico City's largest public university. The building itself, designed by architect Teodoro Gonzalez de Leon, attracts architecture and design aficionados. MUAC aims to build a collection of contemporary Mexican artwork from the 1950s onwards. Works range from paintings and drawings to video and sound installations. The temporary exhibitions feature a large variety of well-curated contemporary art in different mediums.

On the way back to the hotel, we stop at **Casa Estudio Diego Rivera y Frida Kahlo** for a guided visit.

Designed by famed architect Juan O'Gorman, the Casa Estudio is composed of the original two homes where the artists lived until their divorce and it is the first modernist home in Mexico City, as well as a milestone in the history of functionalist architecture.





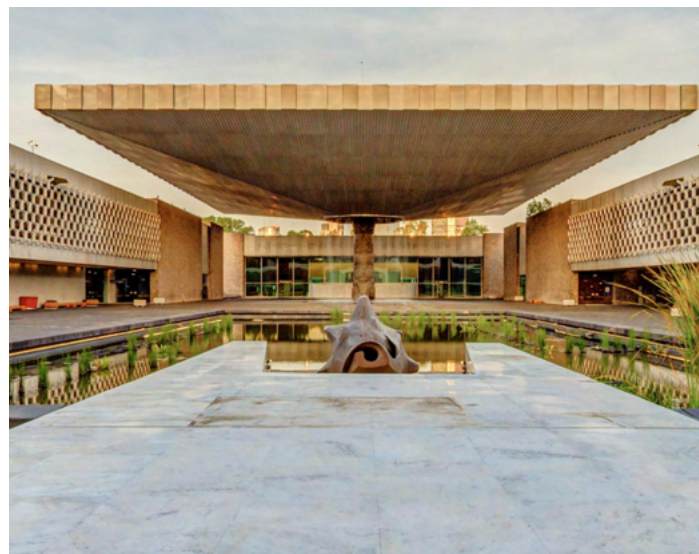
We reconvene on Thursday evening in the hotel lobby and depart for a visit to the home of a private collector (TBA according to our hosts' availability). Dinner to follow at restaurant **Altanera**.

On **FRIDAY**, we start our morning with a guided tour of the **Museo Nacional de Antropología** for a highlights visit of the Mayan and Aztec collections.

With its iconic 20th century urban architecture, the National Museum of Anthropology is one of the biggest and one of the most outstanding museums worldwide. It features 22 rooms and over 45 thousand square meters housing the most important archeological and ethnographic collections of pre-Colombian art, including extraordinary pieces such as the Piedra del Sol.

We continue to **Museo Tamayo** for a tour of the current exhibition.

Since its inauguration in 1981, the Tamayo Museum has presented the most significant modern and contemporary art in Mexico and abroad. With a dynamic program of temporary exhibitions, as well as a continuous commitment to activate and expand its collection, the museum offers a space for critical thinking where, through art, we can imagine new ways to respond to society's challenges. The museum was designed by Teodoro González de León and Abraham Zabludovsky who drew their inspiration from pre-Hispanic architecture.



Following a lunch at restaurant **Contramar**, the afternoon continues with artist studio visits in the artsy neighborhoods of Roma/Condesa. Options might include Edgar Orlaineta and Lulu gallery, an independent art project founded and run by artist Martín Soto Climent (TBA depending on their availability). We will then transfer back to the hotel and down time before the evening program.

We will end the evening with a farewell dinner at **Maximo Bistrot**. On **SATURDAY**, you can return to the Zona Maco fair on your own or depart at your leisure.

*Your Barnes contact for this trip is Katie Adams ([kadams@barnesfoundation.org](mailto:kadams@barnesfoundation.org) or 804-241-6022, cell phone). Your Artful tour contact is Latasha Thomas ([latasha@artfuljaunts.com](mailto:latasha@artfuljaunts.com) or 781-658-2270, office phone).*

*The Barnes Foundation Mexico City experience is priced at \$10,954 per person in a double room sharing and \$12,406 for a single traveler and includes all transportation, lodging, and specific meals during your trip. This trip is limited to 22 guests and your booking is requested by November 30, 2023. A minimum of 16 guests is required to operate this trip. The trip will start Sunday, February 4th at The St. Regis Mexico City where the group will gather in the lobby to depart together in the evening for dinner via luxury coach. The trip will conclude Saturday February 9th closing out with a farewell dinner.*

*In the interest of your safety, we ask that you not bring any high value jewelry.*

*No refund will be provided for cancellations within sixty days of the trip's start date. If the museum has another patron to fill a spot a substitution will be allowed. After the trip has commenced, no refunds are available, even if the client does not partake in all of the trip's activities or leaves the trip early. We highly recommend trip insurance offered when booking. All programming may change and is subject to availability of hosts, collectors and artists.*



Bottom left: Museo Nacional de Antropología. Image courtesy of the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia de México via [designleadershipnetwork.org](http://designleadershipnetwork.org); bottom right: A dish at Maximo Bistrot via their website.