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EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO ANNOUNCES SPRING EXHIBITION LINEUP:

Lucio Fontana: Spatial Environment (1968)

January 23 - April 21, 2019

JODOROWSKY

February 28 - May 12, 2019

NEW YORK, NY, December 4, 2018 – El Museo del Barrio is pleased to announce its spring exhibition schedule, as it ushers in its 50th anniversary celebration in 2019. From January 23 to April 21, 2019, the lineup begins with ***Lucio Fontana: Spatial Environment (1968)***, an environmental installation by the Argentine-born artist, to coincide with The Met Breur exhibition, *Lucio Fontana: On the Threshold*. This is followed by ***JODOROWSKY***, the first US museum survey dedicated to artist and filmmaker Alejandro Jodorowsky. Organized by Guest Curator María Inés Rodríguez, ***JODOROWSKY*** will be on view from February 28 to May 12, 2019.

Lucio Fontana: Spatial Environment (1968)

January 23 - April 21, 2019

El Museo del Barrio will display a reconstruction of artist Lucio Fontana's 1968 *Ambiente Spaziale* [Spatial Environment]. First created in the late 1940s in relation to the artist's innovative Spatialism movement, Fontana's *Ambienti Spaziali* are labyrinthine, total environments that viewers enter and navigate. Built with the guidance of the Fondazione Lucio Fontana, the all-white *Ambiente spaziale* (1968) at El Museo will follow the exact specifications of the artist's final work in the series, originally conceived and presented at *Documenta 4* in Kassel, Germany shortly before Fontana's death.

The installation coincides with The Met Breur exhibition, *Lucio Fontana: On the Threshold*, curated by Metropolitan Museum Estrellita B. Brodsky Curator Iria Candela.

About Lucio Fontana

Argentine born Lucio Fontana (b. 1899 - d. 1968) is recognized for his explorations of energy and dimensionality, as reflected in his characteristic approach of punching holes and cutting tears into the surfaces of his paintings, sculptures, and installations.



The child of Italian parents, Fontana was born in Rosario, Argentina, and moved back and forth between Italy and Argentina throughout his life. After beginning his career as a figurative sculptor in Rosario, the artist briefly studied at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Brera before returning to Argentina on the cusp of WWII. With Jorge Romero Brest and Jorge Larco, he founded the Altamira art school in Buenos Aires, where he published with his students the 1946 *Manifiesto Blanco*. This document forms the incipient manifestation of Fontana's theory of Spatialism, which he would continue to develop upon his definitive return to Italy in 1947. A well-recognized artistic figure within his lifetime, Fontana exhibited his work at the *Venice Biennale* and *Documenta 4*. His art is included in major collections throughout the globe.

JODOROWSKY

February 28 - May 12, 2019

El Museo del Barrio is proud to present the first museum survey in the United States of Chilean born artist Alejandro Jodorowsky (b. Tocopilla, 1929). Guest curated by María Inés Rodríguez, the exhibition will feature more than five decades of Jodorowsky's artistic production and will include an array of visual, literary, archival, and filmic material drawn largely from the artist's personal archives. Among the works on display are ephemera related to Jodorowsky's early theatrical and pantomime performances which he developed in post-WWII Paris as a co-creator of the *Panic movement*; a selection of his long-running cartoon strip, *Las Fábulas Pánicas*, published while Jodorowsky was living in Mexico City as an integral participant in the avant-garde art scene; and material related to his pioneering role as the director of both recent films including *Endless Poetry* (2016) as well as cult film classics as *El Topo* (1970), *The Holy Mountain* (1973) and his abandoned film adaption of Frank Herbert's science fiction classic, *Dune*. Also on view will be works on paper by PascaLEjandro, the synthesized being comprised of Jodorowsky and his partner Pascale Montandon-Jodorowsky, whose creative production has been described as the "love child" of the two artists. At its core, this extensive body of work (which today extends to the artist's lively Twitter-stream) is united by Jodorowsky's profound dedication to exploring the therapeutic possibilities of art, as revealed by his fascination and dedication to studying and restoring the Tarot of Marseille.

The exhibition will be accompanied by diverse programming, including a public Tarot-reading by Jodorowsky. A line-up of film screenings including such cult classics as *Fando y Lis* (1968), *El Topo* (1970), and *The Holy Mountain* (1973) will also be presented. Significantly, Jodorowsky will premiere his latest film, *Psychomagic: A Healing Art* (2018) in El Museo's newly restored El Teatro.

About Alejandro Jodorowsky

Alejandro Jodorowsky (Tocopilla, Chile, 1929) is a Chilean-French internationally acclaimed director, playwright, composer, actor, and poet. Best known for directing celebrated avant-garde films such as *El Topo* (1970), *The Holy Mountain* (1973), *Santa Sangre* (1989), and *The Dance of Reality* (2013), among many others, Jodorowsky has



developed a prolific and diverse body of work that extends from miming to graphic novels, from Tarot-reading to literature and poetry, from esoteric writing to his relations with Surrealist circles in Paris, and from underground cinema to his first performances with the Panic Group in the 1960s. His anti-conformist work has reached a large audience and triggered a true cult following through the symbolic, philosophical and sometimes esoteric dimensions of his art. Such rich output has influenced generations of actors, writers, filmmakers and visual artists across the globe.

About María Inés Rodríguez

María Inés Rodríguez, Guest Curator of *Jodorowsky* at El Museo del Barrio, was formerly director of CAPC Musée d'art Contemporain of Bordeaux in France from February 2014 to August 2018. Prior to this, she held the position of chief curator at the Museo Universitario de Arte Contemporáneo (MUAC) in Mexico City between 2011 and 2013, working on exhibitions and research projects that explored the appropriation of public space in art, design, education, architecture, and urbanism. From 2009 to 2011 she was chief curator at the Museo de Arte Contemporáneo de Castilla y León (MUSAC) in Spain. Throughout her career, she has worked on major projects and exhibitions with such significant artists as Alejandro Jodorowsky, Beatriz González, Danh Vo, and Teresa Margolles, among others. Rodríguez has been awarded the following grants: Fondation Patino - Ville de Genève, American Center Foundation, Apex Art Center and Davidoff Arts Initiative

ABOUT EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

El Museo del Barrio, founded by a coalition of Puerto Rican parents, educators, artists, and activists, is the nation's leading Latino and Latin American cultural institution. The Museum welcomes visitors of all backgrounds to discover the artistic landscape of these communities through its extensive Permanent Collection, varied exhibitions and publications, bilingual public programs, educational activities, festivals, and special events

The Museum is located at 1230 Fifth Avenue at 104th Street in New York City, and open Wednesday to Saturday from 11:00am - 6:00pm, and Sunday from 12:00 to 5:00pm. Admission is Suggested.

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