



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO PRESENTS

Lucio Fontana: Spatial Environment (1968)

January 23 - April 14, 2019

NEW YORK, NY, December 4, 2018 - El Museo del Barrio pleased to present artist Lucio Fontana's 1968 *Spatial Environment* [Ambiente Spaziale]. Conceived in relation to the artist's innovative Spatialism movement, starting from 1949, Fontana's *Spatial Environments* are immersive environments that viewers enter and navigate. Reconstructed with the authorization of the Fondazione Lucio Fontana, the all-white, labyrinthine *Spatial Environment (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 Breuer 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.

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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