



**New Orleans
Museum of Art**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Colombian Independence Day Celebration
Among Special Events Planned For
*The Baroque World of Fernando Botero***

Family Day kicks off public programs on Saturday, June 28

NEW ORLEANS, La. (Thursday, June 19, 2008)—A celebration of **Colombian Independence Day on Sunday, July 20**, is just one of the many special events planned in conjunction with this summer's presentation of *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero* at the New Orleans Museum of Art.

Colombian Independence Day at NOMA will feature live music, Colombian cuisine, and plenty of red, yellow and blue (the colors of Colombia's flag). More details will be announced within the next few weeks.

Other special events during the exhibition's run, from June 28 to September 21, include a **Family Day on June 28** and tastings of Latin American cuisine from a different country or region every Wednesday evening as part of a "Mid-Week in Mid-City" series.

Below is the complete schedule of events to be held in conjunction with *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero*. All of the public programs are free to Louisiana residents. More events and participants will be added, so check noma.org or sign up for our weekly e-newsletter on the homepage to keep up on all the latest happenings at NOMA:

Friday, June 27, 6-9 p.m.—Una Fiesta Colombiana

Be among the first in New Orleans to see *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero* at this preview party, featuring **live music by Rumba Buena** and authentic **Colombian cuisine by West Indies Café**. Admission is \$75 per person. For reservations, please call (504) 658-4127.

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Botero events

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Saturday, June 28—Members/Family Day w/ Ricardo Crespo and Calliope Puppets

Members and families can preview the exhibition during regular Museum hours, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Guitarist Ricardo Crespo** will perform twice, at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. **The Calliope Puppet Show** featuring *The Singing Tree* will perform at 2 p.m. Also, a documentary film, *Fernando Botero: The Rebel*, will screen in the Stern Auditorium at 3 p.m.

Guitarist Ricardo Crespo specializes in Brazilian Bossa Nova.

The Calliope Puppet Show's storytelling through culturally representative hand, shadow, and rod puppets inspires respect and curiosity about the endless diversity in our own cultural communities and world. *The Singing Tree* celebrates a tree's desire for self expression, resulting in the creation of the marimba!

Sunday, June 29, 2 p.m.—Lecture by Idurre Alonso, Museum of Latin American Art

Idurre Alonso, curator at the Museum of Latin American Art in Long Beach, Calif., will lecture on "Fernando Botero: His Life and Work." The Museum of Latin American Art is the only museum in the western United States that exclusively features contemporary Latin American art.

Saturday, July 19 and Sunday, July 20, 1:30-4:30 p.m.—Adult Drawing Workshop

This **drawing workshop**, led by instructor **Rebecca Midura**, is open to amateurs of every skill level. The participation fee, \$75 for NOMA members and \$90 for nonmembers, includes materials. Pre-registration and payment required by Friday, July 11. Contact Joanna Sternberg, Assistant Director for Education, at (504) 658-4131 or jssternberg@noma.org.

Sunday, July 20, 1-4 p.m.—Colombian Independence Day

Live music and authentic Colombian cuisine to celebrate the anniversary of Colombia's independence from Spain in 1810. Further details to be announced in coming weeks.

Sunday, September 21, 1-4 p.m.—Family Day

An afternoon of **Latin American folkloric dance** featuring performers from the **Esperanza Charter School** and traditional Colombian games for the whole family.

Wednesdays, July 2-September 17, 5-8 p.m.—Mid-Week in Mid-City

Join us on Wednesday evenings when the Museum stays open until 8 p.m. for **Mid-Week in Mid-City**, with special programs inspired by *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero*, including live music, dance lessons, bilingual tours, film screenings, and a Festival of Flavors with light hors d'oeuvre tastings from the city's finest Latin American restaurants. A cash bar will be available most weeks.

Mid-Week in Mid-City is sponsored, in part, by the New Orleans Hispanic Heritage Foundation.

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Botero events

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Wednesday, July 2, 7 p.m.

Film screening in the Stern Auditorium

Fernando Botero: The Rebel

Wednesday, July 9, 6 p.m.

Festival of Flavors

Colombian Tapas from Colombian Friends of the Museum in the Great Hall, cash bar

Wednesday, July 16, 6:15 p.m.

Bilingual tour of *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero* (Spanish & English)

By Miranda Lash, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art

Wednesday, July 23, 6 p.m.

Festival of Flavors

Mexican tapas from Nacho Mama's, cash bar

Live music by Patrice Fisher, ARPA, and Roberto Moreira

Wednesday, July 30, 6 p.m.

Salsa Dance Classes

Film Screening in the Stern Auditorium

Tocar y Luchar

Wednesday, August 6, 6 p.m.

Live music by Julio and Caesar

Wednesday, August 13, 6:15 p.m.

Bilingual tour of *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero* (Spanish & English)

By Miranda Lash, Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art

Wednesday, August 13, 7 p.m.

Fernando Botero: The Rebel

Film screening in the Stern Auditorium

Wednesday, August 20

Festival of Flavors

Cuban tapas from Churros Restaurant and Café Arabesque, cash bar

Live music by Riccardo Crespo

Wednesday, August 27, 6 p.m.

Salsa Dance Lessons

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Botero events

4/4/4/4

Wednesday, September 3, 6 p.m.

Festival of Flavors

South American tapas from Rio Mar, Café Granada, and Colombian Volunteers of New Orleans, cash bar

Live music by flamenco guitarist John Lawrence

Film screening in the Stern Auditorium

Fernando Botero: The Rebel

Wednesday, September 10, 6 p.m.

University Night

Colombian, South American, and Central American Specialty Coffee Presentation and Tasting

Live music by Tony Seville

Film screening in the Stern Auditorium

Favela Rising

Wednesday, September 17, 6 p.m.

Festival of Flavors

Colombian tapas from West Indies Cafe and Colombian Friends of the Museum, cash bar

Live music by Acoustic Swiftness

About the exhibition

This summer, the New Orleans Museum of Art will present *The Baroque World of Fernando Botero*, the first major U.S retrospective of the artist's work in more than 30 years, from June 28 to September 21, 2008. Recognized as one of the most well-known and commercially successful artists to emerge from Latin America, the Colombia native now has his work exhibited and collected by major museums around the world, including the New Orleans Museum of Art.

The 100 paintings, drawings, and sculptures in this exhibition span the length of Botero's career—from paintings executed in 1959 in Colombia, to sculptures executed as late as 2005. The works were selected by John Sillevs, curator of the Gemeentemuseum in The Hague, and editor and contributor to the accompanying exhibition catalogue. The exhibition is organized and circulated by Art Services International, Alexandria, Virginia.

The exhibition is accompanied by a fully illustrated catalogue with essays by John Sillevs, guest curator; David Elliot, Director of the Mori Art Museum in Tokyo; and Edward Sullivan, Dean of Humanities and Professor of Latin American Art at New York University.

The Baroque World of Fernando Botero is on a national tour that continues through 2010.

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Botero events
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Credits

The Baroque World of Fernando Botero is sponsored in New Orleans by



Additional support is provided by the Sheraton New Orleans, the New Orleans Hispanic Heritage Foundation, and the National Federation of Coffee Growers of Colombia, Bogotá.

This exhibition is organized and circulated by Art Services International, Alexandria, Virginia.

About Pan-American Life Insurance

Founded in 1911, New Orleans-based Pan-American Life Insurance Company is a leading international insurance company, employing more than 700 worldwide, providing top-rated life and health insurance, worksite benefits and financial services in 46 states, the District of Columbia (DC) and Puerto Rico. Its international operations, offering individual and group life and health insurance throughout Latin America, includes affiliates in Panama, Guatemala and Colombia, and branch offices in Ecuador, El Salvador and Honduras. For more information, visit the Pan-American Life Web site at panamericanlife.com.

Pan-American Life Insurance Company is a member of Pan-American Life Insurance Group. The Group is comprised of a number of insurance and reinsurance companies serving nearly half a million customers throughout the Americas.

About NOMA and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 40,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission to the Museum is free to Louisiana residents (\$5 through June 8) through the generosity of the Helis Foundation.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 57 artists, including several of the 20th century's great master sculptors, is always free during regular Museum hours.

The New Orleans Museum of Art and the Sculpture Garden are fully accessible to handicapped visitors and wheelchairs are available from the front desk.

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