

Artist Marc Bauer Unveils Alterations to *RESILIENCE, Drawing the Line* at the Menil Drawing Institute

Bauer's ephemeral wall drawing continues its evolution



HOUSTON—*February 7, 2024*— Swiss artist Marc Bauer (b. 1975) visited the Menil Collection January 29–30, 2024, to alter his wall drawing, *RESILIENCE, Drawing the Line*, 2023, **on view at the Menil Drawing Institute through August 2024**. The 36-foot-wide mural, created with charcoal, pastel, and colored pencil, combines powerful imagery from art history with contemporary references to produce a thought-provoking narrative. Since its conception, Bauer's unique approach to the drawing included the intention to continue evolving the work over the course of its year-long display returning once more in April 2024 to make a third and final set of changes.

Wall Drawing Series: Marc Bauer debuted in September 2023 with a major theme of resilience woven throughout the mural. The second phase of this work focuses on the theme of resistance. The revisions “make the artwork a place of negotiation and conversation, rather than a definitive statement,” said Bauer. Depictions of demonstrations through the addition of bold, large-scale figures are strategically layered over some of the lighter passages of the original display, while the use of more vibrant colors throughout further emphasizes different aspects of the story and creates a different perceptual experience.

Wall Drawing Series: Marc Bauer is curated by Kelly Montana, Assistant Curator, Menil Drawing Institute. The Menil's Wall Drawing Series began in 2018 as part of the Drawing Institute's commitment to seeking new approaches to the form and language of drawing.

About the Artist

Marc Bauer has been creating socially and politically engaging art for more than twenty years. Based in Zurich, Switzerland, and Berlin, Germany, Bauer's art practice is grounded in reconfiguring existing images—from sources ranging from personal family albums to different news streams—with the goal of ultimately shaping a prismatic view of history, culture, and politics.

About the Menil Collection

Philanthropists and art patrons John and Dominique de Menil established the Menil Foundation in 1954 to foster greater public understanding and appreciation of art, architecture, culture, religion, and philosophy. In 1987, the Menil Collection's main building opened to the public. Today, the Menil Collection consists of a group of art buildings and green spaces located within a residential neighborhood in central Houston. The Menil remains committed to its founders' belief that art is essential to human experience and welcomes all visitors free of charge to its buildings and surrounding green spaces. menil.org

About the Menil Drawing Institute

The Menil Drawing Institute was established in 2008 in recognition of drawing's centrality in the lives of artists and its crucial role in modern and contemporary artistic culture. The Drawing Institute has since developed an international profile for exhibitions, scholarship, and collaboration. In 2018, a dedicated building for the Menil Drawing Institute, designed by Johnston Marklee, was inaugurated. It is now the site of regular drawings exhibitions, an annual monumental wall drawing commission, public programs, and study. menil.org/drawing-institute

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