

Menil²⁵

ARTISTS LEND SUPPORT TO THE MENIL'S *CELEBRATION IN BLUE*, DONATING WORKS TO GALA AUCTION

HOUSTON, TX, November, 14, 2012 — In a demonstration of their respect and admiration for the Menil Collection, more than two dozen international artists have donated works to be sold at a silent auction on Friday, November 30, 2012. The silent auction is part of the museum's 25th anniversary gala, *Celebration in Blue*.

The 31 lots to be sold in support of the museum and its mission are currently on public view at the Menil.

Art enthusiasts and Menil patrons from Houston and around the world will attend *Celebration in Blue*, which is only the third gala in the museum's history. Guests will bid on the 31 lots the night of the event, when absentee bids from those unable to attend will also be opened.

Josef Helfenstein, director of the Menil, commented, "The outstanding artists represented in this silent auction all have works in the collection or enjoy a close relationship with the museum. The fact that they have chosen to contribute to our gala in this deeply personal and meaningful way expresses a level of loyalty and support for which we are profoundly grateful."

The 28 artists whose works will be auctioned are Dawolu Jabari Anderson, Larry Bell, Maurizio Cattelan, Vija Celmins, Mel Chin, William Christenberry, Christo, Walter De Maria, Mark di Suvero, Marlene Dumas, Olafur Eliasson, Mark Flood, Suzan Frecon, Robert Gober, Joe Goode, Michael Heizer, Sharon Kopriva, Jim Love, Danny Lyon, Brice Marden, David McGee, Claes Oldenburg and Coosje Van Bruggen, Edward Ruscha, Richard Serra, James Surls, Luc Tuymans, and Steve Wolfe.

Information regarding the auction, the works of art for sale, and absentee bidding is available online at www.menil.org/Menil25Auction.php. Inquiries may also be made via email to auction@menil.org.

About The Menil Collection

Considered one of the most important privately assembled collections of the twentieth century, the Menil Collection opened officially on June 4, 1987, and is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. The Menil's holdings, ranging from the prehistoric to art of the present day, are housed in a modern landmark designed by the renowned architect Renzo Piano. In the quarter-century since it opened to the public, the Menil has established an international reputation for presenting acclaimed exhibitions and producing many highly respected scholarly publications; pioneering partnerships with other cultural and education institutions across Houston, Texas and the United States; and conducting groundbreaking research into the conservation of modern and contemporary art. The Menil charges no admission fees.

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