

NSU ART MUSEUM FORT LAUDERDALE RECEIVES MAJOR PAINTING BY JULIAN SCHNABEL



Julian Schnabel, *Portrait of Olatz Schnabel*, 1997, oil, resin on canvas, 108 x 102 in.
NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, promised gift, Olatz Schnabel

Fort Lauderdale, FL, March 11, 2015 – NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale has received a major painting by internationally renowned artist Julian Schnabel. The painting, titled *Portrait of Olatz Schnabel*, 1997, is a promised gift to the museum by Olatz Schnabel, the artist's former wife. It will be unveiled at NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale during a patrons dinner on March 11 along with four other paintings by the artist from Ms. Schnabel's collection that will be on loan to the museum. All five paintings will be on view at the museum from March 12 through November 1, 2015.

Ms. Schnabel made the gift following the museum's highly successful presentation of the exhibition *Café Dolly: Picabia, Schnabel, Willumsen*, (October 12, 2014 - February 1, 2015), which featured the figurative paintings of Julian Schnabel alongside those of French artist Francis Picabia and Danish artist J.F. Willumsen. NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale was the sole U.S. venue for the exhibition, which originated at Denmark's J.F. Willumsens Museum. Ms. Schnabel's gift also acknowledges the long-time recognition of Julian Schnabel's work by Bonnie Clearwater, Director and Chief Curator of NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale.

Julian Schnabel enthusiastically endorsed Ms. Schnabel's generous gift to NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, noting that the selection of works in her collection reflects her sensibility and that the grouping of paintings she has placed on loan

to the museum will provide context for future acquisitions planned by the museum for its permanent collection, reinforcing one of the collection's areas of concentration; the fertile post-World War II European avant-garde and its ongoing connection with subsequent generations of artists.

Julian Schnabel noted, "I had a rewarding experience with the presentation of *Café Dolly* at NSU Art Museum, and I am delighted that Olatz has chosen to recognize the museum and its director Bonnie Clearwater for such a strong commitment to my work."

Bonnie Clearwater stated, "One of the themes of the *Café Dolly* exhibition was that of the artist and his muse. Olatz, a model and actress, has inspired some of Julian Schnabel's most breathtaking paintings, including the promised gift, *Portrait of Olatz Schnabel*, 1997, and two of the paintings on loan; the abstract painting *Untitled (Los Patos Del Buen Retiro V)*, 1990-1991 and *Portrait of Olatz*, 2004. On behalf of the museum I extend my deep appreciation to Olatz Schnabel for making this extraordinary gift."

Portrait of Olatz Schnabel, 1997 (oil, resin on canvas, 108 x 102 in.) is a monumental portrait that depicts Olatz Schnabel in the tradition of early 18th century paintings in which an elegantly dressed, full-length standing figure occupies the center of the composition while looking out and engaging the viewer.

The four works on loan to NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale are: *Portrait of Olatz*, 2004, a second portrait that depicts her in a simple brown dress; *Untitled (Los Patos Del Buen Retiro V)*, 1990-91, a large abstract work painted on red velvet that incorporates her name; *Christ's Last Day (X-ray)*, 2008, from Schnabel's series of paintings that uses X-rays; and *Untitled (Goodbye Mike Kelley)*, 2012, his homage to the late L.A. artist Mike Kelley, the first in a series in which an image of a stuffed goat with a rabbit on its head is transposed onto 19th-century Dufour wallpaper.

NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is located at One East Las Olas Boulevard, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301. For additional information, visit nsuuseum.org or call 954-525-5500.

About NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale

A premier destination for the visual arts, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale is located midway between Miami and Palm Beach in the heart of downtown Fort Lauderdale's entertainment district. The museum's 83,000 square-foot modernist building, which opened in 1986 was designed by renowned architect Edward Larrabee Barnes. In 2008, the museum became part of Nova Southeastern University, one of the largest private research universities in the U.S., and in 2013, Bonnie Clearwater joined the museum as its Director and Chief Curator where she is leading the museum on an exciting phase of growth and

transformation. NSU Art Museum's permanent collection contains more than 6,000 works, including notable works by leading Latin and Latin-American artists; the largest holdings in the U.S. of works by post-war, avant-garde European Cobra artists; and single largest collection of works and archival materials by the American painter William Glackens. An active education program, including studio instruction for all ages, is offered through the museum's acclaimed AutoNation Academy of Art + Design.

Exhibitions currently on view are: *Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection and 20th Century Mexican Art from the Stanley and Pearl Goodman Collection and American Scene Photography: Martin Z. Margulies Collection.*

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