



## HISTORY AND MYSTERY. LATIN AMERICAN ART AND EUROPE

### AJALUGU JA MÜSTIKA. LADINA-AMEERIKA KUNST JA EUROOPA



For the exhibitions *History and Mystery: Latin American Art and Europe*, and *Leonora Carrington*, The Phoebus Foundation once again joins the Art Museum of Estonia in the country's capital, Tallinn. Following the notable collaborations *From Memling to Rubens: The Golden Age of Flanders* at Kadriorg Palace of Tsar Peter the Great, and *Crazy about Saint Dymphna* at the Niguliste Church (both in 2021), this time the action takes place at the Kumu Art Museum with two exhibitions exploring European influences on the unique visual traditions of Latin American art, from the early 17th century deep into the 20th.

The story begins in the Spanish colonial period, when many local artists were inspired by prints and paintings from Antwerp. However, the art of the 'New World' quickly seeks and finds its own path. From the cross-pollinations of the vice-royalties era, the bridge is extended to modern times, featuring masterpieces by Joaquín Torres-García, Diego Rivera, Fernando Botero, José Gurvich, and Wifredo Lam. Suddenly, the visitor is no longer in Tallinn but immersed in the vibrant cultural scenes of Uruguay, Argentina, Cuba, or Chile. Through over a hundred works from The Phoebus Foundation collection, *History and Mystery* plunges you into an artistic world that is often still too unfamiliar. Incidentally, the majority of these paintings and sculptures have never been shown to the public before.



In a separate exhibition, visitors are taken into the magical, captivating, yet often haunting dream world of Leonora Carrington. Managing Director of The Phoebus Foundation SON, Dr.

Katharina Van Cauteren, comments: 'The Phoebus Foundation is the proud owner of no less than seven visionary scenes by Leonora Carrington. This makes the already extraordinary collection of The Phoebus Foundation even more exceptional. Indeed, the entire collection of Latin American art held by the Foundation is unique in Europe, and even in the world. Few institutions possess such a wealth of scenes from all these different countries and periods, and of such quality.'

For The Phoebus Foundation SON, this is once again a prestigious collaboration and an example of soft diplomacy, highlighting not only Latin America but also Flanders and Belgium on the world map.

This exhibition is accompanied by two editions of the publication series 'Phoebus Focus':

- Katharina Van Cauteren, *The Holy Family in Nazareth – On Diego Quispe Tito (c.1611-1681), the Art of Cuzco, and Antwerp as Hollywood on the Scheldt*, published by Hannibal Books.
- Naomi Meulemans, *Amorphous Figures. Roberto Matta (1911-2002) and the Power of Fluorescent Paint*, published by Hannibal Books.

In addition, there is a catalogue by the curators of the exhibition: Sirje Helme and Kadi Polli (eds.), *History and Mystery. Latin American Art and Europe* (in Estonian: *Ajalugu ja müstika. Ladina-Ameerika kunst ja Euroopa*), published by the Art Museum of Estonia – Kumu Art Museum.



***History and Mystery: Latin American Art and Europe* runs until November 3, 2024.**

The exhibitions *History and Mystery: Latin American Art and Europe* and *Leonora Carrington* are a collaboration between the Art Museum of Estonia – Kumu Art Museum and The Phoebus Foundation SON, supported by the companies of the Katoen Natie Group and the companies of the Indaver Group.