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Editors' Note

Museum of Contemporary Art of Universidade de São Paulo

One of the most important museums of modern and contemporary art in Latin America, the Museum of Contemporary Art of the Universidade de São Paulo (MAC-USP) was created in 1963. At that time, USP received from Francisco Matarazzo Sobrinho, chairman of the Museum of Modern Art of São Paulo (MAM-SP), the MAM collection, in addition to his private collection and his wife's, Yolanda Penteadó. Currently the MAC-USP occupies three buildings - two in Parque do Ibirapuera, and one in USP Campus. Its collection has around 10,000 works of art, including paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculptures, objects and works of conceptual art and contemporary art. The list of artists includes Picasso, Matisse, Kandinsky, Modigliani, Calder, Braque, Henry Moore, Tarsila do Amaral, Ismael Nery, Volpi, Flávio de Carvalho, Julio Plaza, Regina Silveira, Jonathas Andrade, Felipe Cama, among many others.

Linked to university research, MAC seeks to make its collection accessible to all audiences by offering a wide variety of exhibitions and broad opportunities for courses and readings of modern and contemporary art. The Museum also carries out exhibitions with works by Brazilian and foreign artists, new and renowned ones, which do not belong to its collection.

In addition to the exhibitions, the Museum maintains an intense activity in the cultural area with courses, lectures, workshops and special tutoring activities dedicated to the general public. In the academic area, it offers elective courses to undergraduate and graduate students. The research activity developed by the faculty is dedicated to the study of the collection and issues related to History, Art Theory and Art Critic, as well as Museology and Education.

The stimulus for the discussion of History, new trends and new pathways in Art is also present in the Lourival Gomes Machado Library with 27,000 slides and 35,000 exhibition catalogs, not to mention other items.

In January of 2012, thanks to the support of the State Government of São Paulo through the Department of Culture and the Universidade de São Paulo itself, the Museum acquired a new building with a greater capacity to house its activities and present its collection in Parque Ibirapuera. The new building will reposition the Museum in the cultural circuit of São Paulo as a place of artistic experience, training and information and also as a leisure option.

Director Board of the Museum of Contemporary Art (MAC),
Universidade de São Paulo