

MEMORIES OF A VOYAGE: The Late Work of René Magritte

On View February 14 – July 13, 2014

**Presented Exclusively at the Menil, In Conjunction with
*Magritte: The Mystery of the Ordinary, 1926-1938***

Draws from the Museum's Extraordinary Holdings of the Artist's Work



HOUSTON, TX, January 2, 2014—Continuing its exploration beyond René Magritte's breakthrough years leading up to World War II, the Menil Collection will present a selection of works that illuminate abiding interests and concerns of the artist and trace his continuous reinterpretation of themes. Beginning in 1941 and concluding with the artist's death in 1967, the tightly focused ***Memories of a Voyage: The Late Work of René Magritte*** opens concurrently with *Magritte: The Mystery of the Ordinary, 1926-*

1938. Presented only at the Menil as a pendant to that major traveling exhibition, ***Memories of a Voyage*** will remain on view through July 13.

As Magritte's reputation rose during the post-war period and Surrealism found a broader reception in the United States, the artist continued to develop variations on themes and to re-imagine worlds that he had already created. Often, Magritte expanded upon the iconography of his earlier work. Some of his newly created motifs – of people and places and things that defy laws of gravity and sense – are among the most recognizable and enduring of Magritte's oeuvre, including the sky filled with bowler-hatted men in *Golconda* (1953), and the day-for-night streetscape of *The Dominion of Light* (1954). Some 15 works are included in ***Memories of a Voyage***, which is curated by Menil Director Josef Helfenstein and Assistant Curator Clare Elliott.

In addition to paintings, the exhibition will include rarely-seen preparatory drawings, gouaches (an increasingly important medium to Magritte during his late period), and sculptures such as two painted bottles (only 25 of which are known to exist).



Stated Menil Director Josef Helfenstein: "In *Magritte: The Mystery of the Ordinary*, which we co-organized with The Museum of Modern Art and the Art Institute of Chicago, you have the opportunity to discern, perhaps more deeply than ever before, the astonishing course of Magritte's development. Here in Houston, ***Memories of a Voyage*** provides the rare opportunity to see the late work as well. At the Menil you will experience the entire scope of the artist's journey."

This exhibition is generously supported by Frost Bank; Skadden, Arps; and the City of Houston.

IMAGES: René Magritte, Golconde (Golconda), 1953. The Menil Collection, Houston. © Charly Herscovici – ADAGP - ARS, 2014. Photo: Hickey-Robertson, Houston. René Magritte, La courbure de l'univers (The Curvature of the Universe), 1950. The Menil Collection, Houston. © Charly Herscovici – ADAGP - ARS, 2014. Photo: Hickey-Robertson, Houston.

Contact:
Vance Muse or Gretchen Sammons
Menil Press Office
713-535-3170
press@menil.org