

## **The Menil Collection Internship Opportunity**

**Position:** *Summer 2022 Internship in Conservation*

**Department:** Conservation Department

**Duration:** 10-weeks, June through August 2022

The Menil Collection is offering a 10-week summer internship opportunity for current graduate students in conservation with an interest in contemporary art, sculpture, and painted surfaces.

### **Internship Specifications**

The 10-week summer internship focuses on researching and treating two painted fiber-reinforced polyester resin sculptures by Niki de Saint Phalle. Under the supervision of the Menil's Objects Conservators, this project will allow the student to focus on the unique structural and aesthetic issues of painted polyester resin, with access to the scientific, imaging, and treatment expertise of the Menil's Conservation Department.

The two sculptures, *Camel* and *Cat*, created in 1966, are some of the artist's earliest forays into what would become her signature use of fiberglass and polyester resin. Both sculptures were featured in "interactive" exhibitions in the 1970s and thus will require treatment involving both structural repair and surface restoration to prepare them for exhibition in 2023. Access to both the Menil Collection curatorial staff and the Nike Charitable Art Foundation will provide additional guidance throughout the treatment.

The internship aims to offer a focused research and treatment project while providing exposure to the broader activities of the Menil Collection's Conservation Department to current graduate students pursuing a degree in conservation. The intern will also be invited to present their research and treatment internally to Menil staff and/or externally to the Menil public.

The 10-week internship will commence in June 2022 and end in August, with flexibility provided for the exact start date. The paid internship offers a stipend of \$10,000 with an additional \$500 to cover expenses related to a temporary relocation to Houston, Texas for the summer.

### **Qualifications**

The applicant should be a current graduate student in conservation with an interest in plastics, painted surfaces, structural sculpture repair, and Niki de Saint Phalle. Additionally, while a respirator will be provided as part of the project, a respirator fit test will need to have been completed before the internship start date.

### **How to Apply**

Applicants should email a curriculum vitae with an email address and telephone number(s), a letter of intent, and three references to [hr@menil.org](mailto:hr@menil.org). Alternatively, application materials may be submitted via postal mail to:

Human Resources Department  
The Menil Collection  
1511 Branard Street  
Houston, Texas 77006  
USA

The Menil Collection is an Equal Opportunity Employer and seeks diversity in its workforce. The Menil is committed to attracting, retaining, developing, and promoting the most qualified employees without regard to race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, disability status, genetics, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, or any other characteristic protected by federal, state, or local laws.