Allora & Calzadilla: Specters of Noon
September 12, 2020–January 31, 2021 | Main Building

Allora & Calzadilla: Specters of Noon consists of seven works created by the internationally renowned and Puerto Rico-based artists Jennifer Allora and Guillermo Calzadilla. The pieces on view are inspired by their four-year immersion in the Menil Collection’s extraordinary holdings of Surrealism. The resulting installation responds to the contemporary economic and ecological issues that are shared by Houston and San Juan. With light projections, live vocal performance, and mixed-media sculpture, the exhibition captures the energy and intrigue of high noon, a fleeting time when shadows disappear and delirious apparitions emerge.


Virginia Jaramillo: The Curvilinear Paintings, 1969–1974
September 25, 2020–July 4, 2021 | Main Building

With their bright, flat fields of color and sharp, thin, undulating lines, Virginia Jaramillo’s paintings from the early 1970s exemplify American “hard edge abstraction.” This focused exhibition of eight canvases is the artist’s first solo museum show. Virginia Jaramillo: The Curvilinear Paintings, 1969–1974 marks the fiftieth anniversary of The De Luxe Show, a pioneering and racially integrated exhibition that was organized by the Menil Foundation in 1971. Jaramillo was the only female and Latina artist whose work was included.


Silent Revolutions: Italian Drawings from the Twentieth Century
November 20, 2020–April 11, 2021 | Menil Drawing Institute

This exhibition of drawings from the Collezione Ramo in Milan is the first large-scale survey of twentieth-century Italian drawings ever mounted in the United States. Highlighting the essential and multifaceted role that drawing played during a remarkably creative period of Italian art, the show features some 70 drawings by artists such as Umberto Boccioni, Giorgio de Chirico, Lucio Fontana, Alighiero Boetti, Jannis Kounellis, Maria Lai, and Carol Rama. The works on view will be augmented with several drawings from the Menil’s own collection.

Additional details: Co-organized by Edouard Kopp, John R. Eckel, Jr. Foundation Chief Curator, Menil Drawing Institute, and Irina Zucca Alessandrelli, Curator, Collezione Ramo. Not traveling.
John and Dominique de Menil were early and important champions of French artist Yves Klein (1928–1962). This exhibition celebrates their comprehensive collection, including Klein's monochrome paintings and sculptures in his signature brilliant blue, red, and gold, as well as his performance-based production. *The Marvelous Void* draws on unpublished research and interviews conducted by Dominique de Menil and includes photography by Harry Shunk and Janos Kender.