FROM MESOAMERICAN TO MODERN

Mexico City & the Zona Maco Art Fair

February 1 to 8, 2016

Oberlin College Alumni Association
Ward Alumni Center
65 E. College St., Suite 4
Oberlin, OH 44074-1681
Dear Oberlin Traveler,

Mexico City—with her powerful murals, first-rate museums, and thriving galleries—has become a world-class city of art. Next February, when the weather is warm and dry, please join us for a privileged week in this dynamic capital city, highlighted by attendance at Zona Maco, one of the most important art fairs in Latin America.

Traveling with us will be Denise Birkhofer, Assistant Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at Oberlin’s Allen Memorial Art Museum. Dr. Birkhofer spent time in Mexico City while writing her dissertation on contemporary Mexican photography and performance collectives, and she is delighted to be returning to this culturally rich metropolis.

Begin with a morning at Zona Maco during the special VIP preview day, followed by a tour of two extraordinary private collections: the Museo Soumaya, housing telecommunications magnate Carlos Slim’s trove of works by Picasso and other European masters; and the Júmex Collection, said to be the largest private contemporary art collection in Latin America. Discover exciting new works at leading galleries in the San Miguel Chapultepec and Colonia Roma districts, and travel back in time on an archaeologist-led exploration of the sacred pyramids of Teotihuacan—a UNESCO-recognized site that reached its peak a thousand years before the Spanish arrived.

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I hope you will join us on this remarkable discovery of Mexico City’s past and present.

Sincerely,

M. Danielle Young
Executive Director
Oberlin College Alumni Association
NEW YORK | MEXICO CITY

Monday, February 1 Depart New York and arrive this afternoon in Mexico City. Transfer to the JW Marriott hotel, situated in the upscale Polanco district and within walking distance of the neighborhood’s many restaurants, boutiques, and museums. This evening gather for a welcome dinner.

MEXICO CITY

Tuesday, February 2 Spend the morning at the special VIP preview day of Zona Maco, one of Latin America’s top art fairs. Following lunch, visit Museo Soumaya, housing the extensive private collection of Carlos Slim, the famous Mexican telecom tycoon. Then continue to the nearby Júmex Collection. Designed by David Chipperfield, this museum-style space features contemporary international art. The balance of the day is at leisure and you may wish to return to Zona Maco with your all-day pass.

MEXICO CITY | TEOTIHUACAN

Wednesday, February 3 This morning we journey northeast to the Basin of Mexico to explore the awe-inspiring pyramids of Teotihuacan. An archeologist will accompany us to this important Mesoamerican site, dating from 200 B.C.E. to 700 C.E. View the murals at the on-site museum and walk along the Avenue of the Dead, connecting the Pyramid of the Sun and Pyramid of the Moon. After lunch, visit the world-renowned National Museum of Anthropology, with impressive architecture and grounds designed by Pedro Ramírez Vázquez. Stroll through the great halls devoted to Mexico’s pre-Hispanic civilizations including Aztec, Maya, Zapotec, Olmec, Teotihuacano, and Toltec. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant.
MEXICO CITY

Thursday, February 4 Following a morning lecture by Denise Birkhofer, begin in the San Miguel Chapultepec district where we explore Kurimanzutto, considered one of the city’s top contemporary galleries, representing artists such as Rirkrit Tiravanija and Gabriel Orozco. After lunch, discover the Colonia Roma district and visit Proyectos Monclova, a newer gallery that focuses on emerging local talent, and Galería OMR, which features an elegant shop carrying artist editions and design pieces. Visit Casa Luis Barragán, home of the architect considered the father of the modern movement in Mexican architecture, and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Dinner is at leisure. You may wish to enjoy one of the city’s many fine restaurants.

MEXICO CITY

Friday, February 5 The morning and lunch are at leisure. This afternoon visit the Rufino Tamayo Museum to view the outstanding permanent collection of contemporary art as well as the special featured exhibitions. Then explore the Museum of Modern Art, where exhibitions masterfully showcase works by 20th-century Mexican artists. Dinner this evening is at a local restaurant.

MEXICO CITY

Saturday, February 6 Following a morning lecture by Denise Birkhofer, wander the cobbled streets of the colonial-style San Angel neighborhood and explore the Saturday bazaar at the Jardín del Arte. Lunch is at the landmark San Angel Inn. Across the street, visit the Diego and Frida Studios, designed as a home and work space for the couple by architect Juan O’Gorman. Then tour La Casa Azul, where Frida Kahlo was born and died, and where she and Diego Rivera lived during part of their two marriages. The house remains virtually unchanged since Kahlo’s death in 1954. Dinner is at leisure.
MEXICO CITY

Sunday, February 7 Travel south to Xochimilco and the Museo Dolores Olmedo, located at the magnificent restored hacienda of Diego Rivera’s last patron and featuring an excellent collection of works by both Rivera and Kahlo. Enjoy lunch on a trajinera boat at the Xochimilco Floating Gardens. Return to the hotel and celebrate our week at a festive farewell dinner.

MEXICO CITY | NEW YORK

Monday, February 8 Following breakfast, transfer to the airport for return flights home.

OBERLIN COLLEGE

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To reserve a place, please return this form along with your deposit of $1,500 per person (of which $350 is non-refundable for administrative fees) payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Names in Full as on Passports. Please Print.

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Telephone (Home) (Business)

Fax E-mail

ACCOMMODATIONS

Hotel Room Double Twin Single (supplement of $1,400)

I wish to share a room with

FORM OF PAYMENT

Enclosed is my check (payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad)

Credit card (may be used for deposit only)

Name on Credit Card

Credit Card Number

3- or 4-Digit Security Code Expiration Date

Each participant must sign below. I/We confirm that I/we have carefully read and agree to the Terms & Conditions of this Program. I/We agree to full payment by check 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (Required) Date

Signature (Required) Date

For additional information, please contact Academic Arrangements Abroad
Telephone: 212-514-8921 or 800-221-1944 Fax: 212-344-7493 E-mail: trips@arrangementsabroad.com www.arrangementsabroad.com
**Terms & Conditions**

**Airfare** Academic Arrangements Abroad (AAA) will be pleased to assist with air travel arrangements for this program, including specially negotiated group airfare when available, suggested flights, or individual requests for a processing fee of $40 per person. Complete details will be provided in your confirmation mailing.

**Payment Schedule** A deposit of $1,500 per person, payable to Academic Arrangements Abroad, of which $350 is non-refundable for administrative fees, is required with the reservation application. Final payment, by check or wire transfer only, must be received 120 days prior to departure.

**Health** All participants must be in good health. This program involves extensive walking over uneven surfaces, climbing stairs at monuments and other locations not handicapped accessible, and climbing in and out of various conveyances. Any condition that may require assistance or special medical attention must be reported at the time of your reservation.

**Photography** Photographs or, in some cases, videotapes of participants of Oberlin College trips may be used for educational and promotional purposes by Oberlin College.

**Insurance** Trip Cancellation / Emergency Medical Evacuation / Baggage / Accident and Sickness Insurance is strongly recommended. Cancellation Penalties are strictly enforced. AAA will send an insurance application upon receipt of deposit, although you may select any insurer of your choice.

**Changes in Itinerary & Costs** The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Oberlin College (OC) and AAA. All prices quoted are based on prevailing fuel prices, airfares, and currency exchange rates in effect at time of brochure printing and are subject to change without notice. Deviations from the scheduled itinerary are at the expense of the individual.

**Responsibility Clause** The participation of OC is limited to educational sponsorship of the program described in this brochure (The Program). AAA acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services, relating to The Program. AAA, OC, and/or their agents assume no responsibility or liability for any act, error, or omission, or for any injury, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned by reason of any defect in any aircraft, ship, train, bus, or other carrier, or through neglect or default of any subcontractor or other third party, which may be used wholly or in part in the performance of their duty to the participants of The Program. The passage ticket issued by the carrier is the sole contract between the participant and the carrier. Nor will AAA or OC and/or their agents be responsible for loss, injury, damages, or expenses to persons or property, due to illness, weather, strikes, local laws, hostilities, wars, terrorist acts, acts of nature, or other such causes in connection with The Program or anything beyond their reasonable control. AAA is not responsible for transportation or other program delays and changes, nor additional expenses or loss of time that may be incurred. In the event it becomes necessary or advisable for the comfort or well-being of the participants, or for any reason whatsoever, to alter the itinerary at any time, without notice to the participants, such alterations will be made without penalty to AAA or OC. Additional expenses, if any, shall be borne by the participants. Baggage and personal effects are the sole responsibility of the participant at all times. AAA and OC reserve the right to accept or decline any person as a participant at any time, or to require any participant to withdraw from The Program at their own expense when such an action is determined by AAA or OC to be in the best interest of the participant’s health and safety, or the general welfare of the other participants.

**Cancellation Policy** AAA must strictly adhere to its cancellation policy to offset costs incurred prior to the commencement of The Program, which may include but are not limited to: advance payments to land operators; ship charters; communication expenses; development/promotional expenses; and the loss of time that might have permitted resale of reserved space. All cancellations must be made in writing to the offices of AAA and are subject to a $350 non-refundable administrative fee. All refunds are limited to amounts actually received by AAA and are the sole responsibility of AAA; OC shall have no liability for refunds. At the time AAA receives written notification of cancellation, the following cancellation charges will apply: cancellations received between 120 and 91 days prior to departure, 20 percent of the program cost per person; those received between 90 and 61 days before departure, 50 percent of the program cost per person; no refunds will be given for cancellations received within 60 days of departure. No refunds are given for cancellation on or after the day of departure, or for unused portions of the tour, for any reason. Air cancellation charges, if any, will be assessed in accordance with airline regulations. All group fare tickets must be issued no less than 30 days prior to departure. NOTE: Neither AAA nor OC shall be liable for any airline cancellation penalties incurred by the purchase of a non-refundable ticket. In the case of a cancellation due to shortage of participants, AAA will attempt to notify all participants at least 45 days prior to departure. However, AAA reserves the right to cancel The Program prior to departure for any reason and, in such case, reimbursement of refundable costs of the trip by AAA shall constitute full settlement with the participant. In the unlikely event that a dispute arises between a participant and AAA or OC, the following conditions will apply: (a) the dispute will be settled by binding arbitration administered by the American Arbitration Association in New York, NY; (b) the dispute will be governed by New York Law; (c) the maximum amount of recovery to which a participant shall be entitled under any and all circumstances will be the sum of all monies actually received from the participant by AAA. The participant agrees that this is a fair and reasonable limitation on the damages, of any sort whatsoever, that a participant may suffer. Upon payment of the deposit to AAA, the participant agrees to be bound by the above terms and conditions.

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Academic Arrangements Abroad

On the front cover: Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico City. On the back cover: Trajinera boats, Mexico City. Top, photo by OC, Colombia, and Textilama, photo by Roberta Wehbe (bottom).
PROGRAM RATE PER PERSON $5,495
SINGLE SUPPLEMENT $1,400

RATE INCLUDES
- Seven nights’ hotel accommodations at the JW Marriott, Mexico City
- Buffet breakfast daily, five lunches, and four dinners with bottled water and tea / coffee. Beer / wine with included dinners
- Airport / hotel group transfers and porterage fees
- Sightseeing via deluxe air-conditioned motorcoach as per itinerary, with English-speaking guide
- Enrichment program of lectures by Denise Birkhofer
- Entrances for all included visits
- Taxes, service charges, and all gratuities

NOT INCLUDED IN RATE
International airfare; passport fees; meals not specified; alcoholic beverages other than wine or beer at included dinners; personal expenses; trip insurance; transfers for guests not using suggested group air.

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TRAVELING WITH YOU
Denise Birkhofer is Curator of Modern and Contemporary Art at the Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin College. She received her PhD in art history from the Institute of Fine Arts at New York University, completing a dissertation titled On and Off the Streets: Photography and Performance in Mexico City, 1974–84. A scholar of art after 1900 in Europe and the Americas, Birkhofer has written about various aspects of Latin American art in such publications as Woman’s Art Journal and Anamesa, and has presented at forums including the College Art Association Annual Conference; the International Latin American Art Forum at the University of Texas, Austin; and Photo Archives and the Photographic Memory of Art History. She is the curator of the Allen Memorial Art Museum’s first major exhibition of Latin American art, Latin American and Latino Art at the Allen, as well as the author of the catalogue Latin American Art at the Allen Memorial Art Museum.

Palacio de Bellas Artes

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