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Mel Casas papers: Press Kit, The Latin American Spirit: Art and Artists in the United States 1920-1970 Exhibition, 1989

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including The Museum of Modern Art, and the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, and the Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden, Washington, D.C.

Antonio Frasconi

Antonio Frasconi was born in Buenos Aires in 1919. He moved to Montevideo, Uruguay, where he attended the Circulo de Bellas Artes and the School of Architecture. In 1938, Frasconi began working as a political cartoonist and graphic artist. Later he moved to New York City to study at the Art Students League. He received scholarships from the New School for Social Research to study mural painting and from the Tamarand Workshop in California to study lithography. In 1955, Frasconi illustrated Aesop's Fables for the Museum of Modern Art in New York. In 1963, he designed a commemorative United States postage stamp. Frasconi's work is considered to have had an influential and revitalizing effect on the art of woodblock printing in the United States. His brightly colored, forceful prints or every day scenes and activities are in many public and private collections.

Luis Jimenez

Luis Jimenez was born in El Paso, Texas in 1940. He studied art and architecture at the University of Texas at Austin, receiving a bachelor's degree in 1964. That same year, Jimenez received a scholarship from the National University of Mexico and travelled to Mexico. In 1964, he moved to New York. His exhibits include UNESCO in Washington, D.C., and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York. Jimenez's work is in the permanent collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York and the National Collection of Fine Art, and National Museum of American Art in Washington, D.C.

Frida Kahlo

Frida Kahlo was born in Coyoacan, a Mexico City suburb. She studied at the Escuela Nacional Preparatoria in Mexico City and also studied drawing under Fernando Fernandez. As an early teenager, Kahlo met artist Diego Rivera and announced her ambition in life was to marry him and bear his children. In 1926, Kahlo, pursuing a medical career, suffered life-threatening injuries from a bus accident. Confined to bed from much of her remaining life, she taught herself to paint and won the attention of Rivera who married her in 1929.

The couple's relationship, which included a stormy marriage, separation, divorce, and remarriage, along with her accident was the focus of much of her work. Many of her paintings are self-portraits with themes of physical pain, and the inability to bear children, reflecting her own life. Kahlo's simplified style often feature bright colors, spare stage-like space, frontal figures and native Mexican costume. The couple travelled throughout the United States and Europe in the 1930's, during a political period in which leftist artists rarely found work in Mexico. After returning to Mexico, Kahlo was appointed professor of painting at La Esmeralda in Mexico City, in 1940. She died in 1954.

Wilfredo Lam (Wilfredo Oscar de la Concepcion Lam y Castillo)

Wilfredo Lam was born in 1902 in Sagua la Grande, Cuba and moved to Havana in 1916, where he studied at the Academia de San Alejandro. He later studied under Fernandez Alvarez de Sotmayor, curator of the

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