

MARCH 12, 2020

Acquisition: María Berrío, "A Sunburst Restrained"



María Berrío

A Sunburst Restrained, 2019

collage with Japanese paper and watercolor on canvas

152.4 x 182.9 cm (60 x 72 in.)

National Gallery of Art, Washington

Gift of Erika and John Toussaint

2020.2.1

The Gallery has acquired its first work by Colombian artist María Berrío (b. 1982), who is known for her luminous collages of Japanese papers painted with watercolor. She arranges the collages to depict female figures in spaces of refuge and imagined utopias that incorporate the cultural influences and flora of South America.

In *A Sunburst Restrained* (2019) two female figures recline in a tiled setting. A fluid pink ground

fills the bottom third of the composition, over which a branch full of leaves and lemons appears, cutting across the foreground and cropped by the bottom edge of the canvas. The artist attributes her inspiration for this work to Pablo Neruda's poem "Ode to a Lemon," which links the greatness of celestial light to the modest but life-affirming form of a lemon. Berrío has imbued her rendering of the two women and the lemons with such barely contained vitality and light.

Press Release

[Order Press Images](#)

Press Contact

Laurie Tylec

phone: (202) 842-6355

e-mail: l-tylec@nga.gov

Contact Information

General Information

For additional press information please call or send inquiries to:

Department of Communications

National Gallery of Art

2000 South Club Drive

Landover, MD 20785

phone: (202) 842-6353

e-mail: pressinfo@nga.gov

Chief of Communications

Anabeth Guthrie

phone: (202) 842-6804

e-mail: guthrie@nga.gov

e-mail: a-guttnrie@nga.gov

Newsletters

The National Gallery also offers a broad range of newsletters for various interests. [Follow this link](#) to view the complete list.

Related Resources

Exhibitions

Press Releases

Newsletters

RSS News Feed