ISLAA Makes Generous Gift to the IFA

The Institute of Fine Arts is pleased to announce that the Institute for Studies on Latin American Art (ISLAA) has given the IFA a $75,000 grant, payable over the next three years, to enhance the study of and research on Latin American art. Since 1991, the IFA has led the way in the United States in building an innovative, dedicated program for the study of Latin American art at the graduate level. ISLAA’s generous grant will bolster the IFA’s strong focus on Latin American art by expanding its research materials on topics within the field, by providing graduate students working on Latin American Art with research travel funding, by facilitating new short-term visiting professorships, and by expanding public lectures and other events centered on Latin American art.

The IFA’s focus on Latin American art began over twenty years ago when Edward Sullivan, Helen Gould Sheppard Professor in the History of Art, first offered a seminar on contemporary Mexican art. He has developed a wide range of courses in the field covering the nineteenth century to the present in such places as Mexico, Brazil, the Southern Cone of South America and the Caribbean, as well as recent courses, for example, “Art in Four Latin American Centers (Mexico City, Havana, Rio/São Paulo and Buenos Aires/Montevideo) from 1920 to 1950,” and a seminar titled “Latin American artists in Paris 1880-1980.” Professor Sullivan remains dedicated to fostering the focus on Latin American art and courses on topics within the field are also regularly offered by other specialists, including Professors Jonathan Brown and Robert Lubar. The IFA is recognized as the premier program in the United States for the study of Latin American art and also maintains close ties both with the Museum of Modern Art, which holds the largest collection of Latin American material in the world, and with El Museo del Barrio. These ties allow IFA students important opportunities for study and professional development. The grant from ISLAA will further enhance these research and learning opportunities about Latin American art at the IFA.

Patricia Rubin, Judy and Michael Steinhardt Director of the IFA, notes, “We are delighted and thankful to have received this important grant from ISLAA. It enriches our community by expanding our focus on significant topics within the study of Latin American Art.” While Helen Gould Sheppard Professor in the History of Art Edward Sullivan remarked, “This exciting new partnership between the IFA and ISLAA will contribute meaningfully to increasing the study of Latin American art and its historical and contemporary significance.”

The Institute of Fine Arts of New York University is one of the world’s leading graduate schools and research centers in art history, archaeology, and conservation. The Institute has a permanent faculty unrivalled in the breadth and depth of its expertise and unparalleled in the range of its adjunct lecturers from top museums, research institutes, and conservation studios. Since the Institute awarded its first PhD in 1933, more than 1600 degrees have been conferred. A high proportion of alumni hold international leadership roles as professors, curators, museum directors, archaeologists, conservators, critics, and institutional administrators.