A Connoisseur’s Mexico
Art, Archaeological, and Architectural Treasures of Mexico City
JANUARY 17–23, 2017
Dear Member,

You are invited on an artistic and architectural exploration of Mexico City, a city blessed with significant art and architecture, fantastic museums, numerous archeological wonders, and unique cuisine. Our itinerary focuses on pre-Hispanic and contemporary art and architecture, and includes a tour of the unforgettable Museo de Arte Popular, located in a spectacular Art Deco firehouse; an afternoon at the Museo de Bellas Artes, home to outstanding murals by David Siqueiros, José Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera, and Rufino Tamayo; and a morning at the Museo Nacional de Antropología, the largest museum in Latin America and one of the great anthropological museums of the world.

An hour’s drive to Teotihuacán follows, along with a morning spent exploring this UNESCO World Heritage Site, whose ruins are among the most remarkable in Mexico.

Next, visit the Museo Soumaya, which houses Carlos Slim’s collection of over 66,000 works from 30 centuries of art, and be one of the first to see the Colección Jumex, designed by British architect David Chipperfield.

At the Museo Dolores Olmedo, view an excellent collection of works by Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in a magnificent hacienda setting. Continue to Kahlo’s Casa Azul in Coyoacán, a historic museum dedicated to her life and work. The building was the birthplace of Kahlo and is also where she grew up, lived with her husband Diego Rivera for a number of years, and eventually died.

Our home for the week is the luxurious and centrally located five-star Four Seasons Hotel México, D. F., modeled after the 18th-century Palacio de Iturbide. I hope you will join us for this exciting, member-only travel opportunity. Space is limited, and early reservations are encouraged.

Sincerely,

Aleksandra Matic
Associate Director of Member Travel

Art Institute Study Leader

Annie Morse is assistant director for college and professional learning in the Department of Museum Education. She helps guide the summer internship program, and she coordinates the annual graduate student seminar and the professional development programs Art-Work and Discerning Eye. In addition to conducting weekly gallery talks on both the permanent collection of the Art Institute and the museum’s special exhibitions, Annie speaks to private groups, Road Scholars, and college and university classes. She teaches in the art education program of the School of the Art Institute and is an independent curator who has worked with the Contemporary Arts Council, Columbia College Chicago, and the Hyde Park Art Center. Annie has led previous Art Institute member travel programs to Italy, Spain, Germany, France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Croatia, Morocco, Russia, and Iceland.

This travel program is specially designed for Art Institute members. For more information or to become a member, please call the Department of Member Travel at (312) 443-3115.
ITINERARY

January 17
USA/Mexico City

Fly to Mexico City on independently arranged flights. Take a group transfer to the Four Seasons, Mexico City’s most luxurious hotel. Enjoy free time to relax and have an independent lunch. In the late afternoon, drive to the unforgettable Museo de Arte Popular, located in a spectacular Art Deco firehouse. The museum promotes and preserves Mexican crafts and folk art and offers a wonderful introduction to Mexican culture. Continue to one of Mexico City’s best restaurants for a gourmet welcome dinner.

Four Seasons (D)

January 18
Mexico City’s Murals

Spend the day viewing spectacular murals around Mexico City’s zócalo. In the morning, visit murals by José Clemente Orozco in San Ildefonso and by Diego Rivera at the Secretaría de Educación Pública. Following a lunch of Mexican specialties, continue to the Palacio Nacional for additional murals by Diego Rivera (pending confirmation).

Walk through the iconic Palacio de Correos, a dramatic building completed in 1907 predominantly in the Spanish Renaissance Revival style. Conclude your afternoon at the Museo de Bellas Artes, a grand Art Deco building, and view outstanding murals by David Siqueiros, José Clemente Orozco, Diego Rivera, and Rufino Tamayo.

Four Seasons (B, L)

January 19
Art through the Ages

Begin your morning at the Museo Nacional de Antropología, exploring Mexico’s ancient cultures. Stop for a coffee break at the Museum’s café and enjoy a lunch of regional specialties in the prestigious Polanco neighborhood.

Continue to the Museo Soumaya, home to Carlos Slim’s collection of over 66,000 works representing 30 centuries of art, and see the Colección Jumex. Adjacent to the museum, the Colección Jumex was designed by the renowned English architect David Chipperfield.

Conclude your day with a cocktail in the Camino Real Polanco’s memorable Bar Blue Lounge, and enjoy the modern architecture of Ricardo Legorreta; the caldera-like fountain in the driveway, designed by Isamu Noguchi; and the hotel’s remarkable artworks by Rufino Tamayo, Rodolfo Morales, Mathias Goeritz, and Luís Covarrubias, among others.

Four Seasons (B, L, R)
January 20

Studios and Galleries

Spend the morning visiting a variety of artist studios and galleries. Continue to Rosetta for a delicious lunch of Mediterranean dishes in an elegant setting, spread through several rooms of an enchanting old mansion. The balance of the afternoon is at leisure.

Four Seasons (B, L, D)

January 21

Teotihuacán

Drive an hour to Teotihuacán and spend the morning exploring a remarkable UNESCO World Heritage Site. The Aztecs believed that the gods created the universe in this ancient city, which flourished as the epicenter of culture and commerce during Mesoamerica’s Classic period. Thought to have had a population of about 200,000 at its peak, the site was inhabited from around 200 B.C. until its collapse almost one thousand years later.

Enjoy lunch in the lovely outside dining area of Villas Arqueológicas, located near the ruins. En route back to downtown Mexico City, stop at Tlateloco, site of the 1968 student massacre. Visit the Plaza de Tres Cultures and the remarkable Cultural Center. In the evening, bid adiós to Mexico at a memorable farewell dinner.

Four Seasons (B, L)

January 22

Art in Splendid Settings

Drive to the Museo Dolores Olmedo and view its excellent collection of works by Diego Rivera and Frida Kahlo in a magnificent hacienda setting. Enjoy lunch at the Casa Pedregal, a privately owned house designed by Luis Barragán. Continue to Casa Azul in Coyoacán, Kahlo’s birthplace and the home where she was raised, lived with Diego Rivera for a number of years, and ultimately passed away on the upper floor. In 1958, Rivera donated the house and its contents, establishing the site as a museum in Kahlo’s honor. Casa Azul, which remains much as it was in the 1950s, contains a collection of artwork by Kahlo, Rivera, and other artists, along with the couple's collections of Mexican folk art, pre-Hispanic artifacts, photographs, memorabilia, and personal items. After your visit, return to Mexico City. Dinner and the remainder of the evening are independent.

Four Seasons (B, L)
Following breakfast, check out of your hotel. Drive to Casa Luis Barragán, a house museum once home to Mexico’s most famous architect. One of the most influential and representative examples of modern Mexican architecture, the home has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Following your visit, proceed to the airport for your return flight home.

(B)
TOUR PRICE

Land Package
$4,495 double occupancy
Single Supplement: $1,295

Land Package price is per person, based on double occupancy and 15 paying participants. Tour prices are based on the itinerary listed in this proposal and corresponding dates in January 2017. Alterations to the tour itinerary may result in an adjustment of pricing. Tour prices are based on quotations, price estimates, and currency exchange rates of May 2016 and are subject to change based on currency exchange rate, inflation, actual prices in 2017, or any other element out of the direct control of International Seminar Design, Inc.

TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

Six nights in deluxe accommodations at the five-star Four Seasons: breakfast daily, five lunches, two dinners, one cocktail reception; two glasses of wine at dinners, coffee and tea included with each lunch and dinner; entrance fees to all sites listed in the itinerary; one group airport transfer upon arrival, from the Mexico City airport to the Four Seasons, and one group transfer upon departure to the Mexico City airport from the Four Seasons; all land transportation by deluxe private motorcoach, as outlined in the itinerary; expert local English-speaking guides to accompany the tour on planned activities; services of an ISDI tour manager throughout the program; services of Annie Morse as study leader.

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

International and domestic U.S. airfare, airport and airline taxes, and fuel surcharges, passport fees; transfers to and from the airport for individuals not using group transfers; meals not included in the itinerary; airport porterage; any personal items not listed as included, such as telephone calls, personal services, travel extensions, room service, and valet service; items such as wines, liquors, mineral water, à la carte orders, and laundry charges; and items not specifically mentioned as included.

ACTIVITY LEVEL

This tour involves moderate-to-active walking tours through cities and rural settings, including uneven paths as well as stairs. Portions of this program are not handicap accessible. Please call the Department of Member Travel at (312) 443-3115 for more information.

DEPOSIT AND FULL PAYMENT

A deposit of $1,000 per paying participant is required to guarantee participation in the program. This deposit may be paid by check or by Visa or MasterCard. Final payment will be invoiced and is due on October 6, 2016, by check only, to International Seminar Design, Inc. Registrants will be accepted beyond this date on a space-available basis, with payment in full by check only.

Mail application to:
International Seminar Design, Inc.
4115 Wisconsin Avenue NW, Suite 101
Washington, D.C. 20016

CANCELLATIONS AND REFUNDS

All cancellations must be received in writing by ISDI and are subject to a nonrefundable administrative fee of $500 per person. Written cancellation received by ISDI on or before October 6, 2016: full refund minus $500 per person administrative fee. Written cancellation received by ISDI between October 7 and December 1, 2016: $2,250 of tour per person. Cancellations received on or after December 2, 2016: no refund.

After the tour has commenced, it is not possible to issue any refunds. No refunds will be issued for any unused portion of the tour, including, but not limited to, occasional missed meals or any missed sightseeing tours. Costs for promotion, staff, and other group expenses are nonrefundable. In the case of cancellation, substitutions are not accepted. Tour cost is nontransferable. If ISDI or the Art Institute of Chicago cancels the tour, active registrants will receive a full refund of all tour payments. A package of cancellation, baggage, and medical insurance is strongly recommended.

WAIVER AND RELEASE

In order to participate in this travel program, you will be required to complete an Art Institute of Chicago Waiver and Release form that will be provided to you prior to departure.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

All tour participants are strongly encouraged to purchase travel insurance, regardless of present good health. Should one need to cancel participation in this travel program, trip cancellation insurance may be the only source of reimbursement. ISDI must strictly abide by the cancellation terms outlined above. Purchasing travel insurance is the best way to protect your financial investment in the trip against unexpected complications. A travel-insurance brochure will be sent upon receipt of registration and deposit.

FLIGHTS

Airfare is not included in the tour price. Participants are responsible for all aspects of their air arrangements round-trip to and from Mexico City.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) acts only as an agent for the participant with respect to transportation, accommodations, and all other services relating to this tour. ISDI, the Art Institute of Chicago, 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 caused by 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 tour. ISDI and the Art Institute of Chicago reserve the right to cancel any tour prior to departure for any reason, including insufficient number of participants, as well as the right to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour at any time. If bookings fall below the minimum required, passengers will be advised of additional costs or itinerary alterations before departure date.

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JANUARY 17–23, 2017

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**ROOMING OPTIONS (please select)**

- [ ] Double occupancy
  - (We prefer separate beds)
- [ ] I would like a roommate but will pay the price of the single supplement if one cannot be found.
- [ ] I will share a room with ____________________________
- [ ] Single supplement ($1,295)

The undersigned has read the tour itinerary and recognizes and accepts any risks therein. The undersigned also understands and hereby agrees for and on behalf of his/her dependents, heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns to abide by the conditions set forth in the terms and conditions listed in this brochure and to release and hold harmless the Art Institute of Chicago and International Seminar Design, Inc. (ISDI) and any of their officers, trustees, agents, licenses, or representatives from any and all liability for delays, injuries, or death, or for the loss of and/or damage to his/her property however occurring during any portion of, or in relation to, this tour.

**EACH PARTICIPANT MUST SIGN**  
*Registration invalid without signature*

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