

Art Galleries and Collections to be visited on this trip:

- 1) SAN TELMO
- 2) CALLE ARROYO- PLAZA SAN MARTÍN
- 3) PALERMO SOHO

On Arroyo street and San Martin Square, in downtown, numerous art galleries with a great range of prices and styles are located. In the colonial neighborhood of San Telmo, we can find a great deal of antiquarians and new art shops. During this last years, a new neighborhood dedicated to contemporary art and design has appeared, popularly called Palermo Soho, where a new generation of artists and designers exhibit their works. Therefore, we offer a key data on three of the more representative spaces on contemporary art.

THE VERGEZ COLLECTION - (SAN TELMO)

The Vergez Collection was born 20 years ago when Juan and Pat where about to move to their first house and needed art work to cover the walls. Their first initiative was a wedding list at Ruth Benzacar's Gallery. They then got one piece, by the Argentine artist Battle Planas. This piece gave birth to what was at first conceived an Argentine Collection. Some years later, on a trip to Sao Paulo the Vergez met gallerist Marcantonio Vilaça who stirred their desire for Brazilian and soon after, for a Latin American search. It was at Art Basel in Switzerland that Pat Vergez opened the international game when sharing with Juan the desire for a Shirin Neshat piece. Today the Vergez Collection includes work by more than 140 artists from around the World. The collection is at the up most of contemporary productions. The Vergez family (its their kids who sometimes choose some of the pieces) has a seldom-found avant-garde and risky eye when buying and commissioning art. It was this past 2007 that the collection finally found its venue and came out of containers and a life in the Vergez's minds, to overtake a building in San Telmo, an ink-producing factory. The venue is now known under the name of Space Tacuarí, due to the street where it is. Space Tacuarí is a building from the early 1900. The refurbishment kept its structure, forms and industrial character. Its XX square feet host today painting, photography and video as well as installations for the viewer to corporeally enjoy and experience them. Balloons, bikes, stages, lifts, lamps, tents, doors, are some of the pieces that one comes across while walking the space.

RUTH BENZACAR - GALERÍA DE ARTE (PLAZA SAN MARTÍN)

Florida 1000 - Buenos Aires, Argentina Monday through Fryday from 11.30 to 20.00, Saturday from 10.30 to 13.30 .Tel 4313 8480 info@ruthbenzacar.com

Founded in 1965, this gallery specializes itself in contemporary art. At present it possesses two exhibition rooms where there are simultaneously shown individual and / or collective samples of the artists works. In addition, the programming includes, international artists exhibitions organized in collaboration with other galleries as Leo Castelli (USA), Soledad Lorenzo (Spain), Camargo Vilaça (Brazil), Christopher Grimes (USA) and Luisa Strina (Brazil).

The Gallery takes part in diverse international contemporary art fairs: ARCH (Madrid), Art Miami, Expoarte Guadalajara (Mexico), Arte BA (Buenos Aires). In May, 1990, the Director, Ruth Benzacar, was designated by IFEMA (Fair of Madrid), member of the Organizing Committee of ARCH, being the first representative for Latin America. Because of its national and international management development, in 1991 it was chosen as one of the two hundred better galleries in the world (The World's 200 Best Contemporary Art Galleries. Editions Market Happens, France).

BRAGA MENENDEZ CONTEMPORARY ART GALLERY (PALERMO SOHO)

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Braga Menendez is a curatorial brand of contemporary art, a team of artists and gallery directors committed to a semantic project which proudly privileges the quality of the body of work we represent. We are an independent reflexive space which extends its praxis towards all branches of cultural production. Comprising a nucleus of 39 artists working at the highest international standards in both group and individual projects, the emphasis of our direction is not aimed at the selection of commercial work. The Latin-American conjuncture does not favor the intellectual aspects of independent art. We have achieved the institutional power of overcoming our social conditions because our internal commitment to the idea of quality is intense. Peculiar. From way down South. (Florencia Braga Menéndez)

ARTISTS: Manuel Ameztoy, Elba Bairon, Javier Barilaro, Eduardo Capilla, Sibyl Cohen, Pompei Gutnisky, Lux Lindner, Pablo Lozano, Marta Minujin, Luna Paiva, Karina Peisajovich, Hernan Salamanca, Fred Sapey-Triomphe, Chino Soria, Juan Tessi, Rof Verf (and others)