

# An Independent Portrait

A film by Jose Muniain

## Félix de la Concha

Félix de la Concha was born in León, Spain, in 1962. As a child, he painted landscapes as he accompanied his father on fishing trips. From 1981 to 1985, he studied at the Facultad de Bellas Artes in Madrid. In 1989, he was awarded the prestigious Prix de Rome at the Academia de Bellas Artes and lived and worked in Rome until 1994. While there, he created large-scale works including *Nine Months in Donna Olympia*, *The Cypress at the Circus Maximus*, and *A Promenade at Doria Pamphili*, all of which have been exhibited in museums around the world. Another of his most important works, *Patios de la Lonja*, is on permanent display at the Lonja de Alicante in Spain.

He has had solo exhibitions in the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh, The Frick Art and Historical Center in Pittsburgh, Columbus Museum of Art, Museo de Bellas Artes in Santander, Museo del Chopo, México, D.F., Centro Cultural La Recoleta in Buenos Aires, and Rómulo Gallegos in Caracas. His monumental display, *One a Day: 365 Views of the Cathedral of Learning* is on permanent display at the Old Masonic Temple in Pittsburgh, and *The Last Supper*, a work created in 2000, is permanently installed at Pittsburgh's David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

His work is included in the permanent collections of the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Columbus Museum of Art, Dartmouth Library, Amigos del Reina Sofia, Colección Testimoni de la Caixa, Banco de España, Colección Argentaria, and Teatro Real de Madrid.

**"Félix de la Concha's painting is part of a vibrant contemporary movement of Spanish realist painting. Its adherents combine a rigorous, disciplined technique with a deeply sensitive approach to subject matter."**

Thomas Smart, Director of Museum Programs, The Frick Art and Historical Center

**"It is Félix de la Concha's exceptional achievement to have reinvigorated this centuries-old tradition with a contemporary understanding of the possibilities of painting."**

Mark Francis, Gagosian Gallery Director, London

**"His canvases, recording subtle fluctuations of light and color, show his extraordinary assurance as a colorist and draftsman, characteristics for which he has become well-known across the United States and Spain."**

Dartmouth Club of the Upper Valley

**"In his paintings, he continues the tradition of realism that extends back to Spanish masters like Diego Velazquez, augmented by superb technique and powers of observation."**

**"By his own intense, dogged observations, and by tweaking perspective -- sometimes differently in adjacent canvases -- he makes the viewer aware of the complexities of looking and of seeing. Or of not seeing."**

**"By blending familiar subject matter and academic refinement, he presents a consideration of architecture and place that raises intriguing questions about perception."**

Mary Thomas, *Post-Gazette* Art Critic

**"His consistent approach to his subject, his impressive command of perspective, his expert handling of both draftsmanship and the oil medium, and his sense of light and color give the paintings the illusion of reality. Only upon careful analysis does one appreciate the conceptual virtuosity of the work and its overall rhythmic quality."**

Annegreth Nill, Curator of 20th Century and Contemporary Art, Columbus Museum of Art

**"His eye for light is nuanced, so each view truly reflects a particular moment, not the era's will to eternity. And yet his brushwork is also breezily masterful."** Charles Rosenblum, *Pittsburgh City Paper*

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**"His works become documents of time and place, and un-romanticized metaphors for individual lives and the greater community."**

Hank T. Foreman, Director and Chief Curator, Turchin Center for the Visual Arts  
ONE-PERSON EXHIBITIONS

2007 Fallingwater en Perspectiva. Félix de la Concha paints Frank Lloyd Writ's House on the waterfall.  
<http://www.statemuseumpa.org/felix-home.html>

2006 - Mercado de la Rivera- Galería Epelde Mardaras. Bilbao Spain

2004 -A *Contrarreloj*. (On program from July 17 through October 18)  
The Frick Art Museum & Historical Center. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.  
Visit:  
[www.frickart.com/programs/exhibitions/detail/68.html](http://www.frickart.com/programs/exhibitions/detail/68.html)  
[www.artsnet.org/frickcam](http://www.artsnet.org/frickcam)

2003 -Concept Art Gallery. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

2002 -Galería Artnueve, Murcia. Spain.\*  
-*Lonja del Pescado*. Ayuntamiento de Alicante, Alicante. Spain.  
Curator Pedro A. Cruz.\*  
-Galería Lourdes Carcedo, Burgos. Spain.  
-*Pittsburgh*, Galería Marlborough Madrid, Madrid.\*

2001 -*Penn Avenue, from Pearl Street to Gross Street*. Garfield Artworks. Presented by The Penn Arts Initiative (PAAI). Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.  
-*Diario de la Habana*. Centro Cultural Español. Miami, Florida.

2000 -*One A Day. 365 Views of the Cathedral of Learning*. Permanent installed at The Old Masonic Temple. University of Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

1999 -*Columbus*. Galería Antonio Machón, Madrid.\*  
-*One A Day*. Carnegie Museum of Art. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.  
Curator Madeleine Grynsztejn. Text by Mark Francis.  
-*Doble-Doble*. Concept Art Gallery. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

1998 -*El espíritu del lugar*. Galería Rafael Ortiz, Sevilla.  
-*Columbus Cornered*. Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus, Ohio.  
Curator Annegreth Nill.\*

1997 -*Fuera de campo*. Galería Siboney, Santander.\*

1996 -*Borderline*. Galería Fúcares, Madrid.\*  
-*Escenarios para una larga temporada*. Galería Antonio Machón, Madrid.\*

1995 -*Veraneos en Santander*. Museo de Bellas Artes. Santander.  
Curator Juan Riancho\*  
-*El cuadro grande no cabe en el coche*. Galería Fúcares, Almagro.  
-*Ciriego*. Espacio Caja Burgos, Burgos.\*

1994 -Museo Universitario del Chopo, México D.F.\*  
-*Despliegues*. Sala Cultural Caja España, Zamora.  
Sala San Torcuato de Caja España, Zamora.  
Casa de Cultura, Junta de Castilla y León.  
Galería Cirac, Zamora.\*  
-*Despliegues*. Sala Cultural, Caja España, Valladolid.\*  
-*Despliegues*. Casa de las Carnicerías de Caja España.  
Sala Cultural de Caja España, León.\*  
-Galería Maese Nicolás, León.

1993 -Centro Cultural Español, Santiago de Chile.\*  
-Sala Rómulo Gallegos del CELARG, Caracas.\*  
-Galería Antonia Jannone, Milán. Text by Marina Corgnati\*  
-Centro Cultural La Recoleta, Buenos Aires.\*  
-Museo Juan B. Castagnino, Rosario-Argentina.\*  
-Sala del Cabildo, Montevideo.\*  
-*Paesaggio di Passaggio*. Temple Gallery, Roma.

1992 -*Nueve Meses en Donna Olimpia*. Galería Gamarra y Garrigues, Madrid.\*

1991 -One day show of the polyptich *Nove Mesi a Donna Olimpia*. Cortile di Donna Olimpia, Rome. Text by Ludovico Pratesi.\*  
-Galería Clave, Murcia.

1989 -Galería Gamarra y Garrigues, Madrid. Text by Juan Hidalgo\*

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1988 -ARCO'88. Galería Estampa, Madrid.\*

1986 -Galería Estampa, Madrid.

(\*) Catalogue has been published

## MUSEUMS AND PUBLIC COLLECTIONS IN WHICH THE WORK IS REPRESENTED

- Convention Center**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Lonja de Alicante**. Ayuntamiento de Alicante, Alicante. Spain.
- The University of Pittsburgh's Alumni Hall**, Old Masonic Temple, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Carnegie Museum of Art**, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.
- Columbus Museum of Art**, Columbus, Ohio.
- Colección La Caixa**, Colecció Testimoni, Barcelona. Spain.
- Teatro Real**, Madrid. Spain.
- Museo Municipal de Madrid**, Madrid. Spain.
- Museo de Bellas Artes**, Santander. Spain.
- Colección Saldañuela**, Caja Burgos, Burgos. Spain.
- Ministerio de Cultura**, Instituto de la Juventud, Madrid. Spain.
- Ministerio de Defensa**, Madrid. Spain.
- Ayuntamiento de Albacete**, Albacete. Spain.
- Consejería de Cultura de Murcia**, Murcia. Spain.
- Colección Campsa**. Madrid. Spain.
- Colección Banco de España**, Madrid. Spain.
- Colección Fundación Argenteria**, Madrid. Spain.
- Colección Banco Europeo de Inversiones**, Madrid. Spain.
- Colección Caja Postal**, Madrid. Spain.
- Colección Amigos del Reina Sofía**, Madrid. Spain.
- Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando**, Madrid. Spain.