The IDB Art Collection in Miami
(in anticipation of the 49th IDB Annual Meeting of Governors)

Two exhibitions featuring selections from the Art Collection of the Inter-American Development Bank will open in Miami at the end of March in anticipation of the IDB Annual Meeting of Governors. Most people know the Inter-American Development Bank as a multilateral, financial organization committed to the economic and social development of Latin America and the Caribbean. What people may not know is that the IDB owns nearly 1,700 works of art representing all 47 member countries of the Bank, and this collection adorns the public areas and executive offices at the Bank’s headquarters in Washington, DC.

The first exhibit taking place in Miami is entitled "Beyond Borders: Modernism Through a Selection of Artwork from the Collection of the Inter-American Development Bank, Washington, DC." Sixty-five works comprise this selection that will be featured at the Freedom Tower between March 26-April 26, 2008. The exhibit was organized by Miami Dade College Art Gallery System, and its director, Jorge Gutiérrez, made the selection assisted by Félix Ángel, Director and Curator of the IDB Cultural Center. Twenty-six countries in the Western Hemisphere are represented, from Canada to Argentina, and from the Dominican Republic to Suriname. The exhibit includes some familiar names with works that will be seen in Miami for the first time, such as Joaquín Torres García with a beautiful small drawing entitled Indo-America, and Bolivian Marí Luisa Pacheco with a painting that evokes the majestic presence of the Andean cordillera in the Bolivian landscape.

Zapata, 1930 by David Alfaro Siqueiros (Mexico)

The second exhibit is much smaller, comprising just seven pieces, and will be on display at Booth 110 of ArteAméricas, Latin American Art Fair sponsored by Merrill Lynch at Miami Beach’s Convention Center, now in its sixth edition. Félix Ángel, the IDB Cultural Center Curator, selected the IDB artworks for this venue. Although much smaller than the Freedom Tower exhibition, this selection intentionally demonstrates the concern of the IDB for social and economic issues, as well as the connection between culture and development. The selection combines well recognized, iconic figures of early 20th century Latin American modernism, such as David Alfaro Siqueiros of Mexico, and younger talents like Raúl Recio from the Dominican Republic, whose work draws from the African-American traditions of the Caribbean. ArteAméricas will be open between March 28-31, 2008.

For more information about Beyond Borders, please contact Jorge Gutiérrez at: jgutier4@mdc.edu
For more information about the IDB Cultural Center booth 110, at ArteAméricas - Latin American Art Fair, please contact Elba Agusti at: elbaa@iadbo.org or visit www.iadb.org/cultural