

# ARTSMART

This month we are learning about:

## FERNANDO BOTERO

**New Art Words:** Figurative, sensuous, voluminous, exaggeration, distortion/disproportion



Fernando Botero (1932 - ) is a Colombian figurative painter and sculptor best known for his voluminous, extravagantly rounded people and animals. He is greatly inspired by the great masters of the past (Botticelli, Velázquez, Van Gogh), but his work blends the themes of fine art with the style of folk art and is greatly influenced by life and history of his native Colombia.

He views exaggeration as a means of transforming reality into art. He attempts to create sensuousness through form and as a result his paintings and sculptures reflect inflated, voluminous proportions. His distinctive style is sometimes comical, sometimes satirical and instantly recognizable, making him one of the most celebrated contemporary Latin American artists.

In 2000, he donated nearly 200 masterpieces from his private collection (valued at \$200 million), including works by Monet, Renoir, Degas, Matisse, Dalí, Miró and many of his own pieces, to two Colombian museums to promote greater public access to art. He is married to Greek sculptor, Sophia Vari, and divides his time among Paris, New York City, Italy and Colombia, where he continues to paint daily.



("Mona Lisa", 1978)



("Self-portrait", 1997)



("Man on Horse", 1992)