



## Donald Hess opened the first museum for James Turrell in Argentina

The new James Turrell Museum of the Hess Art Collection celebrated its opening on April 22, 2009 in Colomé (Salta Province), Argentina.

The museum is the only one worldwide dedicated specifically to the work of James Turrell, who is regarded as one of the most important contemporary light and space artists. The new museum is based on a plan created by Turrell himself.

For the first time ever, nine light installations representing five decades of Turrell's career are showcased together over 18,084 square feet (1.680 m<sup>2</sup>) of exhibition space. Among the works on display are *Spread*, 2003, a 4,000-square-foot walk-in environment of blue light, as well as *Unseen Blue*, 2002, the world's largest Skyspace which surrounds an interior courtyard and reaches its greatest intensity at sunrise and sunset. The permanent exhibition is further supplemented by numerous works on paper, drawings and prints.

"For many years, Donald Hess has been collecting pieces of mine from a variety of different work cycles. He owns 9 installations from the 1960s to the present day. It is a weird feeling for me to see my work collected together here – like in a time tunnel...it's as if you are meeting people from different periods of your life all over again. It's beautiful when someone realizes such an idea in such a secluded place, away from the tourist routes of the artworld. It is exactly the type of place that I like". (James Turrell, *El País*, March 21, 2009).

All of the exhibited artworks belong to the Hess Art Collection. The Swiss businessman and wine-producer, Donald M. Hess, is one of the world's major collectors of contemporary art. His impressive collection spans five decades of recent art history from Abstract Expressionism through current positions. It contains over 1,000 pieces by

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65 international artists including Magdalena Abakanowicz, Francis Bacon, Georg Baselitz, Gilbert & George, Franz Gertsch, Andy Goldsworthy, Robert Motherwell, Yue Minjun, Shigeo Toya, Gerhard Richter, Frank Stella, James Turrell and Ouattara Watts, among others.

With the opening of the new James Turrell Museum of the Hess Art Collection, Donald Hess has combined his two great passions: exceptional art and wine. Beginning in 1989, Hess began sharing his passions with the greater public by exhibiting his art collection in museums built on wineries owned by the Hess Family Estates. The first museum opened at the Hess Collection in the Napa Valley, California, USA in 1989 and the second at Glen Carlou in Paarl, South Africa in 2006. The third and newest – The James Turrell Museum of the Hess Art Collection – opened at Bodega & Estancia Colomé, in the Province of Salta in northwestern Argentina. A fourth museum is planned for the Peter Lehmann winery in the Barossa Valley, Australia. More than 70,000 visitors per year come to these museums, all of which have free admission and guided tours.

At a height of 7,218 feet (2.200 m) above sea level, the Bodega & Estancia Colomé offers visitors breathtaking views of the wide Andean highlands and the vineyards of the Hess Family Estates. Argentina's insider tip for art and wine lovers, the resort commands nine comfortable suites, all individually furnished, a fragrant landscaped garden, a swimming pool and a wellness program that offers various massages. Terraces, courtyards and lounges guarantee relaxation and *savoir-vivre*.

The Hess Family Estates vineyards in the Calchaquí Valley are the highest in the world growing from 7,218 -10,207 ft (2.200-3.111 m) above sea level. The Hess Family Estates is deeply committed to responsible agricultural and business practices and strives to uphold the principles of ecological responsibility through its biodynamic, organic and sustainable vineyards.

With the opening of the first James Turrell Museum, the region has gained another important attraction.

**For additional information:**

[www.estanciacolome.com](http://www.estanciacolome.com)  
[www.hessartcollection.com](http://www.hessartcollection.com)  
[www.bodegacolome.com](http://www.bodegacolome.com)  
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# JAMES TURRELL MUSEUM

## THE HESS ART COLLECTION AT COLOMÉ



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James Turrell, *Rondo, blue*, 1969 (Shallow Space), Photo: Florian Holzherr, 2008

James Turrell at The Roden Crater, Photo: Florian Holzherr, 2005 © James Turrell

Bodega y Estancia Colomé © Estancia y Bodega Colomé

The James Turrell Museum of The Hess Art Collection at Colomé, during construction October 2008

Photo: Ossian Lindholm, 2008 © Estancia y Bodega Colomé

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