

Openings **France**

Prince Albert opens Monaco's Francis Bacon MB Art Foundation

Organisation opens to researchers next month and to the public by appointment in March 2015

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Published online: 29 October 2014



The Francis Bacon MB Art Foundation's home. Photo: © MB Art Collection

The Francis Bacon MB Art Foundation, housed at the Villa Elise in Monaco, was inaugurated by Prince Albert on 28 October, the 105th anniversary of the artist's birth. The non-profit organisation was established by the Swiss-Lebanese property developer Majid Boustany, a devotee of Bacon since encountering his enigmatic triptych *Three Studies for Figures at the Base of a Crucifixion*, 1944, at Tate Britain.

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Dedicated to the study of Bacon's life, work and creative process, the foundation will support researchers, organise exhibitions and seminars on Bacon, fund projects associated with the artist and support and promote emerging figurative artists. It also has a collection of nearly 2,000 objects, including works by Bacon dating from the 1920s to 80s, correspondence, photographic archives, documents and rare examples of furniture and rugs from his stint as a designer in the 1930s.

The foundation will be open year-round to scholars and art historians from November and to the general public by appointment only from March 2015.