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Hermitage buys Martínez Celaya's first video

By: Anny Shaw



Film clip from The Master, 2011

The first video by the Miami-based artist Enrique Martínez Celaya, *The Master* (edition of five, priced at \$45,000 each), 2011, has been bought by the State Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg following its premiere at the Sagamore Hotel during Art Basel Miami Beach last month. The work, in which the artist acts out Beethoven's death, is due to go on show at the Russian Museum in the spring. Martínez Celaya, who is best known for his large-scale paintings, says working with video was liberating: "Because I don't know, nor am I interested in, the history of video, making *The Master* was freer than making paintings. My awareness of theory and the history of painting is a continuous limitation."