

# **Futurism**

**An artistic movement originating in Italy around 1909 whose aim was to express the energetic, dynamic, and violent quality of contemporary life, especially as embodied in the motion and force of modern machinery. The term was coined by Filippo Marinetti, who published a manifesto glorifying the new technology of the automobile and the beauty of its speed and power.**



Italian painter, sculptor, and theorist. Mobilized in the declaration of war, Boccioni was assigned at an artillery regiment. Boccioni accidentally was thrown from his horse during a cavalry training exercise and was trampled. He died the following day, aged thirty-three.

**Boccioni, Umberto. *Self-Portrait*. 1905**

Oil on canvas. 20 1/4 x 27 in. Collection Lydia Winston Malbin, New York

In 1911 Carra and Boccioni visited Paris and Savarini took them to meet Picasso in his studio.

Consequently, the Futurists adopted the Cubist technique of depicting several views of an object simultaneously with fragmented planes and outlines.



**Boccioni, Umberto. *States of Mind: The Farewells*. 1911**  
Oil on canvas. 70.5 x 96.2 cm. Museum of Modern Art, New York



**Boccioni, Umberto.** *States of Mind: The Farewells.* 1911

Oil on canvas. 70.5 x 96.2 cm.

**George Braque,** *Violin and Palette,* 1909. Oil on Canvas. 36x16".





Boccioni, Umberto. *States of Mind: The Farewells*. 1911

Oil on canvas. 70.5 x 96.2 cm. Museum of Modern Art, New York

**CLAUDE MONET, *Saint-Lazare Train Station***

1877. Oil on canvas, 2' 5 3/4" x 3' 5".  
Musée d'Orsay, Paris.



"We will glorify war—the world's only hygiene—militarism, patriotism, the destructive gesture of freedom-bringers, beautiful ideas worth dying for, and scorn for woman.

We will destroy the museums, libraries, academies of every kind, will fight moralism, feminism..."

From the *Manifesto of Futurism*, 1909

**GINO SEVERINI**  
*Armored Train*

1915. Oil on canvas, 3' 10" x 2' 10 1/8". Collection of Richard S. Zeisler, New York.



**UMBERTO BOCCIONI,**  
*Unique Forms of  
Continuity in Space*

1913 (cast 1931). Bronze,  
3' 7 7/8" high x 2' 10 7/8" x  
1' 3 3/4".

Museum of Modern Art,  
New York







**UMBERTO BOCCIONI, *Unique  
Forms of Continuity in Space***

1913 (cast 1931). Bronze,  
3' 7 7/8" high x 2' 10 7/8" x 1' 3  
3/4".

a roaring car... is more  
beautiful than the  
*Victory of Samothrace*.

From the Manifesto of  
Futurism

**Nike of Samothrace**, from Samothrace, Greece,  
ca. 190 BCE. Marble, figure approx. 8' 1" high.  
Louvre, Paris.





Auguste Rodin, *The Walking Man*. 1877-90.  
Bronze  
H. 213.5 cm

UMBERTO BOCCIONI, *Unique Forms of Continuity in Space*

1913 (cast 1931). Bronze,  
3' 7 7/8" high x 2' 10 7/8" x 1' 3  
3/4".





## New weapons that were used in WWI:

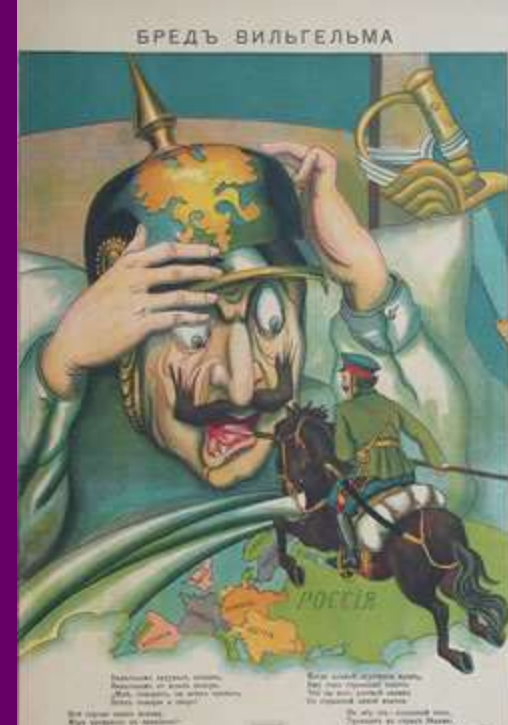
- Machine Guns
- Gas
- Tanks
- Airplanes
- Torpedoes were used by submarines.





A. Setkowiec.

Geh' o Soldat! und deine Pflicht erfülle!  
 Christus, der gute Hirt — bewachet seine Herden —  
 O Herr! Zukomme uns Dein Reich und gescheh' Dein Wille  
 Wie in dem Himmel, also auch auf Erden.



## WWI Propaganda

# Dada, 1915 - 1921

Artistic and literary movement launched in Zurich in 1915 but shared by independent groups in New York, Berlin, Paris and elsewhere.

Born of the widespread disillusionment caused by World War I, Dada attacked conventional standards of aesthetics and behavior and stressed absurdity and the role of the unpredictable in artistic creation.

"Cubism was a school of painting, futurism a political movement: DADA is a state of mind."--Andre Breton.



Auric, Picabia, Ribemont-Dessaignes, G.Everling, Casella and Tzara, in 1920

"In Zurich in 1915, losing interest in the slaughterhouses of the world war, we turned to the Fine Arts... "  
--Jean Arp

Literally, the word dada means several things in several languages: it's French for "hobbyhorse" and Slavic for "yes yes." Some authorities say that the name Dada is a nonsensical word chosen at random from a dictionary.

**BULLETIN**

**DADA**

SALON DES INDEPENDANTS  
GRAND PALAIS DES CHAMPS-ELYSEES  
(Avenue d'Antin)  
Jusqu'au 5 Février 1920  
Mouvement  
**MOUVEMENT DADA**

FRANCIS PICABIA  
manifeste lu par 10 personnes

**N° 6**  
GEORGES RIBEMONT-DESSAIGNES  
manifeste lu par 9 personnes

Prix : 2 fr  
ANDRÉ BRETON  
manifeste lu par 8 personnes

écrire à  
tristan  
tzara  
32,  
Avenue  
Charles  
Floquet  
Paris  
(VII<sup>e</sup>)

manifeste lu par 7 personnes  
PAUL DERMÉE

manifeste lu par 6 personnes  
PAUL ELUARD

manifeste lu par 5 personnes  
LOUIS ARAGON

manifeste lu par 4 personnes et un journaliste  
TRISTAN TZARA

*Toutes les femmes sont déco-  
rées de la Légion d'honneur  
les hommes portent cet  
signe à leur boutonnière.*  
Francis Picabia le loustic.

**PROGRAMME** de la  
**MATINÉE** DU  
Mouvement Dada le 5 février 1920

## To Make A Dadist Poem by Tristan Tzara

Take a newspaper.

*Take some scissors.*

Choose from this paper an article the length you want to make your poem.

Cut out the article.

*Next carefully cut out each of the words that make up this article and put them all in a bag.*

*Shake gently.*

Next take out each cutting one after the other.

*Copy conscientiously in the order in which they left the bag.*

The poem will resemble you.

And there you are--an infinitely original author of charming sensibility, even though unappreciated by the vulgar herd.



Tristan Tzara (1896-1963).  
Born Samuel Rosenstock.

French poet (born in Romania) who was one of the cofounders of the Dada movement.

## KARAWANE

jolifanto bambla ô falli bambla

*grossiga m'pfa habla horem*

**égiga goramen**

higo bloiko russula huju

hollaka hollala

*anlogo bung*

**blago bung**

blago bung

**bosso fataka**

**ü üü ü**

schampa wulla wussa ólobo

*hej tatta gôrem*

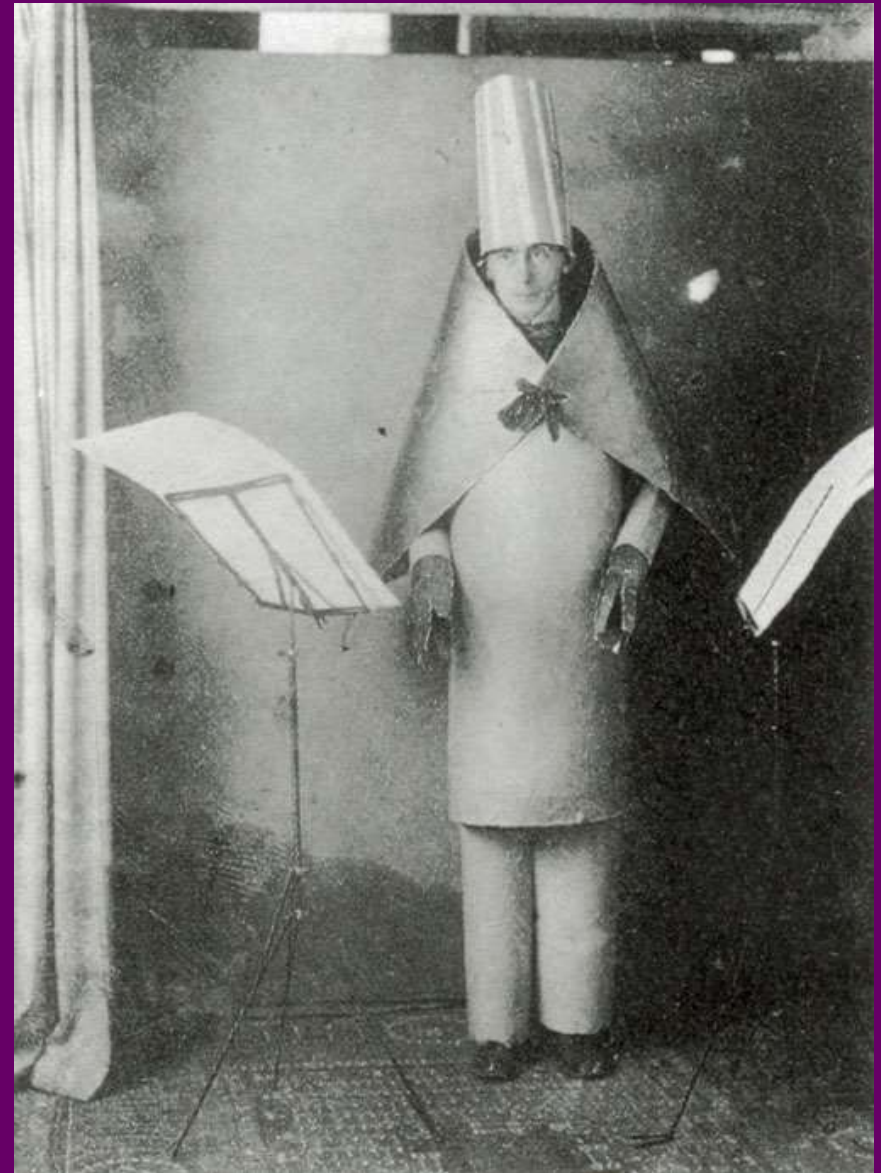
eschige zunbada

**wulubu ssubudu uluw ssubudu**

**tumba ba- umf**

*kusagauma*

**ba - umf**



Hugo Ball reciting the poem *Karawane* at the Cabaret Voltaire, Zurich, 1916.



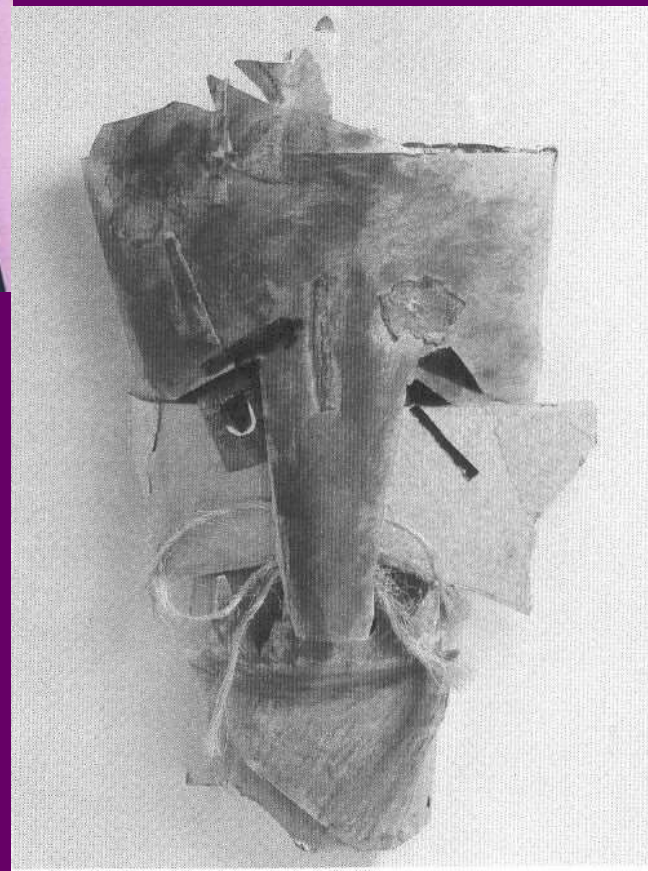
**Marcel Janco.** *Untitled* (Mask,  
Portrait of Tzara), 1919.

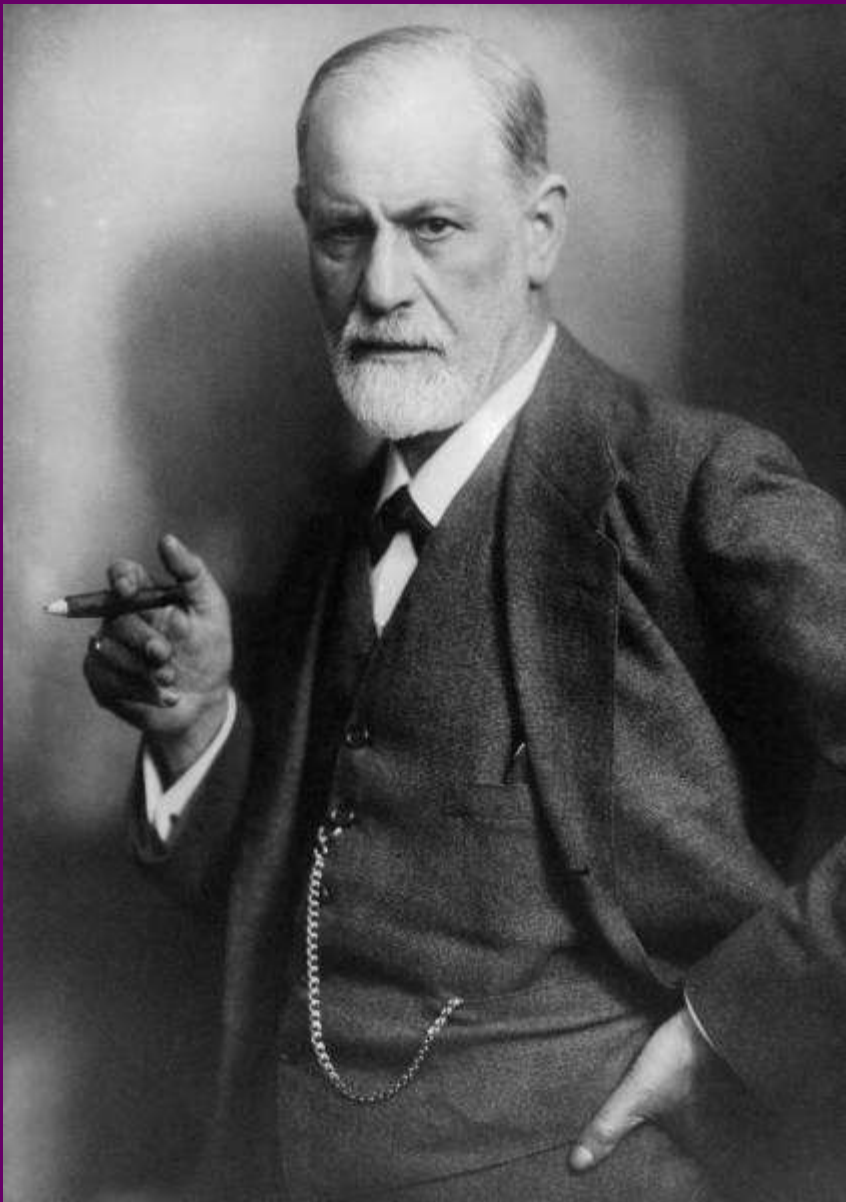




Masks, used for Romanian peasant dances. Museum of the Romanian Peasant, Bucharest, Romania.

**Marcel Janco, *Mask*, 1919, paper, cardboard, string, gouache and pastel.**





**Sigmund Freud 1856-1939,** Austrian psychiatrist, founder of psychoanalysis. Freud developed theories about the unconscious and the mechanism of repression.

In the book *The Interpretation of Dreams* (1900) Freud introduces the theory of the unconscious with respect to dream interpretation. Dreams, in his view, were all forms of "wish fulfillment" — attempts by the unconscious to resolve a conflict of some sort.

## **Automatism:**

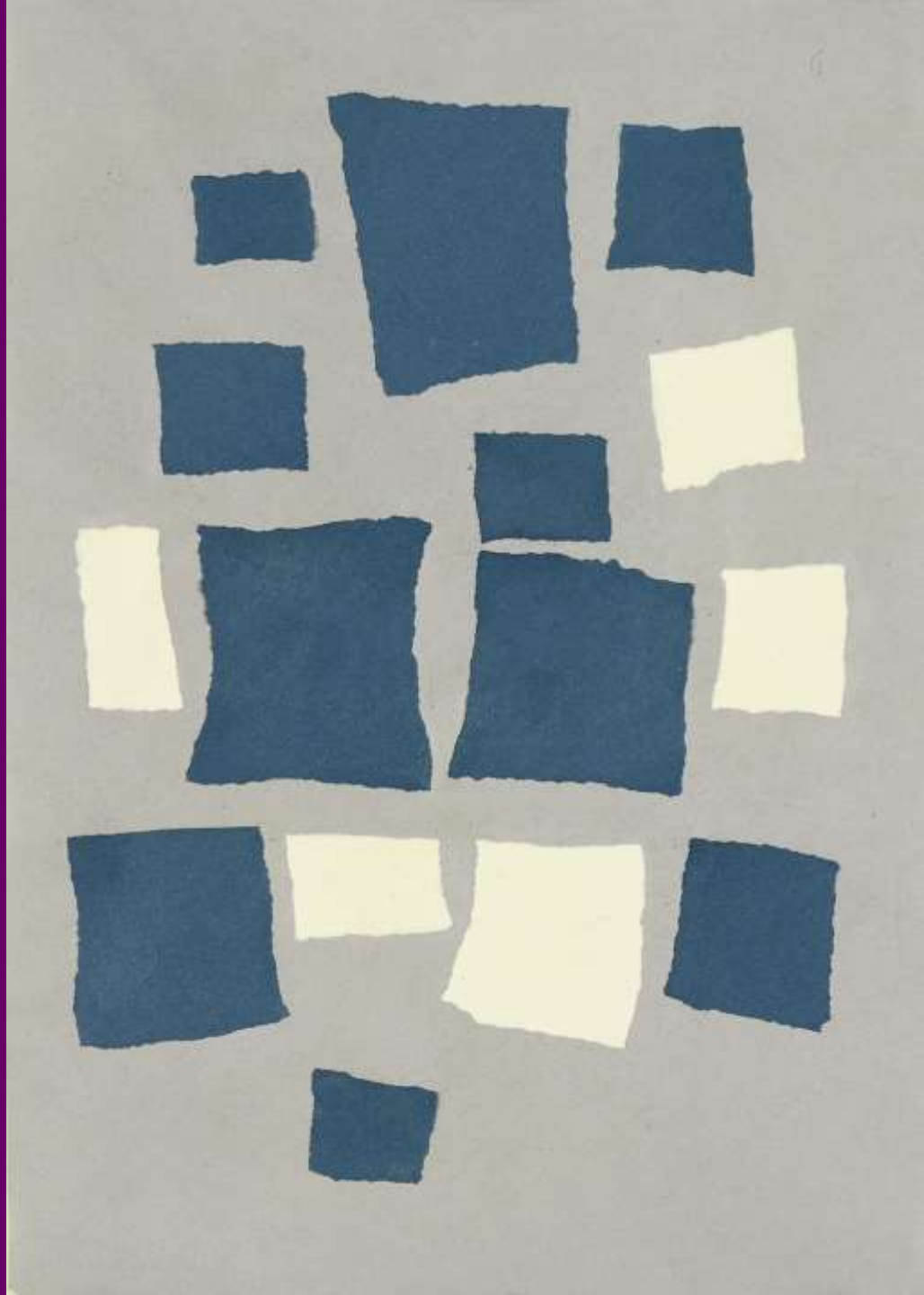
Method of painting or drawing in which conscious control over the movement of the hand is suppressed so that the subconscious mind may take over.

*"For us chance was the 'unconscious mind' that Freud had discovered in 1900"* – Hans Richter (DADA filmmaker)



Jean Arp. *Automatic Drawing*. (1917-18) (inscribed 1916). Ink and pencil on paper, 16 3/4 x 21 1/4" (42.6 x 54 cm). MoMa NY

**Jean Arp, *Collage Arranged According to the Laws of Chance*, 1916-1917. Torn and pasted paper, 1' 7 1/8" x 1' 1 5/8".**



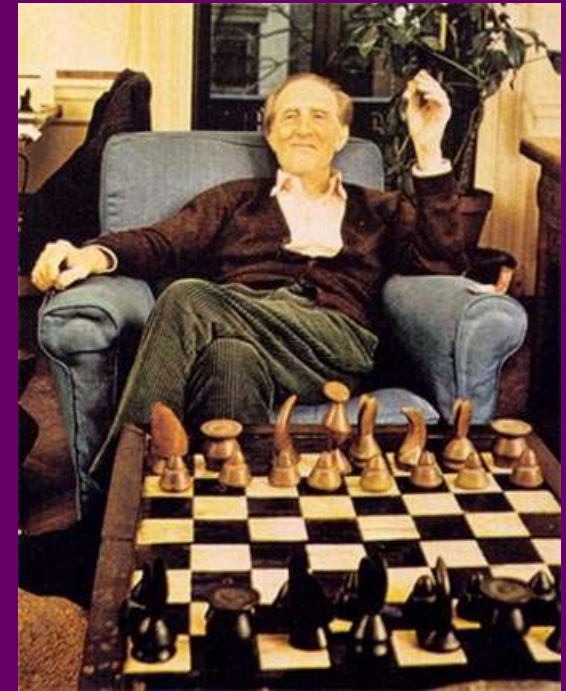
## Marcel Duchamp, (1887-1968)

French artist, active in Paris and NY, who broke down the boundaries between works of art and everyday objects.

He was the central artist of NY Dada. He greatly influenced the Surrealists, and his attitude toward art and society led to Pop art and other modern and postmodern movements. A legend in his lifetime, he is considered one of the leading spirits of 20th-century art.



Eve Babitz and Marcel Duchamp playing chess at the Pasadena Art Museum, 1963. Photo by Julian Wasser





Marcel Duchamp

***Nude Descending a Staircase (No. 2)***

1912

Oil on canvas

57 7/8 x 35 1/8 inches (147 x 89.2 cm)

Philadelphia Museum of Art



## Ready-made/Found object:

Term applied to a commonplace prefabricated object isolated from its functional context and elevated to the status of art by the mere act of an artist's selection. It is generally a product of modern mass production, and it tends to be presented on its own without mediation.



Marcel Duchamp, *Bicycle Wheel on Stool*, 1913

“Whether Mr. Mutt with his own hands made the fountain or not has no importance. He chose it. He took an ordinary article of life, placed it so that its useful significance disappeared under a new title and point of view -- he created a new thought for the object.”

Duchamp



Marcel Duchamp, *The Fountain*, 1917



**Marcel Duchamp, *Fountain*. Paint, urinal. 1917**

1917 - *The Independent Artists show committee said that Fountain was not art and rejected it from the show.*

2004 - *Fountain* was voted the most influential artwork of the 20th century by 500 selected British artworld professionals.



Marcel Duchamp, *The Fountain*, 1917

Comparison – Synthetic Cubism.  
Pablo Picasso, *Guitar and Wine Glass*, 1912. Pasted paper, gouache, and charcoal, 18 7/8" x 14 3/4"



Duchamp envisaged the ready-made as the product of an aesthetically provocative act, one that denied the importance of taste and which questioned the meaning of art itself.

According to Duchamp, the artist's choice of a ready-made should be governed not by the beauty of the object but by his indifference towards it; to these ends it could be selected by chance methods, for example by a predetermined weight or at a predetermined time.

**Marcel Duchamp** *Snow shovel with round shaft handle*, 1915.

*Shovel* is inscribed along its lower rim with the following phrase: "In Advance of the Broken Arm/(from) Marcel Duchamp 1915."



## Dada in Germany

"The highest art," declared the First German Dada Manifesto in 1918, "will be the art which has been visibly shattered by the explosions of last week, which is forever trying to collect itself after yesterday's crash."

### Photomontage

**Photomontage is a variation of collage in which pasted items are actual photographs or photographic reproductions culled from the press.**

**Substituting scissors and glue for brushes and paint, and calling themselves monteurs (mechanics) rather than artists, the Berlin Dadaists employed photomontage in their radical assault on traditional art.**

**Hannah Hoch, *Cut with the Kitchen Knife Dada through the Last Weimar-Beer Belly of the Cultural Epoch of Germany*, 1919**



Detail of the Dada wall at the  
"Entartete" Kunst (Degenerate  
Art) exhibition. 1937

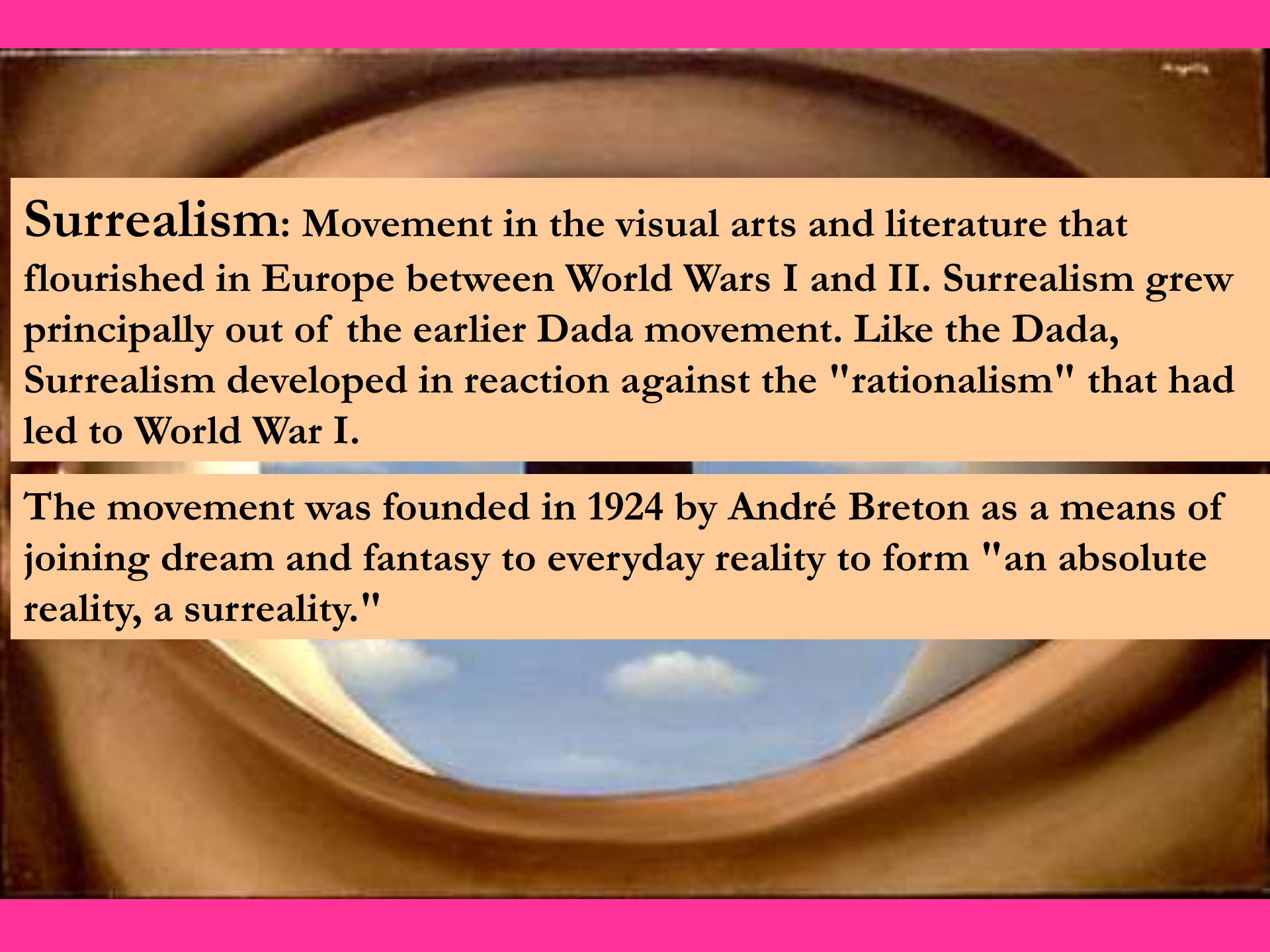
Inscription on the wall:  
"Take Dada Seriously – It's  
Worthwhile" (George Grosz)





# Surrealism





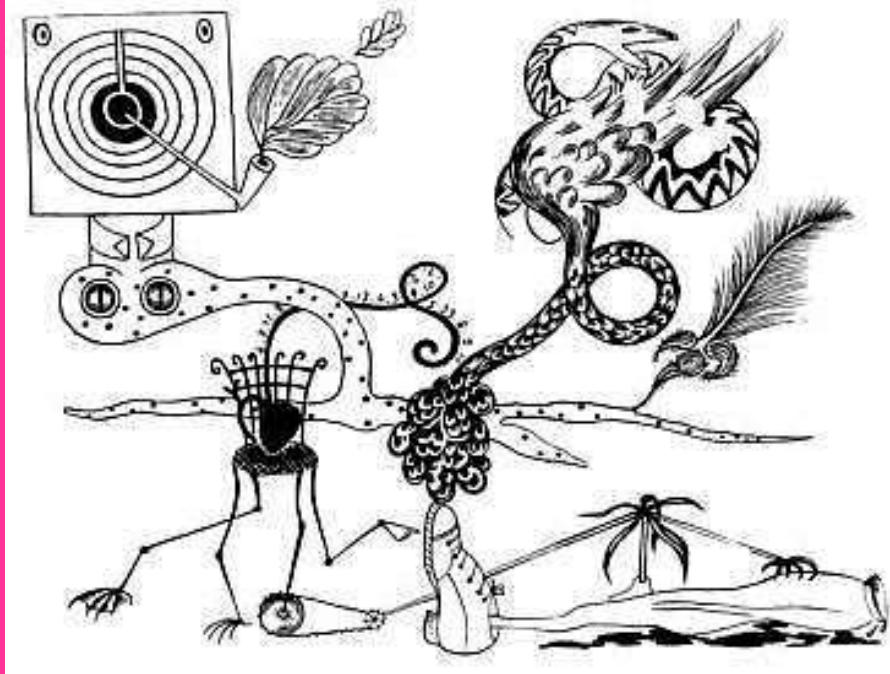
**Surrealism:** Movement in the visual arts and literature that flourished in Europe between World Wars I and II. Surrealism grew principally out of the earlier Dada movement. Like the Dada, Surrealism developed in reaction against the "rationalism" that had led to World War I.

The movement was founded in 1924 by André Breton as a means of joining dream and fantasy to everyday reality to form "an absolute reality, a surreality."



**André Breton**, 1896–1966, French writer; founder and theorist of the surrealist movement.

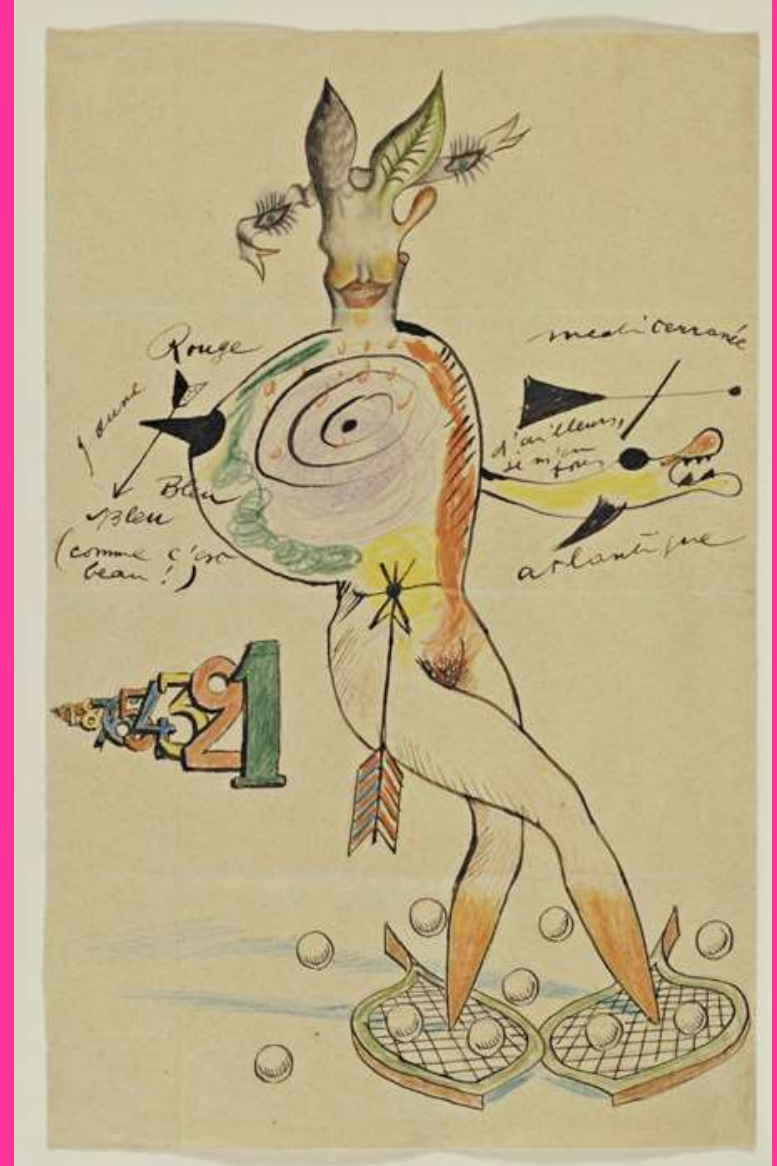
- In 1919 he helped found the Dada magazine.
- Drawing on the theories of Sigmund Freud, Breton concluded that the unconscious was the wellspring of the imagination.
- He wrote poetry using the automatic-writing technique.



Andre Breton, Valentine Hugo, Greta Knuston, Tristan Tzara, *Exquisite Corpse*, c. 1930. Ink on paper. 9x12”

"Exquisite Corpse"

A technique of serial blind composition.



Joan Miró, Max Morise, Man Ray, Yves Tanguy. *Exquisite Corpse*. 1926-27. Ink, pencil, and crayon on paper.

# The Two Strands of Surrealism

## 1. Biomorphic or Abstract Surrealism (Miro, Masson, Matta)

- Automatism – “dictation of thoughts without control of the mind”
- Abstraction
- Originated from the experiments in chance and automatism carried on by Dadaists and Surrealist writers.



## 2. Naturalistic or Illusionistic Surrealism (Dali, Tanguy, Magritte)

- Recognizable scenes and objects that are taken out of natural context, distorted and combined in a fantastic dreamlike way.
- Predecessors: Henri Rousseau, Chagall, Ensor, de Chirico, the Romantics

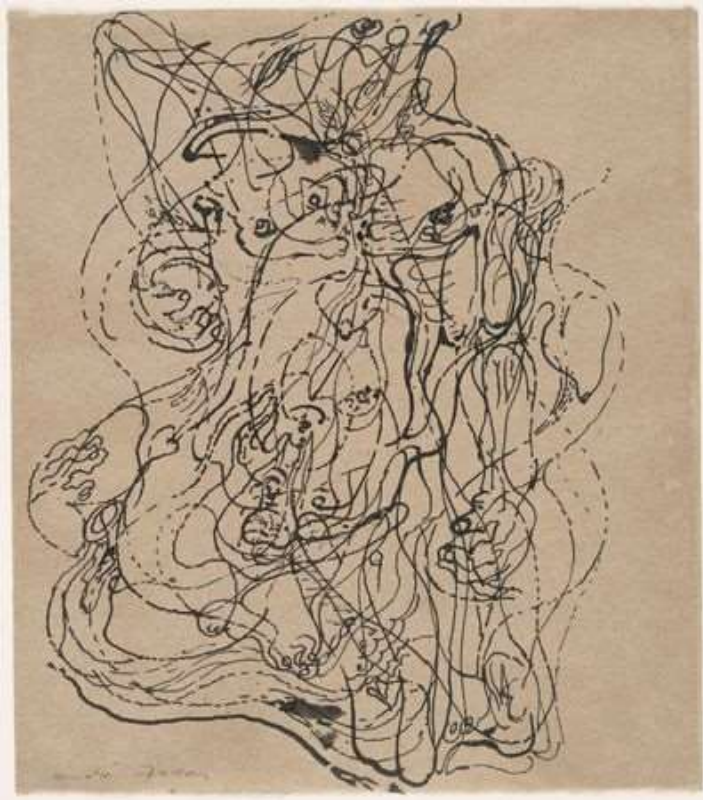


# Automatism

- A method of painting or drawing in which conscious control is suppressed, allowing the subconscious to take over.
- Andre Breton wrote in the Surrealist Manifesto of 1924 of 'pure psychic automatism', of art being produced in the state of a dream.
- The Dadaists showed interest in such artistic phenomena but it was the Surrealists who developed them and later influenced Jackson Pollock and the Abstract Expressionists.



**André Masson. Automatic Drawing.** (1924). Ink on paper, 9 1/4 x 8 1/8" (23.5 x 20.6 cm). Museum of Modern Art, New York



**André Masson. Automatic Drawing.** (1924). Ink on paper, 9 1/4 x 8 1/8" (23.5 x 20.6 cm). Museum of Modern Art, New York



**Dada: Jean Arp. Automatic Drawing.** (1917-18) (inscribed 1916). Ink and pencil on paper, 16 3/4 x 21 1/4" (42.6 x 54 cm). Museum of Modern Art, New York





**André Masson. (French, 1896-1987). *Battle of Fishes*. 1926. Sand, gesso, oil, pencil, and charcoal on canvas, 14 1/4 x 28 3/4" (36.2 x 73 cm). MoMa, NY**

Masson, who was physically and spiritually wounded during World War I believed that, if left to chance, pictorial compositions would reveal the sadism of all living creatures.

**André Masson,**  
*The Blood of the*  
*Birds*, 1925-1926.

Tempera, sand, and  
feathers on canvas,  
29 1/2" x 29 1/2".





*“Dali Atomicus,” or Dali with everything in suspension,* photograph by Philippe Halsman, 1948

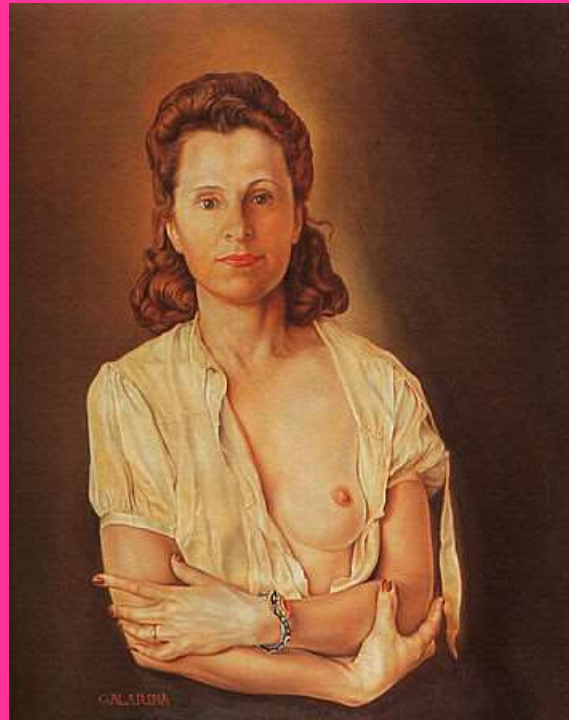


Salvador Dali with pet rooster, 1955

**Salvador Dali:** (1904 - 1989). Spanish painter, draughtsman, illustrator, sculptor, writer and film maker. One of the most prolific artists of the 20th century, his fantastic imagery and flamboyant personality also made him one of the best known.



"Galarina"; 1944  
portrait of Gala Dalí  
by Salvador Dalí.



Dali and his pet ocelot, Babou

Gala, was the wife of first  
Paul Éluard, then Salvador  
Dalí, and an inspiration for  
them and many other writers  
and artists.



**SALVADOR DALÍ, *The Persistence of Memory***

1931. Oil on canvas, 9 1/2" x 1' 1". Museum of Modern Art, New York.

Salvador Dali,  
*Soft  
Construction  
With Boiled  
Beans*  
(*Premonition of  
Civil War*), 1936,  
oil on canvas.  
39x39".  
Philadelphia  
Museum of Art

- The Spanish civil war started in July 1936



# Rene Magritte

**Born: 1898, Belgium**

A Belgian surrealist artist best known for his witty and thought-provoking images and his use of simple graphics and everyday objects, giving new meanings to familiar things.



Photograph of Magritte, in front of his painting *The Pilgrim*, as taken by Lothar Wolleh





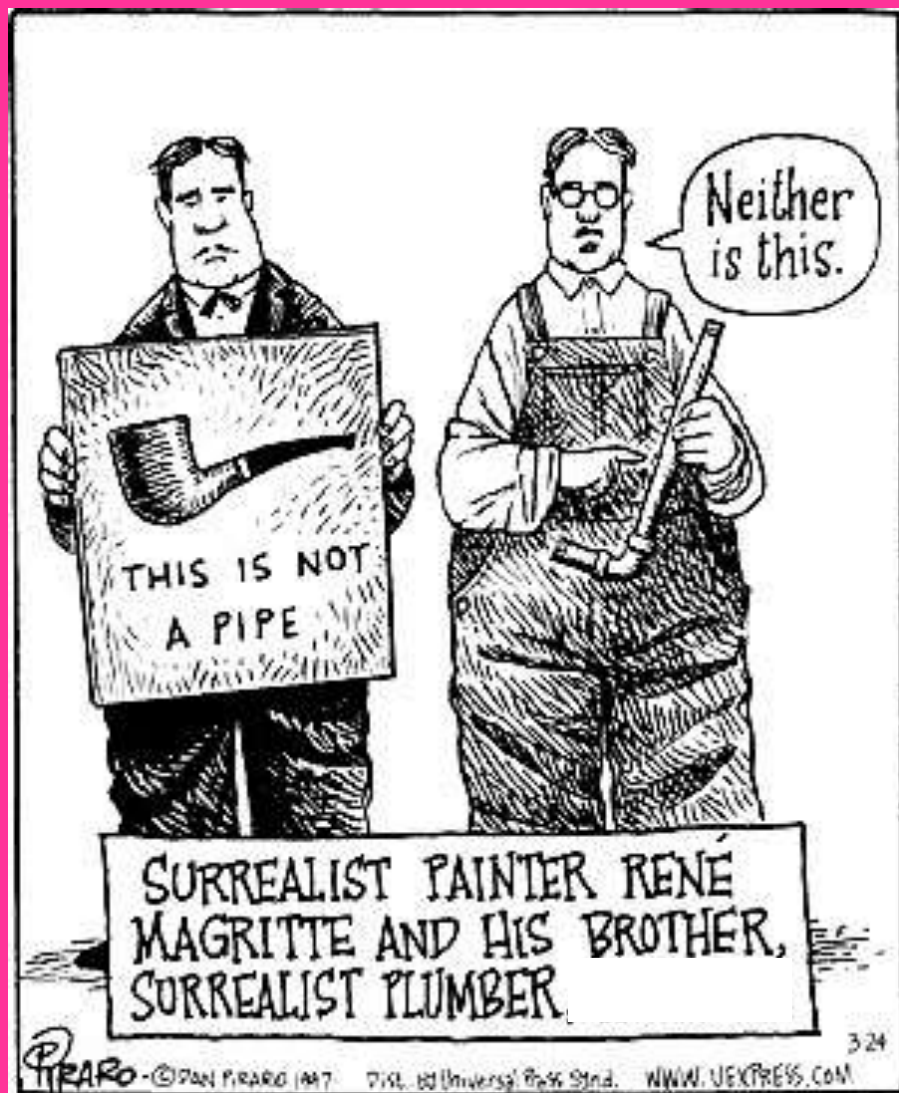
***Ceci n'est pas une pipe -  
This is not a pipe***

*Ceci n'est pas une pipe.*

*Magritte*

**RENÉ MAGRITTE** (Belgian painter. 1898–1967), *The Treachery (or Perfidy) of Images*, 1928–1929. Oil on canvas, 1' 11 5/8" x 3' 1". LA County Museum of Art.





*Ceci n'est pas une pipe.*

"Everything we see hides another thing,  
we always want to see what  
is hidden by what we see."  
(René Magritte)

**René Magritte. *The  
Son of Man*, oil  
painting, 1964**





René Magritte. *The Lovers*. 1928



**MERET OPPENHEIM, *Object (Le Déjeuner en fourrure - The lunch in fur)*,**  
1936. Fur-covered cup, 4 3/8" in diameter; saucer, 9 3/8" in diameter; spoon, 8".  
Museum of Modern Art, New York.

## Frida Kahlo (1907-1954 aged 47)

Mexican painter. She had polio as a child and at 18 suffered a serious bus accident. She subsequently underwent some 35 operations; during her recovery, she taught herself to paint. She is noted for her intense self-portraits, many reflecting her physical ordeal. Kahlo was influenced by Mexican folk art. She married famed muralist Diego Rivera and in 1940 they divorced for a short time before remarrying.

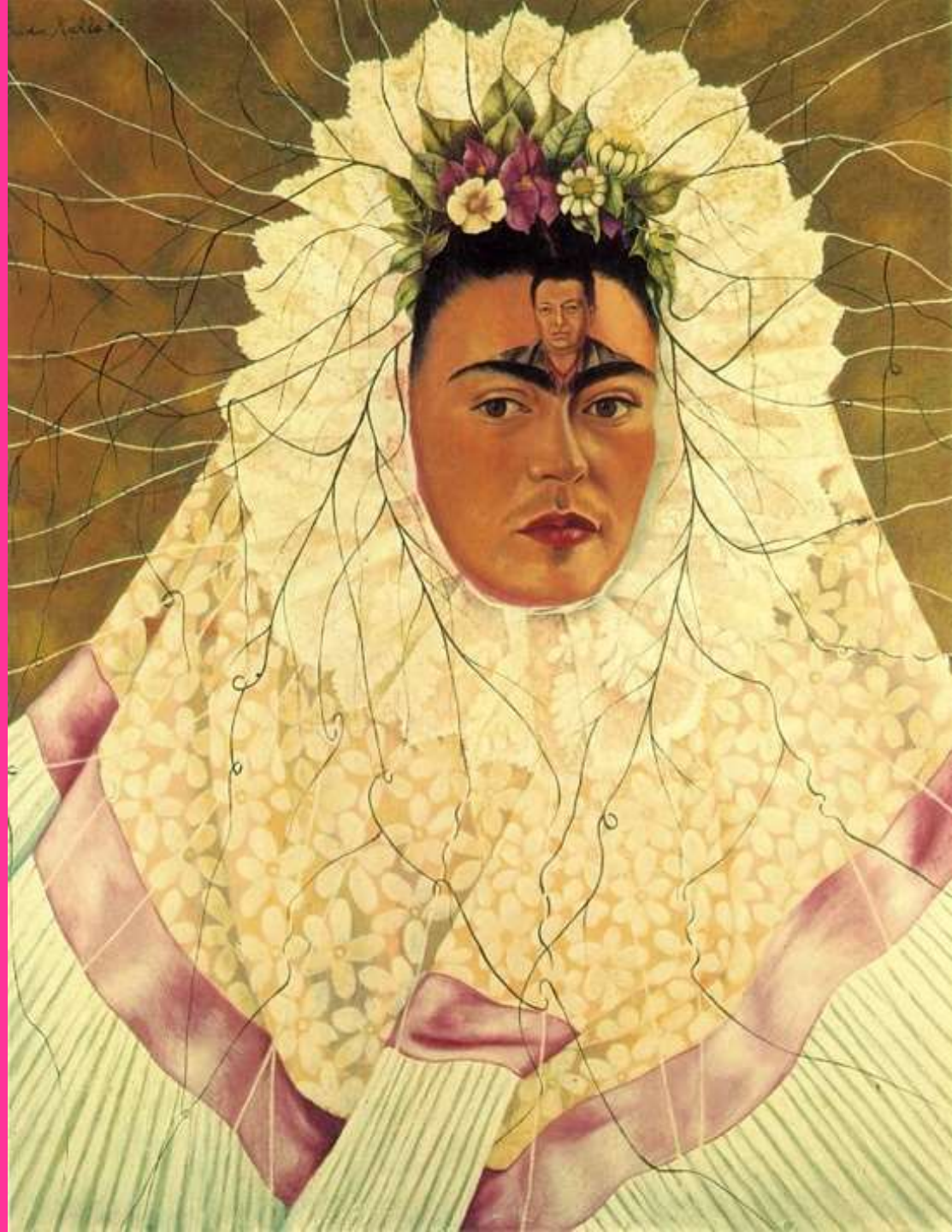


**FRIDA KAHLO**  
*The Two Fridas*

1939. Oil on  
canvas, 5' 7" x 5'  
7". Museo de Arte  
Moderno, Mexico  
City.



**Frida Kahlo. *Diego in my Thoughts*. 1943 Oil on masonite. 11 5/8" X 8 13/16"**





**Remedios Varo** (Spanish-Mexican artist),  
*Vampiros Vegetarianos*  
(*Vegetarian Vampires*) 1964.





Remedios Varo, *The Creation of Birds* 1958.