

Surrealism



<https://theculturetrip.com/europe/spain/articles/an-introduction-to-spanish-surrealism-in-8-artists/> La Muse 1935 (Pablo Picasso) 1970 © Alfredo Dagli Orti/REX/Shutterstock

Surrealism began in the 1920s. Surrealism means 'beyond reality' most artists work is an expression of their dreams, the unreal rather than the truth or rational.

Artists that joined the movement wanted to use both dreams and reality in their work. They used everyday objects along with strange creatures and would put the two objects together and paint them. The combination made viewers feel like they were in a dream but the pictures were real enough themselves and were powerful and strange.

Salvador Dali



‘The Persistence of Memory’

© Salvador Dalí, Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí, Figueres, 2007 © 2006. Digital image, The Museum of Modern Art, New York/Scala, Florence

<https://www.salvador-dali.org/en/artwork/catalogue-raisonne-paintings/obra/265/the-persistence-of-memory>

Salvador Dali was born in 1904 in a city called Figueres, in Spain close to the Pyrenees.

Dali's father was a lawyer and was very strict. Whereas his mother was very encouraging of his Art and creative ways. He showed a flair for Art from a very young age. Dali attended drawing school in Figueres. Dali had his first charcoal exhibition at his home in 1919, he was a sophisticated artist.

Dali's use of dreams and the subconscious mind improved his work.

Unfortunately, Dali had to stop painting due to hand tremors and weak hands. He died in 1989 from heart failure.

Joan Miro



- <https://www.reproduction-gallery.com/artist/joan-miro/>

Joan Miro was born in Barcelona in 1893, he was a Spanish Catalan artist. Miro's father was a goldsmith, and one of his grandfathers was a blacksmith and the other a cabinet maker. Coming from a family of skilled craft makers Miro wanted to become an artist. Miro was inspired by lots of artists especially impressionists and cubist artists.

although his work was strange, they still looked realistic. He tried hard to make them look as real as possible, but there was always something not quite right. The paintings were still always magical. Miro along with other artists used a technique called automatic drawing. They drew what was in their unconscious mind and didn't think too hard when they were drawing.

Miro used letters and numbers in his work along with symbols. He drew spirals, dots, curved and vertical lines, zigzags and wiggly lines and in his work he included less and less animals and people. He still painted people, but he made them very simple and drew them using shapes and symbols. His dreams were often the inspiration for his work.

Towards the end of his life, Miro concentrated on print making, etching and making sculptures. Miro died in 1983.