



European Art Movements of the 20th Century



Essential Question...

How Did Cubism, Dada, & Surrealism reflect the Anti-War Attitudes of 20th Century Europe?



Cubism

1900's - 1920's



Cubism

Goals:

- To devalue previous art movements through a dramatic change
- To separate their art from the conventional understanding of perspective



Picasso and Braque worked next to each other in the same studio during their cubist period with almost identical styles



Unlike Expressionism or Fauvism, after the Blue Period, Cubism was based more on experimenting with structure and less on expressing emotion



Paul Cézanne (1830-1906)

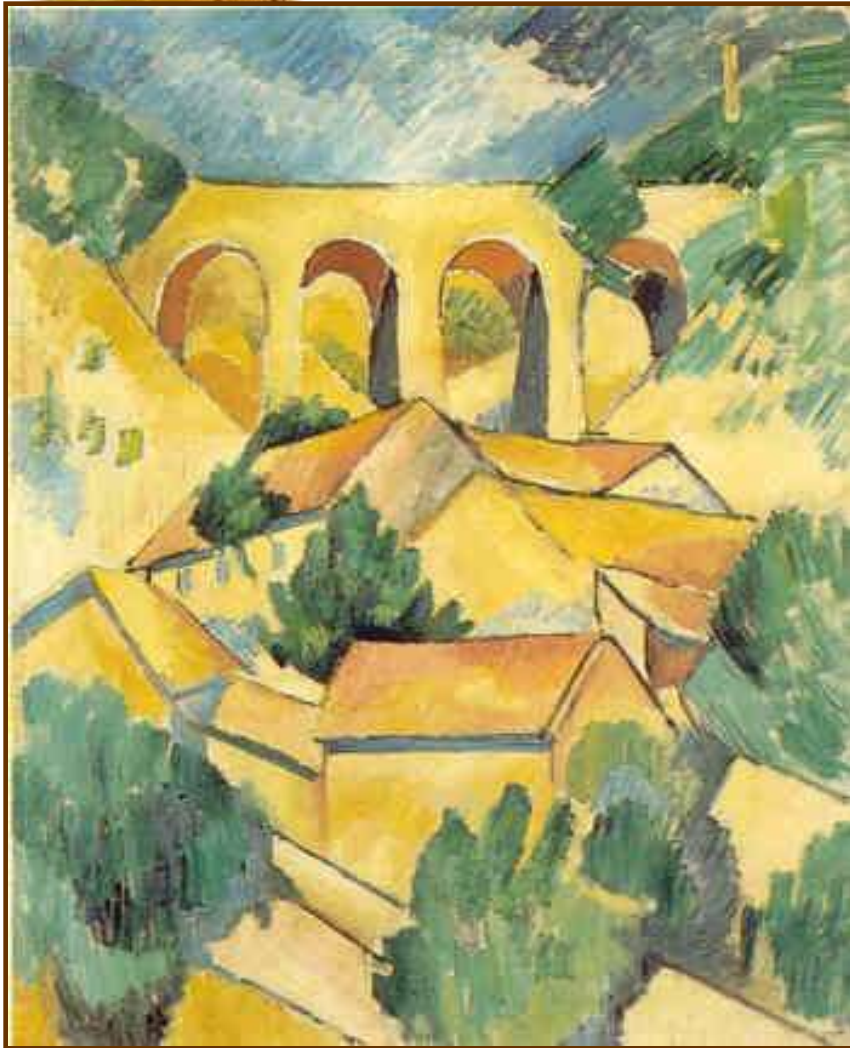


- Known as the artist who acted as a bridge between Impressionism and Cubism
- Used repeated, regular brush strokes and depth perception
- Paintings were said to resist the logic of space and gravity

Paul Cézanne (1830-1906)



Georges Braque (1882-1963)



- Painted with bright colors and unassembled forms until 1908, but changed styles after he was injured in WWI
- Switched to a more cubist technique using light and perspective
- Worked with Picasso
- Analytic Cubism
- Used a collage technique

Georges Braque (1882-1963)

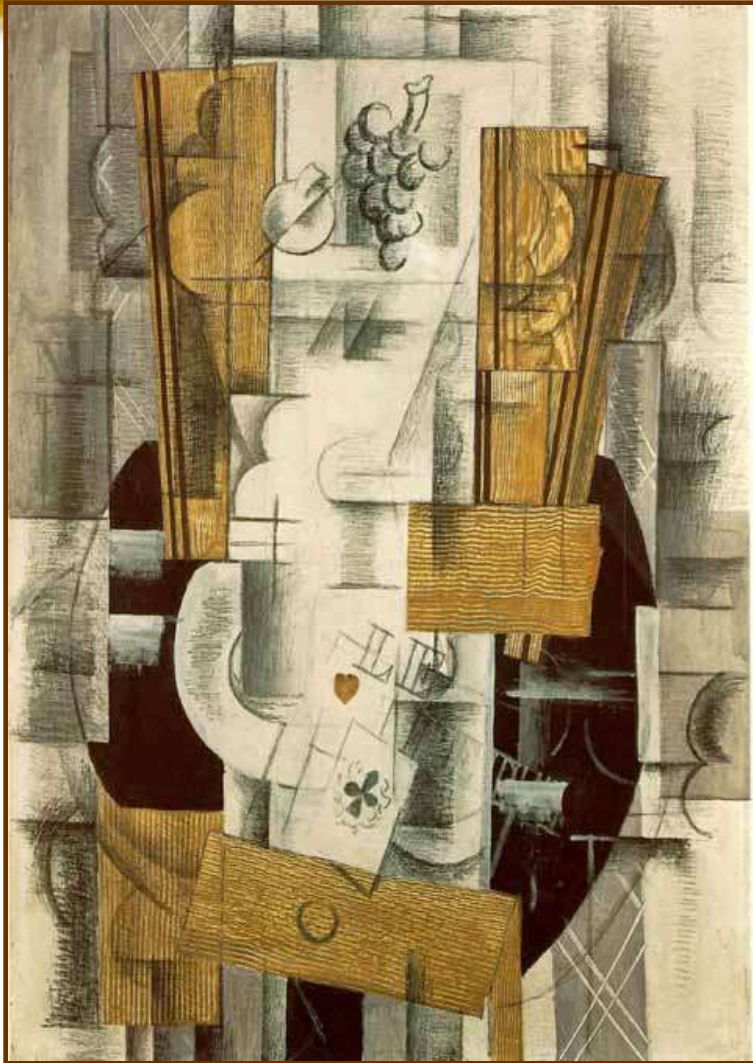
Wanted to create the sense of being able to move around within the painting

Focused on different viewpoints




Still life paintings from 1927- 1955



Georges Braque (1882-1963)



Juan Gris

-  Analytical cubism
-  Papier collé
-  Bright colors

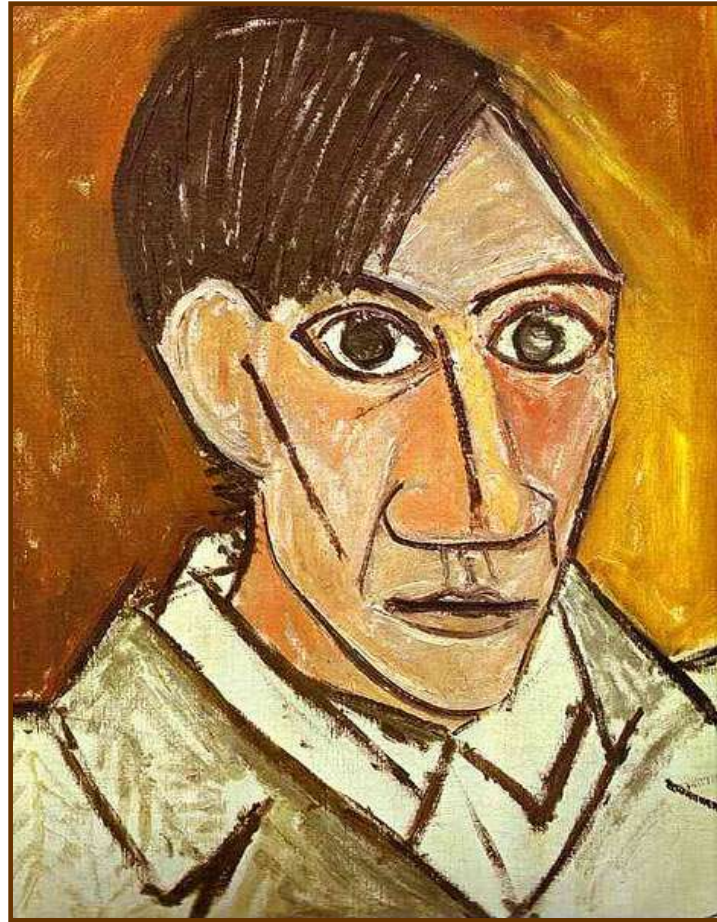


Pablo Picasso (1881-1973)



- ❑ Considered greatest artist of 20th century
- ❑ Created more than 20,000 pieces of art
- ❑ Three phases of his career:
 - Blue Period
 - Rose Period
 - Protocubism
- ❑ Some of his paintings take on a surrealist quality

Pablo Picasso's Self-Portraits



Picasso's Blue Period





Picasso's Blue Period, cont'd.



Characteristics of Picasso's Blue Period

- Color used to express emotion
- Reflected Picasso's mourning over the loss of a friend and stress of financial troubles
- Mysterious





Picasso's Rose Period

- ❑ After his "Blue Period", Picasso settled in Paris and began his exciting relationship with Fernande Olivier
- ❑ His happier mood influenced his works which began to include more reds and pinks, ending his Blue Period
- ❑ His art was also beginning to be sold so he was no longer in a financial crisis
- ❑ Carnival subjects were a favorite, as he visited the circus several times a week



Picasso's Rose Period



Early Cubist Period



Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J.), 1907:

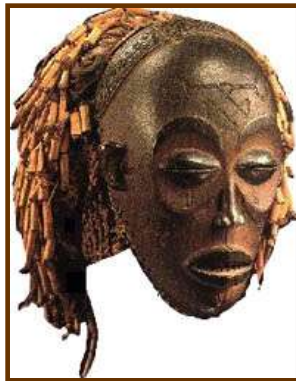
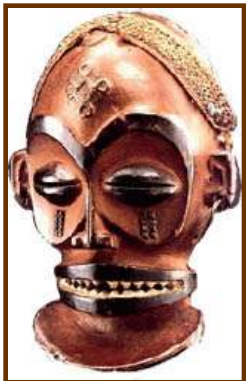
- Portrayed female prostitution in Paris, featuring women who appear to be wearing masks
- Shows Picasso's deep influence by the power shown in African and Oceanic tribal arts and culture



In 1907, Picasso and Braque began a collaboration with a radical outlook and advance



Both artists used bright colors, distortion, hard edges and flattened space



Les Femmes d'Alger (O. J. 1911)











The Neo-Classical Period

- ☐ Occurred between WWI and WWII
- ☐ Relationship with Braque faded after WWI and changed to more classic methods of painting
- ☐ Represented a reaction to society's disappointment in and shock from the violence of the war
- ☐ Showed his mental stability and peace at the end of the Great War





Analytical Cubism

-  Objects broken down into their components
-  Different viewpoints
-  Conceptual over perceptual
-  The height of the period involved paintings becoming too abstract to the point where they were not comprehensible
-  Simplified painting methods through:
 -  Shape
 -  Color
 -  Line



Synthetic Cubism



- ☐ Brighter colors used
- ☐ Collages
- ☐ Easier to interpret than analytical cubism
- ☐ More decorative and more visually pleasing

Later Cubist Period



- ❑ Used more colors and patterns than in earlier works
- ❑ Began his 'friendly rivalry' with Matisse
- ❑ Created many paintings reflecting the horrors of war and his response to the devastating realizations of concentration camps during WWII

Picasso and War (1937-1945)

- ☐ *Guernica* depicts the massacre after German planes bombed the city and 1,600 civilians on April 26, 1937, during the Spanish Civil War
- ☐ Used symbolism and the monochromatic colors to represent the desolation after the tragedy





Dadaism

1910's - 1920's



Dadaism

Began in 1916 and ended in 1922

An international movement that claimed it was "against art" and was used to respond to the violence and irrationality of war

Meant to attack and anger the bourgeoisie because of belief that it was the mentality and actions of this class that allowed war to occur

Wanted art to reflect the upsetting and violent world as they saw it

Art viewed as ridiculous and irrelevant

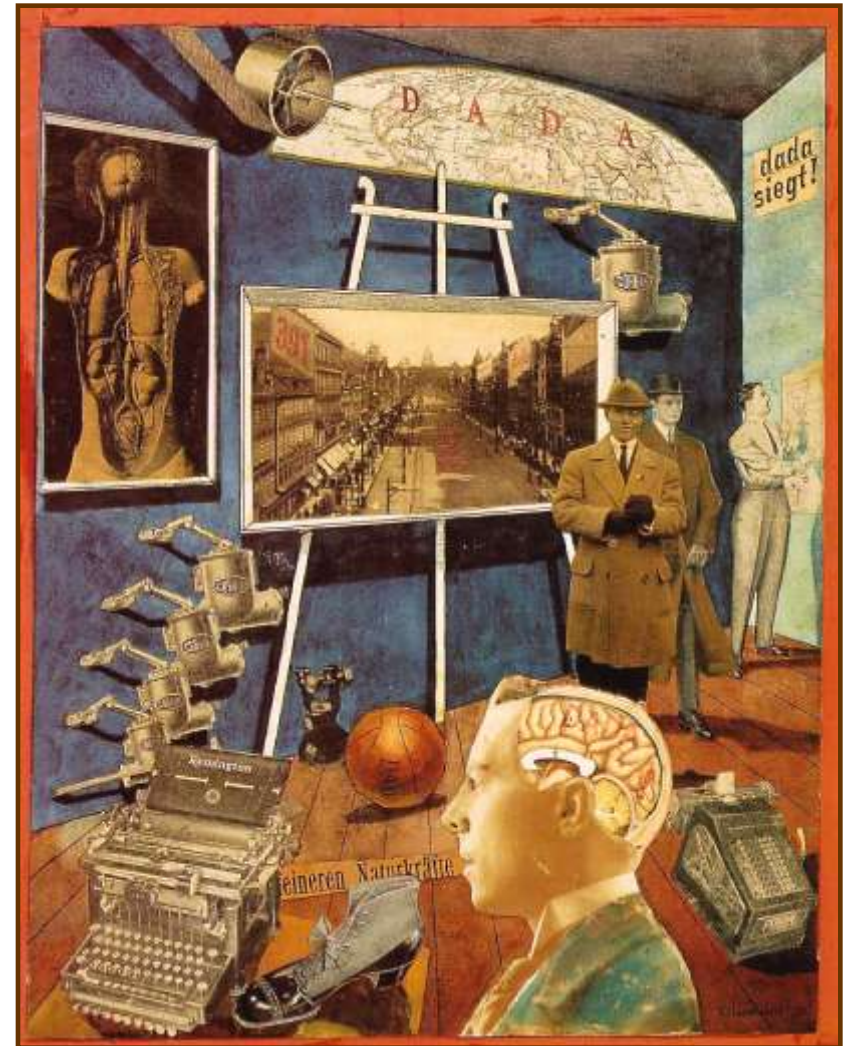


Dadaism

Believed that art had become meaningless and purposeless because of war and violence. One rule: Don't follow any rules.

Main Themes:

- Element of Chance
- Irony
- Nihilistic nature
- Turning utilitarian into an aesthetic





Dadaism



Major centers in:

- Zurich
- Paris
- Berlin
- Cologne
- New York City



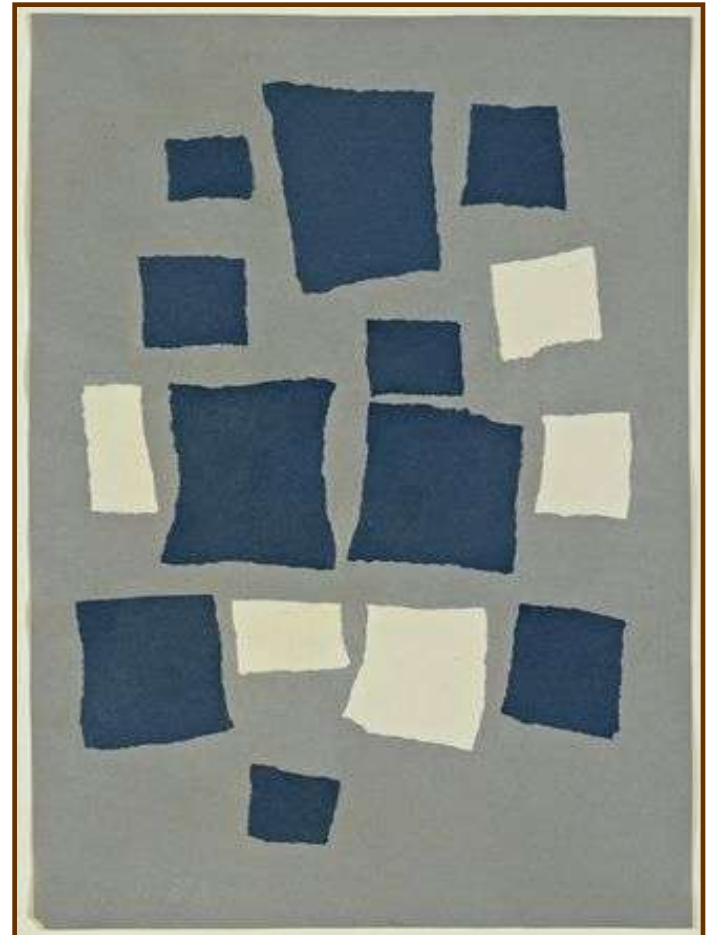
The word "Dada" was supposedly randomly picked from the dictionary to reflect the sense of chance and absurdity that is reflected in this art movement



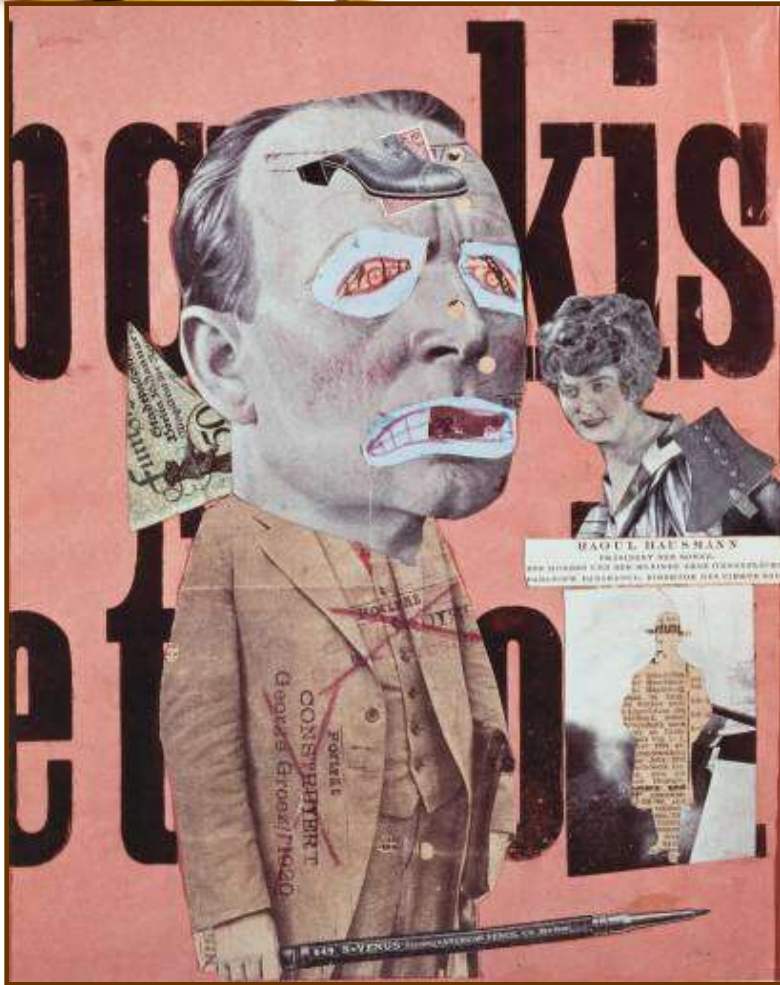
Jean Arp (1886-1966)

The Artist...

- Born in *Alsace, Germany*
- Developed a method of creating collages by dropping torn paper on the floor and basically leaving them as they fell
- He wanted to create art that was closer to nature and free from "the life of the hand"



Raoul Hausmann (1886-1971)



The Artist...

- Born in Vienna, Austria
- Moved to Berlin in 1900 and became one of the most important artists of the avant-garde art movements in the 1900s
- The orange background of *The Art Critic* is believed to be from one of his phonetic poem posters that were planned to be pasted on walls throughout Berlin.

Raoul Hausmann (1886-1971)

The Artist...

- Used new means of expression including "phonetic poems" and photo-montages
- Founded Dada Berlin in 1918 with Richard Hulsenbeck and Frantz Jung
- Gave up painting in 1923 and experimented with other artistic ideas



Marcel DuChamp (1887-1968)



The Artist...

- Wanted to introduce an indifferent reaction and looked for objects which he believed would do so
- His *Mona Lisa* was the ultimate insult to previously accepted art values, as he added a moustache and goatee to the former Da Vinci classic

DuChamp's Ready-Mades



The Artist...

- Tried to negate and insult previous art styles



Ready-Mades:

- The process of taking everyday and often mass-produced objects and adding DuChamp's signature
- These works are valued as 'high art' today

DuChamp's Ready-Mades

Did this new type of art make all art appear better in contrast or cause all objects to be considered as art?

His *Fountain*, one of the most famous ready-mades is a simple urinal on its back signed under the false name, 'R. Mutt 1917'

One of the recreations sold for \$1,762,500

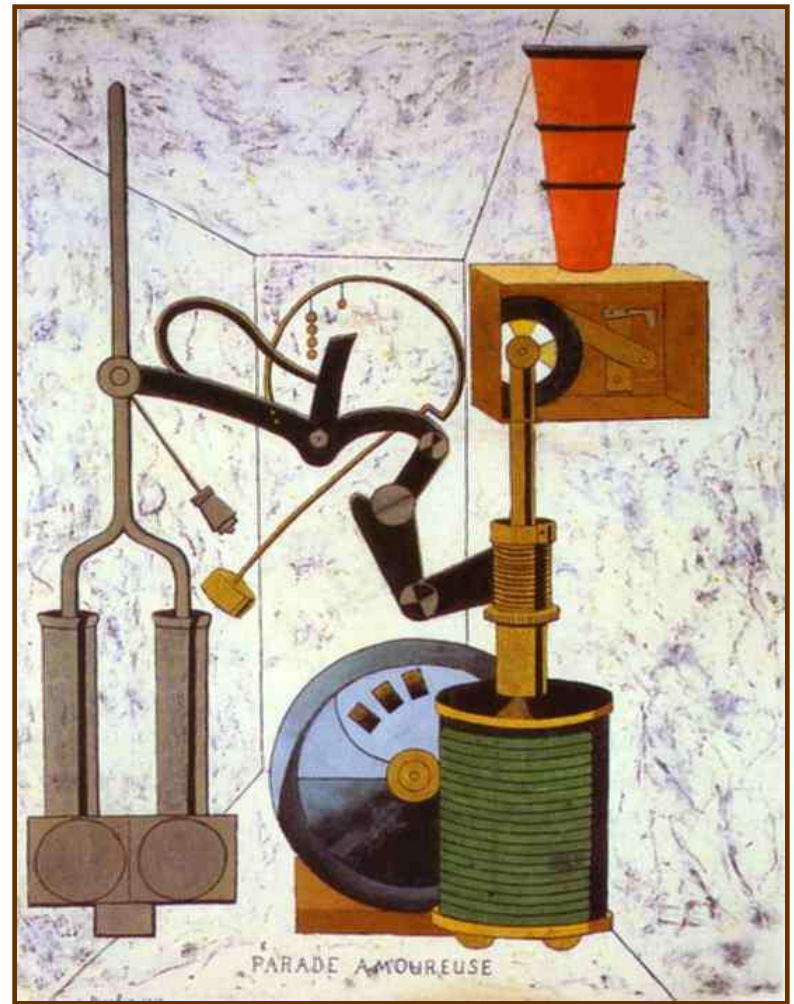
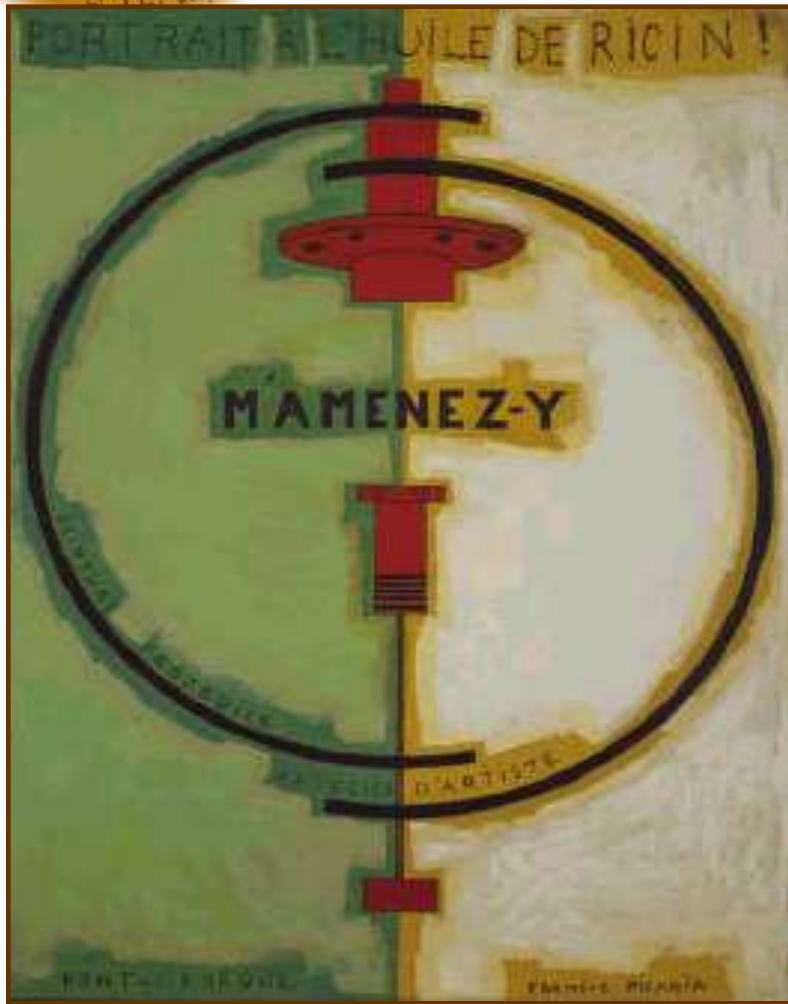




Francis Picabia (1879-1953)



Francis Picabia (1879-1953)





Decline of Dadaism



By claiming that they were against art, they ended up creating their own form of art and this contradiction caused the eventual downfall of the entire Movement.



Some say it declined because it was in danger of being accepted as art, which would oppose the entire reason behind the Movement.



1922: The Movement collapsed after increasing tension between different Dadaist centers.



Decline of Dadaism



Provided a base for Surrealism, which developed later



Not solely pessimistic:

- Supported freeing the world of traditional views
- Wanted to create new forms of principles and rationality that clashed with the accepted art style of the Bourgeoisie class



Surrealism

1920's - 1950's



Surrealism

● Movement toward the liberation of the mind by placing emphasis on the unconscious

● Gained momentum after the Dada Art Movement

● Led by Andre Breton

● Two types:

- Automatism

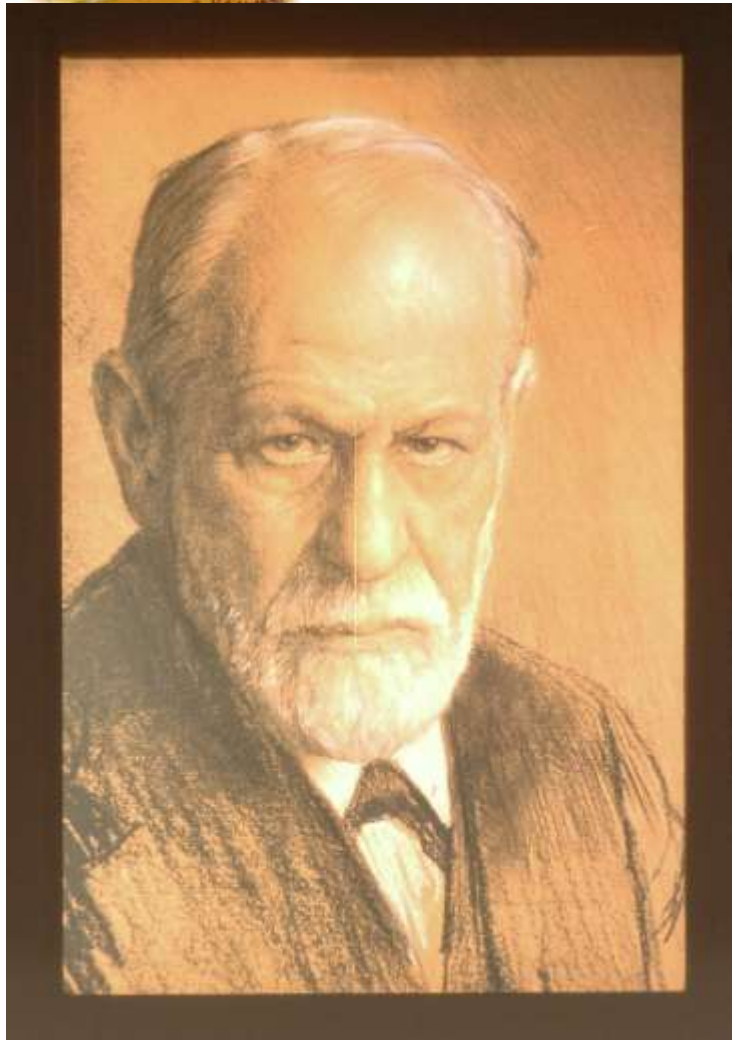
- Veristic Surrealism

● Division originated from two different interpretations of Freud and Jung





Sigmund Freud



His Influence:

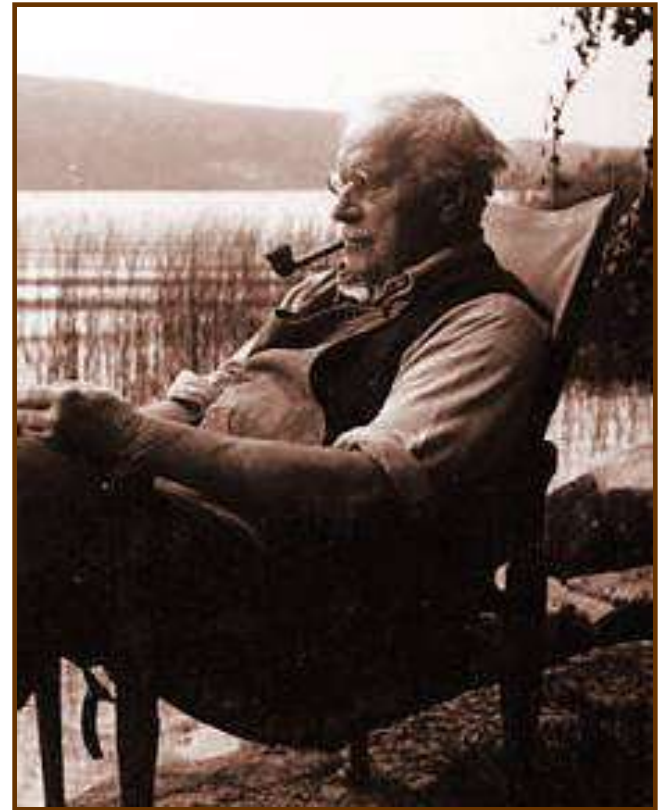
- Like his theories of psychoanalysis, surrealist painting and writing explores the depths of the unconscious mind
- His ideas provided new subject matter upon which authors and artists could extend and elaborate
- Critics often analyze art and literature in Freudian terms



Carl Jung

His Influence:

- Automatism
- Should not judge, but instead accept the subconscious images as they come into consciousness, allowing them to be analyzed
- The unconscious has important messages for the conscious, but the unconscious speaks through images and symbols while the conscious speaks through language
- Surrealists tried to portray the idea of 'psyche' through their art





The Automatists

Began with Paris Surrealists and then gained popularity in New York City and Montreal

Abstract

Focused more on feeling rather than analysis

A method by which images of the subconscious reach the conscious

Rejection of traditional art represented the rejection of social conformity

Lines came from emotions embedded in the unconscious



Veristic Surrealists



- Make sense of their subconscious and paint with influence from the conscious state of mind
- Object was a metaphor of the reality in their subconscious mind
- Academic discipline

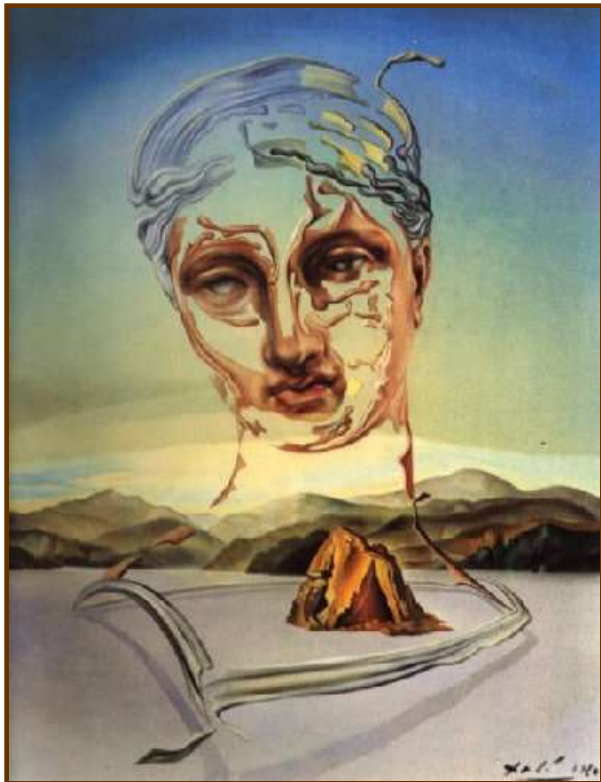


"The day I went to visit Sigmund Freud in his London exile, on the eve of his death...He said to me, 'In classic paintings I look for the subconscious - in a surrealist painting, for the conscious'."

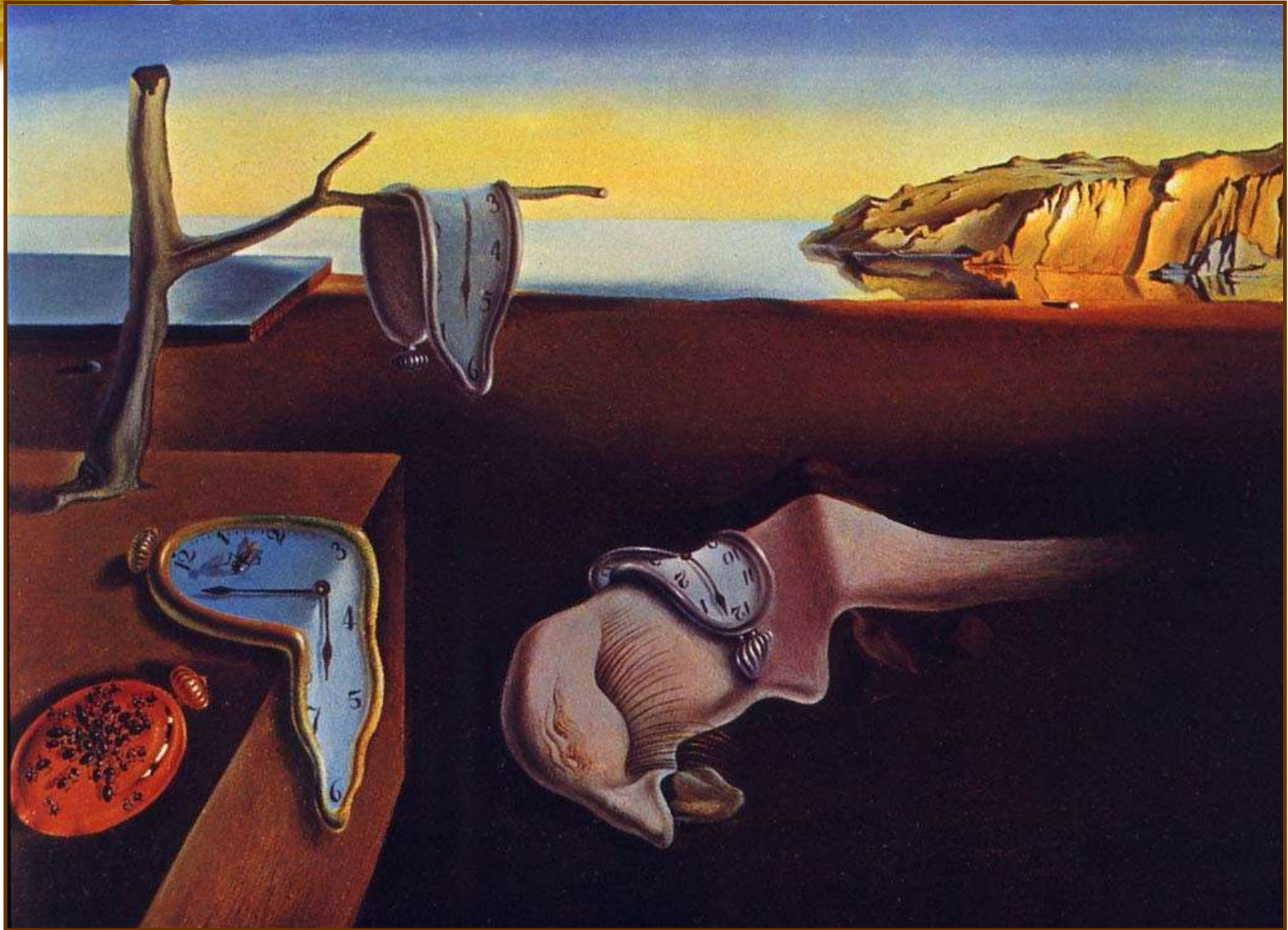
- Salvador Dalí

Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)

"Each morning when I awake,
I experience again a supreme
pleasure - that of being
Salvador Dalí." -Dalí



Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)



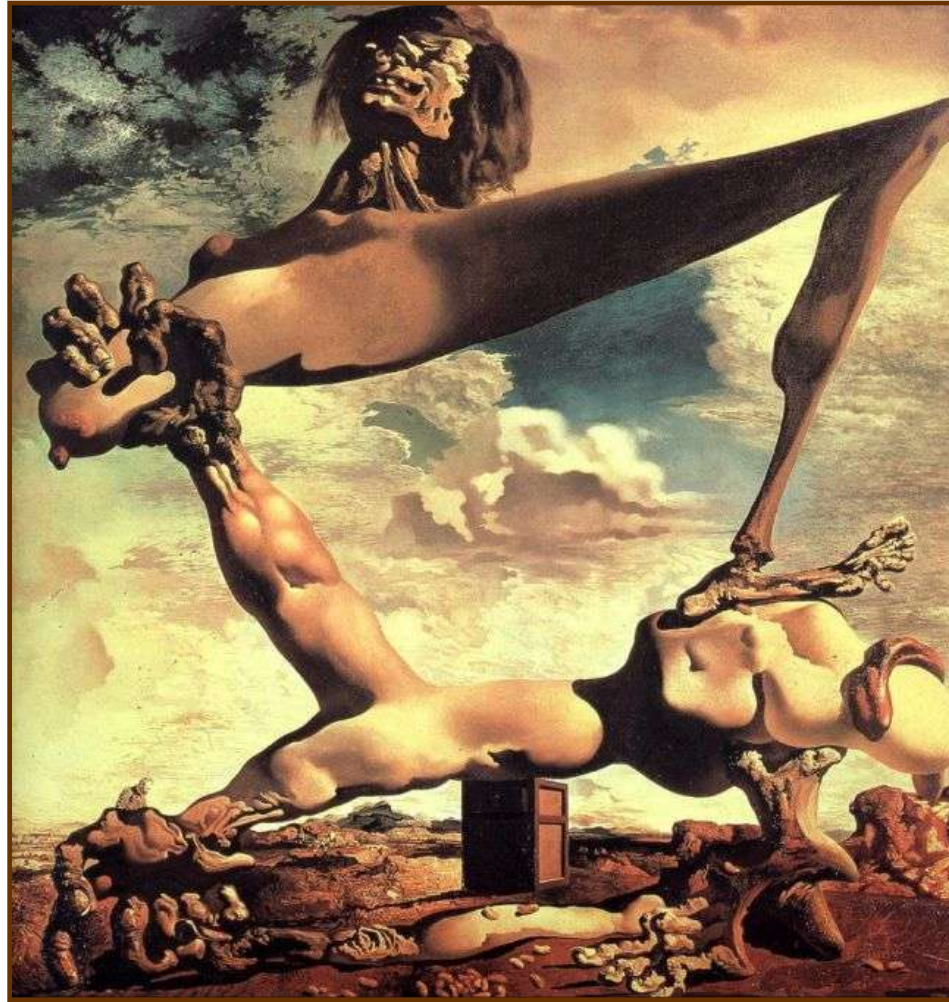


Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)

Full Name: Salvador Domenech Felip Jacint Dalí Domenech



Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)



Soft Construction with Boiled Beans - Premonition of Civil War

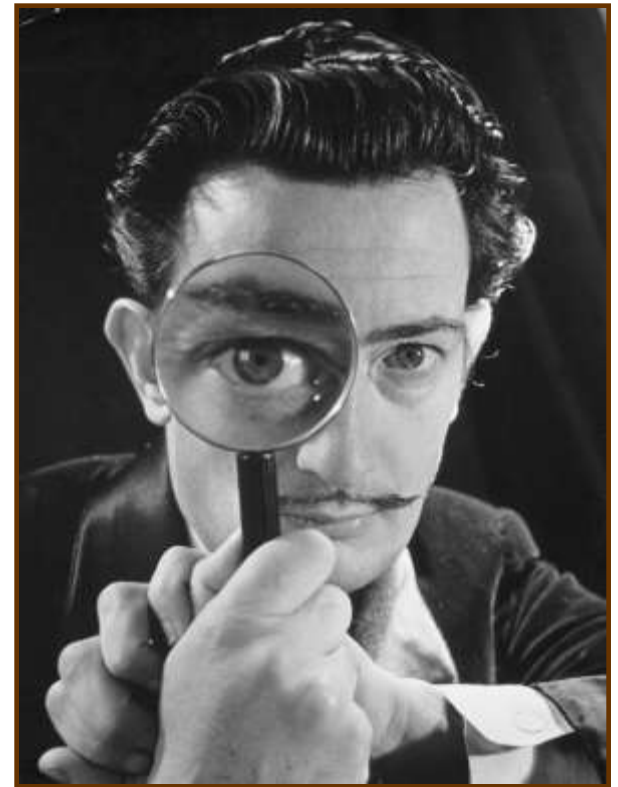
Salvador Dalí (1904-1989)





Dalí's Paranoiac Critical Method

- ✿ A method of understanding the irrational by arranging it in a way that made sense
- ✿ "... A spontaneous method of irrational knowledge based on the systematic objectification of associations and delirious interpretations..."
- Dalí
- ✿ Tricked himself into going insane in order to create a certain quality of art



Dalí's Paranoiac Critical Method, cont'd.

His use of paranoiac-critical rationalization led him to become a celebrity who occasionally painted

Actually went insane and stated,

*I don't take drugs.
I am drugs!*

Idiosyncratic



Marc Chagall (1887-1985)



- Subjects in a vein of humor or fantasy
- Distinctive color and form from Russian expressionism and French Cubism
- Imagery has poetic inspiration

Marc Chagall, cont'd.



The Cattle Dealer, Marc Chagall

Marc Chagall, cont'd.



Stained Glass Window at United Nations



Rene Magritte (1898-1967)



My painting is visible images which conceal nothing; It does not mean anything, because mystery means nothing either, it is unknowable"

- Rene Magritte



Tried to create art containing a juxtaposition of objects or an unusual mix, trying to give a new meaning to otherwise familiar possessions



Rene Magritte (1898-1967)



Belgian artist



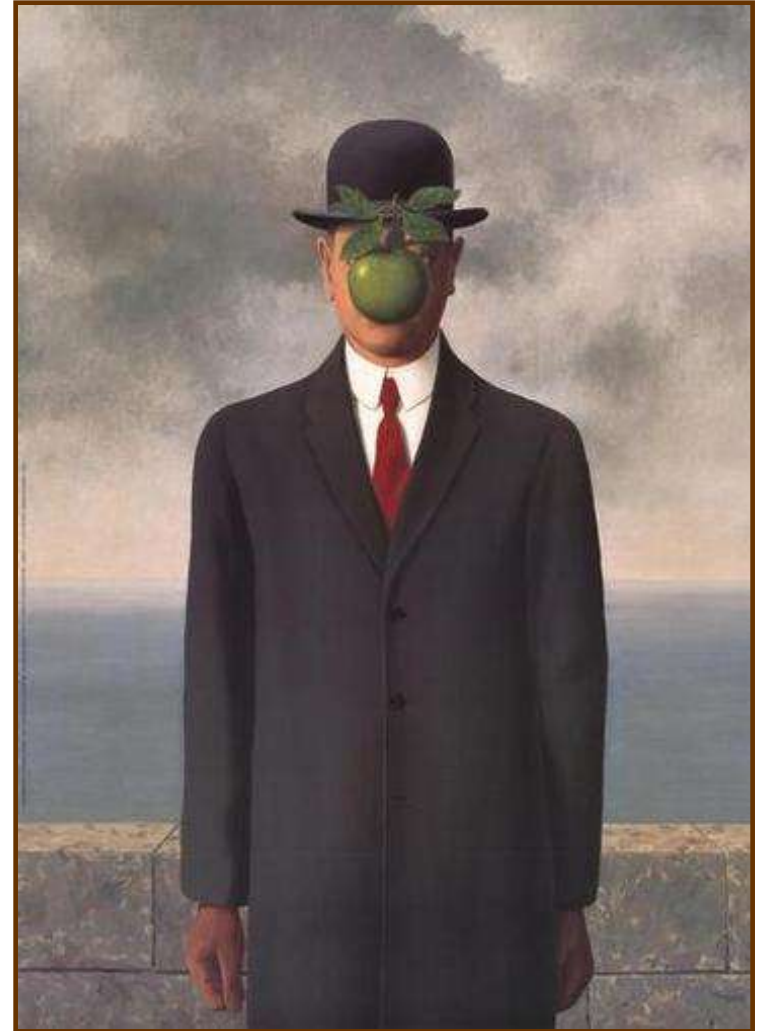
Work portrays
fantasy mixed
with a surreal
reality



Rene Magritte (1898-1967)



Ceci n'est pas une pipe.



Henri Rousseau (1844-1910)



"We are the two great painters of this era; you are in the Egyptian style, I in the modern style."

- Rousseau to Pablo Picasso



Giorgio DeChirico

(1888-1978)



"To become truly immortal, a work of art must escape all human limits: logic and common sense will only interfere. But once these barriers are broken, it will enter the realms of childhood visions and dreams."

- Italian Surrealist
Painter, Giorgio
DeChirico

Joan Miró (1893-1983)



Joan Miró (1893-1983)



André Breton called him "the most surrealist of us all", and his work is considered among the most original of the 20th century.



Painted and sculpted images reflecting the turmoil of both the Spanish Civil War, war in general, and the breakdown of Europe





Max Ernst

(1891-1976)



Invented the method 'Frottage'



Similar technique:
'Decalcomania'



Both allowed the subconscious mind to see into a random pattern and bring out the imagination



Created one of the first paintings that combined 3-D elements within a 2-D space



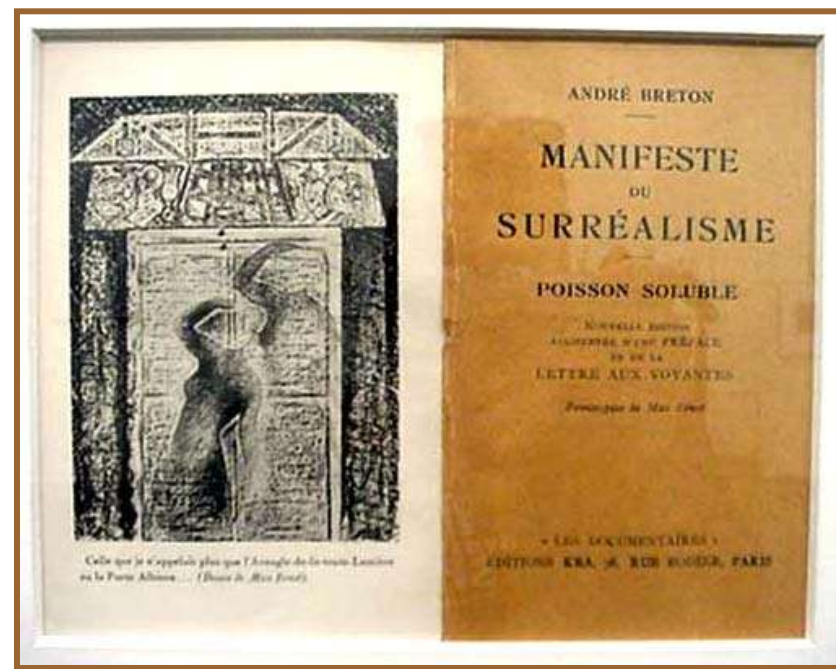
Created directly after WWII





André Breton's *Surrealist Manifesto of 1924*

"We are still living under the reign of logic, but the logical processes of our time apply only to the solution of problems of secondary interest. The absolute rationalism which remains in fashion allows for the consideration of only those facts narrowly relevant to our experience.... It revolves in a cage from which release is becoming increasingly difficult... Perhaps the imagination is on the verge of recovering its rights."



- Excerpt from Breton's
Surrealist Manifesto



Surrealist Literature

First "Automatic Book": *Les Champs Magnétiques*, by Philippe Soupault and Breton

Expressed negative feelings about literal meanings given to certain objects

Not very clear or thoughtful writing

Famous authors who were believed to be precursors of the Surrealist movement include:

- Isidore Duccasse, writer of "Le Comte de Lautréamont"
- Arthur Rimbaud





The Split from Dada

• Breton's Manifesto and the introduction of the *La Révolution surréaliste* magazine clearly marked the separation.


• Split from the more Dada focused group who gathered around Tristan Tzara.

• Bureau of Surrealist Research started in Paris.


• *Le Paysan de Paris*, by Louis Aragon in 1926, contained famous works including poems, theoretical text and automatic works, of many Surrealists.



Surrealism: A Response




Surrealists believed that the rational mind was responsible for the tragedies of WW1 and the Industrial Revolution.



Expressions must not only be ordinary but also have a full range of imagination according to the Hegelian Dialect.



Freud and Marx contributed to Surrealism.



Andre Breton stated that the aim of Surrealism is "long live the social revolution, and it alone!"



Surrealism has been connected to communism and anarchism.

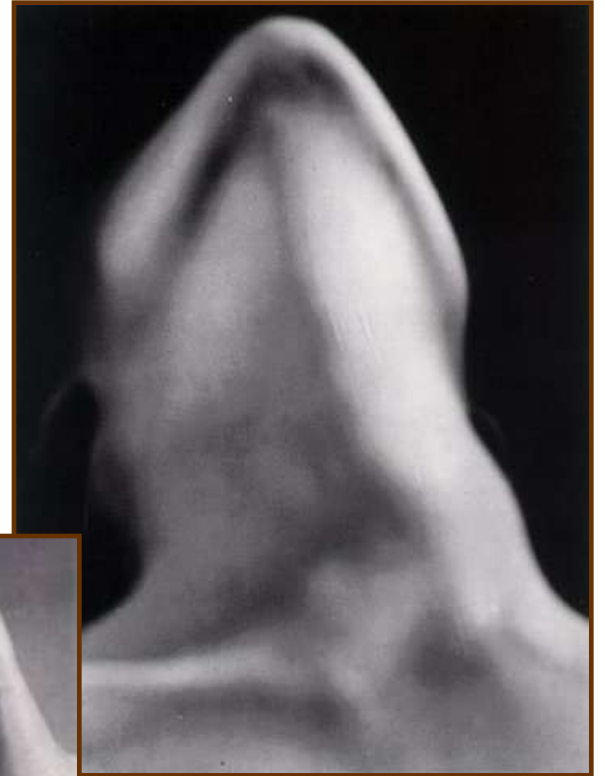


Women In Surrealism

- 🌹 Women were portrayed as artificial, especially in photography
- 🌹 Artists used unnatural lighting and developing techniques to distort the image
- 🌹 Toyed with sexual undertones



Man Ray (1890-1976)





Photography & Surrealism: Man Ray (1890-1976)



The Road Ahead...Art After WWII



Convergence, Jackson Pollock (1952)