

February's Artist of the Month

Salvador Dalí



Family Life

Salvador Dalí was born in 1904 in Figueres, Spain. It was a city located close to the Pyrenees, which border France and Spain.

His father was a lawyer and a strict disciplinarian. His mother was more gentle and encouraged Dalí's art and creativity.



Drawing School

In 1916, Dalí was sent to drawing school in Figueres. He demonstrated quite a talent for sophisticated drawings.

He was a bit of a daydreamer and began to dress in unusual clothes and have long hair.

His father organised his first exhibition of charcoal drawings in their home. In 1919, Dalí had his first public exhibition.



Photo courtesy of Carl Van Vechten, 1934 - granted under public domain

An Unusual Artist

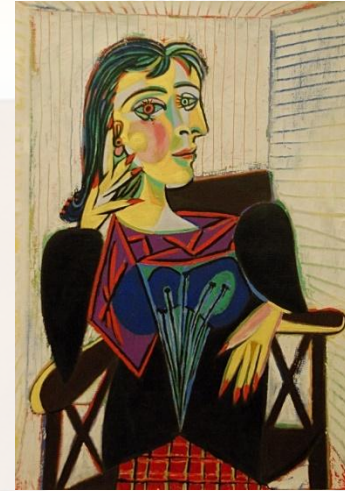
In 1922, Dalí began attending Academia de San Fernando in Madrid. His appearance became very eccentric and he began to be influenced by Cubism.



Introduction to Surrealism

In the late twenties, Dalí met a number of influential artists. He was particularly impressed with Pablo Picasso.

He also met artist Joan Miró, poet Paul Eluard and painter René Magritte. These artists introduced Dalí to Surrealism.



The word 'surrealist' means 'beyond reality'. This means that surrealist art is an expression of dreams and the unreal rather than something that is true and rational.



Photo courtesy of Carl Van Vechten, 1934 - granted under public domain

Surrealism

This is Surrealism.



Dali's Surrealism

Dali used the images from his dreams to improve his creativity.

His most famous piece of art is called The Persistence of Memory and he painted it in 1931.



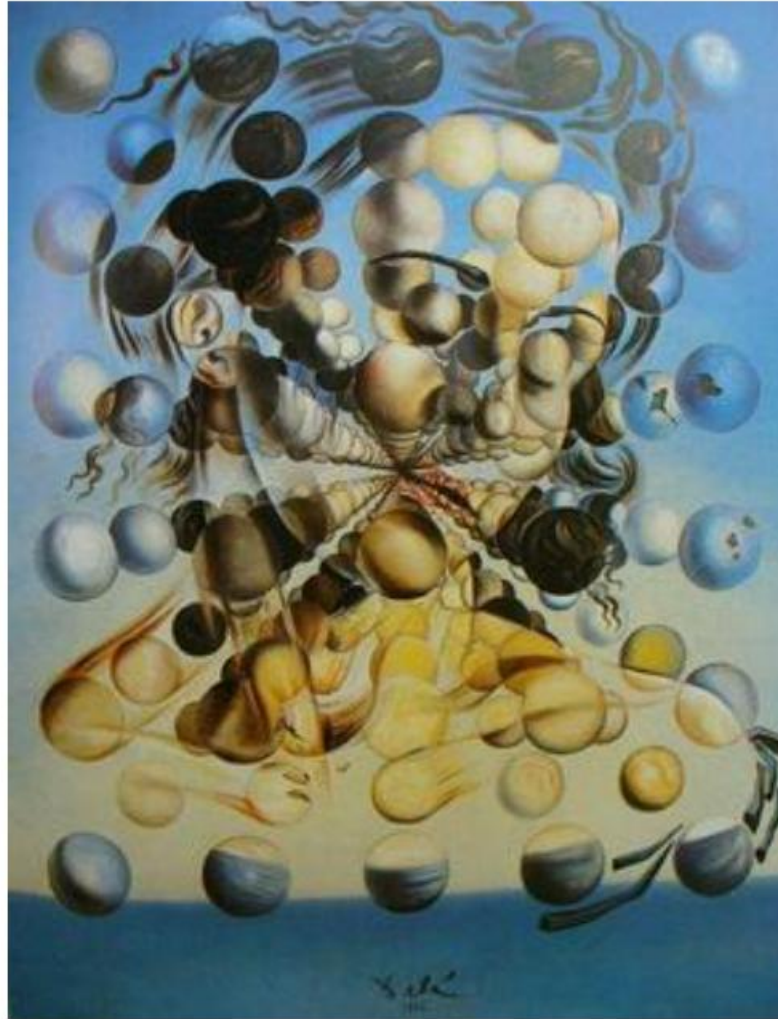
The Persistence of Memory 1931



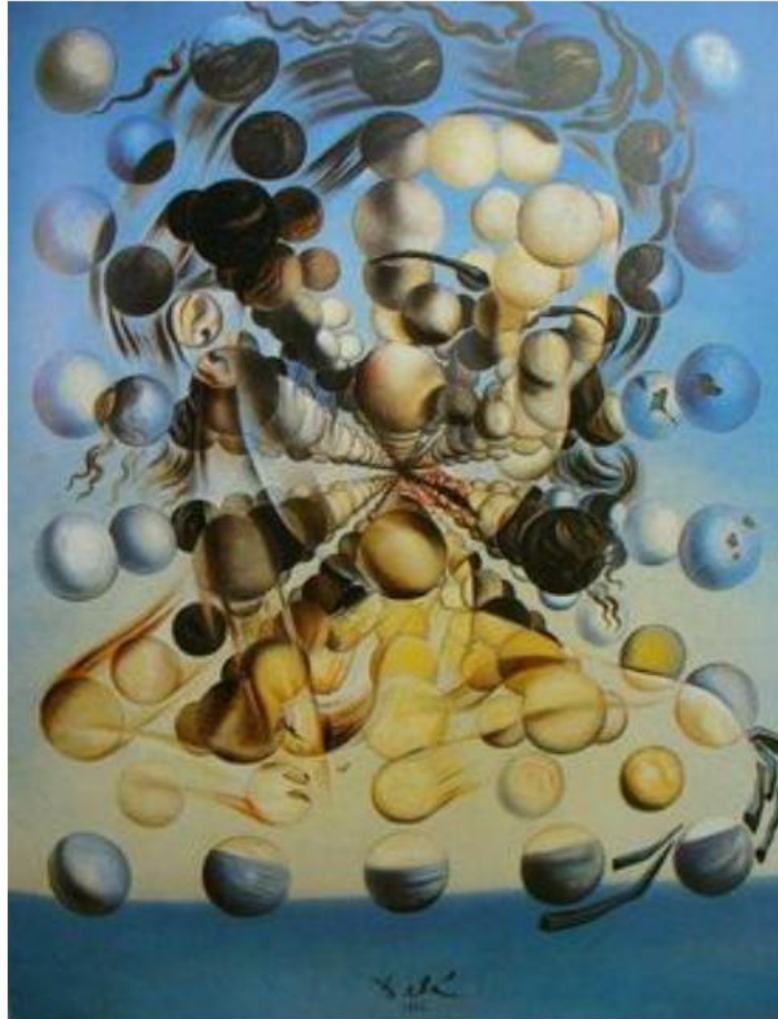
2. The Elephants (1948)



5. Galatea of the Spheres (1952)



5. Galatea of the Spheres (1952)



Arty Task – Can you draw an animal that looks like it's from a dream?

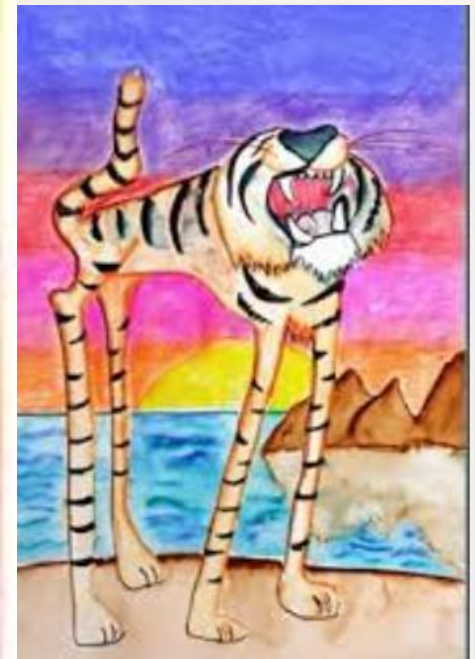


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Arty Task – can you draw a dream you had?



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Arty Task – draw yourself with curly moustaches!



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