



DREAMING OF DALÍ

It is nearly twenty years since the legendary Spanish painter Salvador Dalí died, but his reputation as one of the most important figures in the history of surrealism art lives on. Dalí's recurring themes of melting clocks and strange hallucinatory figures have become some of the most iconic images of the 20th Century, ensuring his position as the most famous representative of the Surrealist movement.



← **Alice in Wonderland**
Mixed media
Edition of 500
Image 28¾" x 20¾"
Framed £1,299

THE SUBCONSCIOUS MIND, THE MEANING OF DREAMS AND HALLUCINATORY SPATIAL DIMENSIONS WERE ALL IDEAS THAT FORMED THE BASIS FOR MUCH OF HIS WORK, WHICH IS NOW INSTANTLY RECOGNISABLE THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

psychologist Sigmund Freud. The subconscious mind, the meaning of dreams and hallucinatory spatial dimensions were all ideas that formed the basis for much of his work, which is now instantly recognisable throughout the world. As well as a series of Dalinian symbols which occur repeatedly in his work (the melting clock, the soft egg, the long legged elephant,) it's his meticulous style of painting that captures the image and fires the viewers imagination. Throughout his life Dalí embraced his eccentricity, claiming that this was the source of his creative energy. Much has been made of his symbolism, and he described his pictures

as 'hand painted dream photographs' with his favourite images occurring in many different forms time and time again.

The mixed media edition 'Surrealist Piano' (overleaf) takes one of Dalí's favourite images of a piano and transforms it with his typical Surrealist flourish, from an ordinary object into something extraordinary. Taking the banal wooden legs of a piano and replacing them with dancing female legs, the artist has created a joyous instrument that can dance as well as play. The piano is brought to life through its own musicality, and is dancing to accompany the ethereal figure for which it plays, thus Dalí →

Born in 1904 in the small town of Figueres in Catalonia, Salvador Felipe Jacinto Dalí started painting from an early age. Tutors by renowned teachers in prestigious art schools throughout Spain, his reputation as a painter soon grew. He became prolific in many art forms, and although he may be best known for his famously symbolic artworks, they were not his only creative output; this included sculpture, jewellery design and work for the theatre. Today the Salvador Dalí Foundation (which Dalí himself set up in 1983) continues to promote the work, artistic ideas and cultural projects of the artist. In a unique collaboration with the Dalí Foundation, Washington Green have released a series of limited edition prints and bronze sculptures, depicting the recurring iconic symbols used throughout Dalí's career.

From early on, Dalí let it be known that he was greatly inspired by the theories of the famous



↓ **Space Venus**
Bronze sculpture
Edition of 350
Height 25½"
£21,000





← **Dance Of Time**
Mixed media
Edition of 500
Image 28¾" x 20¾"
Framed £1,299

→ **Dance Of Time I, II & III**
Bronze sculpture
Edition of 350
Height 11½"
£8,950 each



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has taken an inert and lifeless object and transformed it into something fantastical. Another well known Dalinian symbol, the 'Space Elephant' (seen opposite as a limited edition bronze) was originally created in 1946 when the artist painted one of his most famous pictures 'The Temptation of St Anthony'. Commissioned by a film studio, Dalí created the image of four elephants moving through space on almost invisible spider legs, parading before St Anthony and each carrying a temptation of desire. For this sculpture based on the elephants in the painting, Dalí created the image of an elephant carrying an obelisk - a symbol of the temptation of power.

'Dance of Time' which is taken from an original watercolour by Dalí, 'The Persistence of Memory', created in 1979, depicts the most famous of the artist's symbols. The melting clock can be seen here in triplicate, floating in sequence above the ground; representing the fluidity of time, and its mastery over human beings. According to the artist, the inspiration for this came from a dream about runny Camembert, one hot August afternoon. The melting clocks symbolise a metaphysical image of time devouring itself and everything else. The slight figure in this painting represents Man, resigned never to control time as it flees inexorably from our grasp.



→ **Surrealist Piano**
Mixed media
Edition of 500
Image 28¾" x 20¾"
Framed £1,299

← **Space Elephant**
Bronze sculpture
Edition of 350
Height 37"
£21,250

Dali himself was as extraordinary as his artworks, and was one of the first artists to recognise the power of self-promotion and how to use the media to create publicity. Throughout his life he cultivated an eccentric appearance as well as bizarre acts of exhibitionism, such as appearing in a diving suit at the opening of the London Surrealist exhibition in 1936. In the 1940s he moved with his wife and muse Gala, (who was hugely influential in Dali's success) to America where he devoted himself to painting images of a religious nature, and to making large amounts of money, as his eccentricity and celebrity status grew. Dali was a hugely prolific painter and during his lifetime he created more than 1500 paintings as well as many other works in different mediums. He died as a recluse in 1989, but by that time there were already two permanent museums devoted entirely to his work. These continue to attract thousands of visitors each year as the interest in this flamboyant artist continues to fascinate the art world, with a growing demand for his pieces.



Dali's wife and muse Gala, was hugely influential in his success



The Dali collection will be available in selected galleries from November.

To find your nearest participating gallery visit www.washingtongreen.co.uk