

Salvador Dalí

Chronology

1904 11 May: birth of Salvador Dalí at Figueres, Spain. His sister Anna Maria is born in January 1908.

1919 January, exhibits at an exhibition of local artists at the Municipal Theater, Figueres.

1921 Dalí's mother dies. His father subsequently marries her sister.

1922 Enters the School of Fine Arts, Madrid; lives at University Residence where meets Lorca and Buñuel.

1923 Suspended for a year from the School of Fine Arts for subversive behavior.

1925 First exhibition at Dalmau Gallery, Barcelona, 14-27 November: includes a 1917 *Landscape*, Cubist paintings of 1924, *Venus and Sailor* (1925), *Portrait of my Father* (1925) and *Girl Seated Seen from the Rear* (1925).

1926 First visit to Paris; permanently expelled from Academy of Fine Arts; 31 December - 14 January 1927, second one-man exhibition at Dalmau Gallery: includes *Composition with Three Figures (Neo-Cubist Academy)*, *Girl Sewing*, *Landscape at Penya-Segats* *Harlequin*.

1927 Military service; designs sets and costumes for first performance of Lorca's drama *Mariana Pineda* in Barcelona; first texts for *L'Amic de les Arts*.

1928 Publishes *Catalan Anti-Artistic Manifesto*.

1929 Joins Buñuel early in the year in Paris to make *Un Chien Andalou*; Gala and Paul Eluard, the Magrittes, and his new dealer Camille Goemans visit him at Cadaqués in the summer, and he officially joins Surrealist movement; first one-man Paris exhibition at Goemans Gallery in November: drawings and 11 paintings, 9 completed since the summer including *Dismal Sport*, *Accommodations of Desire*, *Illumined Pleasures*, *Face of the Great Masturbator (sic)*, *Man with Unhealthy Complexion*, *Listening to the Sound of the Sea* and *Portrait of Eluard*. Rejoins Gala in Paris to begin their lifelong companionship.

1930 Enters financial arrangement with the Vicomte de Noailles which enables him to buy tiny fisherman's house at Port Lligat, near Cadaqués, in which, much extended, he lived. Contract with Pierre Colle Gallery, Paris. Represented with 8 paintings and 2 drawings at first Surrealist exhibition in the USA at the Wadsworth Atheneum, Hartford, Connecticut. First showing of *L'Age d'or*. Lecture 'Moral Position of Surrealism' at Ateneo, Barcelona.

1931 First one-man show at Pierre Colle Gallery, includes *Invisible Man*, *Invisible Sleeper*, *Horse*, *Lion*, *William Tell* and *The Persistence of Memory*.

1932 Included in Julien Levy's exhibition *Surrealism* in New York, immediate success. Second one-man exhibition at Pierre Colle's.

1933 A group of 12 collectors and friends ('the Zodiac') arrange to give Dalí regular 'salary' in exchange for the right to choose either one large painting or a small painting and two drawings in rotation over the year, one each month. Dalí shows 8 works at Exhibition of Surrealist Objects, at Pierre Colle, and in June one-man exhibition includes several works on theme of Millet's *Angelus*. First one-man show at Julien Levy Gallery, New York.

1934 At Carnegie Institute, Pittsburgh, shows *Enigmatic Elements in a Landscape* and receives 'Honourable mention'. First one-man exhibition in London, at Zwemmer Gallery, arouses much interest. November, first trip to USA, one-man exhibitions at Levy Gallery and Wadsworth Atheneum.

1935 January, gives lecture on Surrealism at Museum of Modern Art, New York. Enters agreement with English collector, writer and Surrealist sympathizer Edward James, by which James purchases his important works - the arrangement lasts until 1939.

1936 At the International Exhibition of Surrealism in London gives lecture encased in diving suit and helmet which sticks and nearly suffocates him. Exhibition at Levy's, New York, much publicity, appears on cover of *Time*.

1937 Visits Hollywood. Spends several months at Edward James' house in Italy to avoid Spanish Civil War.

1938 Visits Freud in London. Works in Monte Carlo on ballets *Mad Tristan* and *Bacchanale*.

1939 In New York, latest exhibition at Levy's excites much attention. Works on *Dream of Venus* for New York World's Fair. Moves to Arcachon on outbreak of War.

1940 Visited by Chanel and Duchamp. After fall of France in June flees to USA via Spain, where visits father for first time since rupture nearly ten years before. Settles at Caresse Crosby's house at Hampton, Virginia.

1941 Exhibition at Levy Gallery. Attacked by Breton in *Artistic Genesis and Perspective of Surrealism*, and by Calas in the New York magazine *View*. Finishes writing *The Secret Life of Salvador Dalí*. In November, Retrospective Exhibition at Museum of Modern Art, New York. Makes first jewels in collaboration with the Duke of Verdura.

1943 Exhibits a number of portraits of American celebrities at Knoedler Gallery, New York; paints murals for Helena Rubinstein's apartment. During these years in the USA designs numerous advertisements.

1945 Exhibits recent works at Bignou Gallery, New York; publishes *Dalí News*.

1947 Second exhibition at Bignou's, and second issue of *Dalí News*.

1948 Returns to Europe. From now on Dalí regularly spends part of the winter in New York, and divides the rest of the year between Port Lligat and Paris. Rupture with Surrealists complete, but never joins another movement.

1949 Audience with the pope to whom he gives small version of *Madonna of Port Lligat*.

1951 Dalí and Gala attend the Besteigui Ball in Venice dressed by Dior as 7-metre giants.

1952 Dalí lectures throughout the USA on 'nuclear mysticism'. Controversy in Britain over acquisition by Glasgow Arts Museum of *Christ of St John of the Cross*.

1954 Travelling retrospective exhibition in Rome, Venice and Milan.

1955 Lecture at the Sorbonne: 'Phenomenological aspects of the paranoiac-critical method', on Vermeer's *Lacemaker* and rhinoceros.

1957 Designs night-club for Acapulco, which will move and breathe, but is never realized. Walt Disney visits him at Cadaqués; they plan a film on *Don Quixote* which is never made.

1958 At the Paris Fair Dalí has a loaf of bread 12 metres long baked, for a lecture at the Théâtre de l'Etoile. Marries Gala in religious ceremony in Spain. Exhibits atomic 'anti-matter' paintings at Carstairs Gallery, New York.

1959 Lectures in Paris and at the Planetarium in London. Presents his Ovocipede, a vehicle consisting of a transparent plastic ball.

1960 Exhibition of Dalí's first 'historical picture', *The Discovery of America by Christopher Columbus* (or *Dream of Christopher Columbus*), commissioned by Huntingdon Hartford Gallery of Modern Art in New York. Protest by Surrealists against his participation in Surrealist Exhibition at d'Arcy Galleries, New York. ('We don't EAR it that way.')

1962 Dalí's painting *Battle of Tetuan* exhibited in Barcelona beside Fortuny's of same subject.

1964 Dalí awarded one of highest decorations in Spain, Grand Cross of Isabella the Catholic.' Retrospective exhibition in Japan.

1965 Special exhibition at Knoedler Gallery, New York, of the painting Dalí described as his best so far: *Gala looking at Dalí in a state of anti-gravitation in his work 'Pop-Op-yes-yes-Pompier' in which can be seen the tsar anguishing figures of Millet's Angelus in a state of atavistic hibernation standing out against a sky which explodes suddenly into a gigantic Maltese Cross just at the heart of Perpignan station towards which the whole universe starts to converge.*

1967 Dalí organizes exhibition 'Homage to Meissonier' at the Hotel Meurice in Paris, where he shows latest painting *Tunny Fishing*.

1968 During May *événements* in Paris, distributes tract 'My cultural revolution' to striking Sorbonne students.

1970 Exhibits *Hallucinogenic Toreador* at Knoedler's, New York. Creation of Dalí Museum in Figueres announced.

1971 Inauguration of Dalí Museum in Cleveland, founded by Reynolds Morse, a major Dalí collector. Dalí designs chess set for American Chess Foundation, using moulds of fingers and teeth for pieces, and dedicates it to Duchamp.

1972 Exhibition of holograms at Knoedler's New York.

1974 Inauguration of Teatro-Museo Dalí in Figueres. Discovers René Thom's disaster theory.

1977 Exhibition of latest work at André-François Petit Gallery in Paris, includes *Gare de Perpignan* (Perpignan Station).

1978 Elected to Académie des Beaux-Arts, Paris.

1979 December Retrospective Exhibition at the Pompidou Centre, Paris, with special installation 'La Kermesse héroïque'.

1980 Retrospective exhibition at the Tate Gallery, London.

1982 June 10, death of Gala. Dalí moves into small Renaissance castle at Púbol which he had given her, and where she is buried. Created Marques de Púbol. Starts to transform the garden with objects and sculptures.

1983 Paints his last picture, *The Swallow's Tail*, from the Series on Catastrophes.

1984 In August Dalí is severely burnt in a fire at Púbol. Subsequently moves into the Torre Galatea in the Teatro-Museo Dalí in Figueres.

1989 23 January dies of heart failure and is buried in the crypt of the Teatro-Museo. His will bequeathes his property and remaining works, not previously donated to the Teatro-Museo, to the Spanish State.

Chronology compiled by Dawn Ades