

## The Weird and Wonderful World of Dali 达利的异想世界

Throughout history, few painters have painted with such **zest** and **originality** as [Salvador Dali](#). Dali was born in [Figueres](#), Spain in 1904. As a boy, his parents convinced Dali that he was the **reincarnation** of his brother, who died before Dali's birth. Perhaps this was the **catalyst** for the **eccentric** behavior that would later make Dali famous. At age 21, he **enrolled** at the [Academia de San Fernando](#) in [Madrid](#). But his time there was short, as Dali was **expelled** for refusing to take his final exams, claiming his professors weren't qualified enough to judge his work. But his **dismissal** wouldn't affect his career, and soon after he would achieve public success.

纵观历史，很少画家能画像萨尔瓦多·达利如此新奇有趣又具原创性的作品。达利于1904年出生于西班牙的菲格列斯。当达利还是个小男孩时，他的双亲使他相信自己是去世兄长的转世。也许这促使了达利日后广为人知的古怪行径。达利21岁时，他进入马德里的圣费尔南多学院就读。但是达利在此校就学的时间很短，因他由于拒绝参加期末考试而被退学，当时他宣称教授们都不够资格评断他的作品。然而，被退学一事并不影响他的画家生涯，他不久之后就尝到功成名就的滋味。

**Aside from** his innovative work, Dali **stood out** for his unusual appearance. He wore his hair and **sideburns** long, dressed in stockings and **knee breeches**, and sported a pencil-thin mustache that would become his trademark. Similarly, Dali's work was a bit **off the wall**. His paintings were full of symbolism and filled with **bizarre** images from his **overactive** imagination. Elephants with skinny legs, tigers leaping from fish mouths, and humans hatching from eggs were just some of the weird themes featured in his work.

达利除了他创新的作品外，他还以与众不同的外型打扮而闻名。他将头发与鬓角留长，穿着长袜和马裤，还留着如铅笔般又尖又细长的胡须，这胡须日后还成为他的一大特色。同样地，达利的作品也不太寻常。他的画作蕴含许多符号象征与从他天马行空的想象力中所浮现的诡谲画面。例如纤细长腿的大象、从鱼嘴跳跃而出的老虎、从蛋孵出的人类等都只是他以奇妙主题为特色的部分作品。

Although he created many masterpieces, [The Persistence of Memory](#) is considered his **seminal work**. It depicts a collection of soft pocket watches melting in the desert. Some believe it symbolizes the eventual collapse of time and **cosmic** order. But, when questioned, Dali claimed his **muse** was a piece of [camembert](#) cheese, melting in the sun. **When it comes to** clever, bold, **unconventional** art, few artists can **hold a candle to** Salvador Dali.

虽然他创作了许多杰作，《记忆的永恒》被视为是他的代表作。这幅画描绘一系列柔软的怀表在沙漠中融化。有些人相信这幅画象征着时间与宇宙秩序的最后崩毁。但当达利被问起这幅画时，他声称他的灵感来源只是来自一块在阳光下融化的卡门贝尔起司。总之，当人们谈到巧妙、大胆、非传统的艺术，没几个艺术家能比得上萨尔瓦多·达利。

— by Jamie Blackler

### Vocabulary

**zest** [zɛst] n. 热心；热情

**originality** [əˌrɪdʒəˈnæləti] n. 创造力; 独创性  
**reincarnation** [ˌriːnkɑːˈneɪʃən] n. 化身; 转世  
**catalyst** [ˈkætəlɪst] n. 催化剂; 刺激 (或促进) 因素  
**eccentric** [ɪkˈsɛntrɪk] adj. (人、行为等) 古怪的, 反常的  
**enroll** [ɪnˈroʊl] v. 参加; 入学, 注册; 入伍, 应征  
**expel** [ɪkˈspel] v. 驱逐, 赶走  
**dismissal** [dɪsˈmɪsəl] n. 免职, 开除  
**sideburns** [ˈsaɪdˌbɜːnz] n. (短) 连鬓胡子  
**bizarre** [bɪˈzɑːr] adj. 奇异的; 异乎寻常的  
**overactive** [ˌovəˈæktɪv] adj. 过于活跃的, 活跃得不正常的  
**cosmic** [ˈkɒzmɪk] adj. 宇宙的  
**muse**: [mjuz] n. 灵感 (的源泉) a source of inspiration  
**unconventional** [ˌʌnkənˈvɛnʃənəl] adj. 不依惯例的; 不符合习俗的; 非常规的

## Idiom

**aside from**: 除此之外 excluding; except for

**stand out**: 突出, 显著 to be conspicuous, distinctive, or prominent

**knee breeches** [ˈbrɪtʃɪz]: 长及膝部的马裤 trousers extending down to or just below the knee

**off the wall**: 异乎寻常的; 非凡的 very unconventional or unusual

**seminal work**: 代表作; 指针性作品 A work from which other works grow. The term usually refers to an intellectual or artistic achievement whose ideas and techniques have been adopted or responded to in later works by other people, either in the same field or in the general culture.

**when it comes to**: 当涉及...时, 谈到...时 as for something; speaking about something

**hold a candle to**: 比得上, 可以与...匹敌 [to be] equal to someone; able to measure up to someone; as good as