

THE Salvador Dali

COLLECTORS BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL®

FOR THE DALI AFICIONADO AND SERIOUS COLLECTOR

* * * Now In Our 26th Year * * *

Going to Dalí's House for the Holidays

Travel Notes with Photos by E. J. Campfield & Linda Bost

The holidays presented us with a travel opportunity -- but, where to go? I lived in Florida and Ohio years back, visited the Dali Museum in St. Petersburg of course and even the Morse collection displayed near Cleveland in the late 1970s. But despite 15 years now designing and producing art exhibits, books and publications for the Salvador Dali Gallery, I'd never seen *the heart of the Dali universe*.

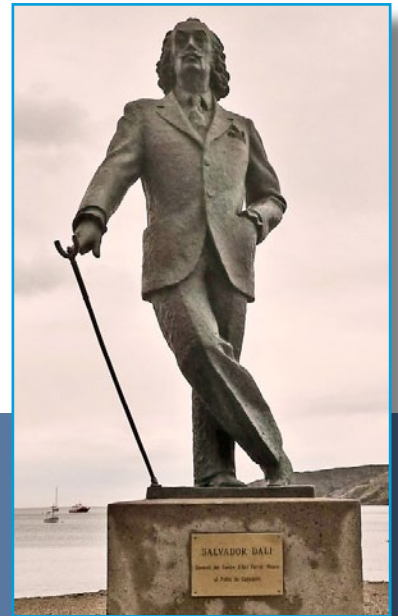
My travel mate Linda has taken in art and culture galore in Italy, France, Germany, England -- her list goes on. She had a brilliant idea: "Let's go to Dali's house for the holidays."

Cadaques, Portlligat & Casa Salvador Dali

After the long ride through winding hills we had heard so much about, we got off at the last stop. The bus terminal was deserted. Off season in Cadaques. We strolled into the empty little town, looking for Dali's statue on the beach.

Next to it, we stopped for breakfast at Bar Boia, a favorite haunt of Man Ray, Marcel Duchamp, and of course Dali. The old people in town have living memory of him. Bar Boia's proprietor Manel Vehí offered us directions to Casa Dali. Follow the coastline, the direction Dali's statue hand is pointing. Then all the way up the hill. "You can't miss it," he assured us. "It has eggs on top."

The brochures say it's an easy 15-minute walk. Not so. Allow well over a half hour, or you'll be late for your tour (we were). It's steep and strenuous, not for the faint hearted. The hill street is Carrer de la Miranda. At the top, look for the little open-door church off to your right and then follow the signs to Casa Dali. You'll recognize it easily when you get close. It has eggs on top.



Continued on page 2...

INSIDE

Italy Blocks Early
Dali Painting Sale

PAGE 4

New Dali Titles for
Your Bookshelf

PAGE 5

Amanda Lear and
Salvador Dali

PAGE 6

Dali Sighting

PAGE 6

Auction News

PAGE 7

Events & Exhibitions

PAGE 8

All web links in this PDF issue
are clickable and will open the
sites in a browser window.

Dali's House ... (Cont'd from page 1)



Casa Salvador Dali at Portlligat is a conglomeration of little fishermen's cottages on the water that Dali annexed one at a time and converted into his grand but cozy homestead. Dali lived and worked there for some 50 years. Guided tours are scheduled for small groups only. There were four people on our tour.

The house is filled with sometimes amusing, sometimes somber glimpses into the personalities of the artist and Gala. He was unscathed by clutter and chaos; she liked things tidy and sparse. They slept in separate beds.

I laughed out loud at an endearing detail in their modest little bathroom. "What's funny?" our tour guide was curious. "The towels," I pointed out the logo-bearing towels by the sink. "They took the towels from the Hotel Meurice in Paris."

Gala died at Casa Dali in June 1982. A bereaved and despondent Dali quietly transported her in his Cadillac to Pubol Castle where he announced her death to the world. "He never returned to this house," our tour guide told us.

The Studio of Dali

For me, the high point of our visit was Dali's home studio. It gave context to his work habits and prodigious output. He designed easels -- one of them quite huge -- that permitted him to work while seated, lessening fatigue and extending his work hours. Two large, unfinished paintings on wood panels there emphasized his abandonment of Casa Dali following Gala's death. "They are the only original Dali paintings remaining on exhibit in the house," our tour guide said.

Hotel Duran in Figueres

Dali was born in Figueres. In his later years, he completed his fantastic Theatre-Museum there -- a must-see for our trip. We left Figueres town center transportation terminals, assured our Hotel Duran was a leisurely walk through town. Along the way, a directional sign to the hotel pointed right. Our written notes said left. We followed the sign. Should have followed our notes. Someone should fix that sign.

The Hotel Duran is a treat. Dali was there often during the years working on his museum.

The public area walls of the hotel and adjoining restaurant are decorated with scores of Dali edition prints, photos and memorabilia of the artist. It's like a small Dali museum itself.

The Duran's restaurant is world class. Dali ate there frequently. Best of all, the Duran is just a short stroll from the Dali Theatre-Museum. "You can't miss it," the concierge assured us the next morning. "It has eggs on top."

Continued on page 3...





The Dalí Theatre-Museum

It really does have eggs on top -- lots of them. And it really is just a couple of minutes from the Hotel Duran.

How much time you budget to experience the most surreal place on earth is subjective. We heard from globe-trotting friends who spent autumn on the Costa Brava and coincidentally had been in Figueres at the Duran just two weeks before us. They devoted two full days to Dalí's museum.

We however managed it handily in a long afternoon, but it wore us out. It's a big place and just keeps going up and up. We lost track of how many levels.



Formerly the town's municipal theatre, gutted by fire during the Spanish Civil War, the structure lay derelict until acquired by Dalí and refashioned by him down to the tiniest detail. Inaugerated in September 1974, it stands now as the artist's last great work.


The collection on exhibit includes paintings, drawings, etchings and prints, sculptures, holograms, stereoscopes, photography and installation art. Many Dalí creations there are staggering in their sheer size. Some 1,500 items and artworks are on display.



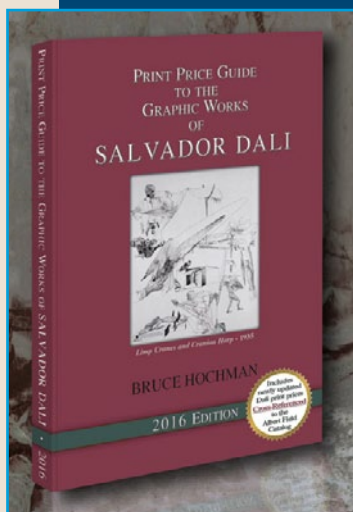
Dalí's Cadillac



Dalí's magnum opus is capped by a magnificent reticular transparent geodesic dome. Far below the dome, Dalí lies entombed under his creation, beneath the floor in the basement.

Some have commented it is a little too close to the public toilets there, and the constant flushing sounds distract from the ambiance. But how surreal. How utterly and completely Dalí. 

"The painter who reflects is always a bad painter, and I dare say also that the same is true for the philosopher who reflects too much -- of whom the prototype is that lamentable 'Thinker' by Rodin."



Order the new 2016 Salvador Dalí Print Price Guide

Only \$99.95 (+ \$9.95 S&H-U.S. CA residents add sales tax)
Call for S&H outside U.S.

Call 1-800-275-3254

Outside U.S. 949-373-2440

U.K. 0800-883-0585 · France 0800-914609 · Australia 1-800-223-873

All orders final - no returns. Order securely online at:

www.DaliGallery.com



THE
salvador Dalí
COLLECTORS BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL

VOL 26 NO 1
Jan-Feb 2016

3

How Italy Blocked the Sale of a Dalí Painting

Excerpted from *The Guardian*, 12/7/2015 by Stephanie Kirchgaessner



Portrait of the Artist's Sister

Elena Quarestani was 18 when she met Salvador Dalí at his suite in Le Meurice hotel in Paris in the 1970s. Her family owned one of the Spanish surrealist's early works -- *Portrait of the Artist's Sister* -- and she was hoping he might embellish the painting with some surrealist flair to make it closer to his later work.

"It was an amazing situation. He had a TV set but it was upside down," Quarestani said recently. The Italian, who now runs a not-for-profit organisation in Milan that is focused on the visual arts, remembered the artist wearing a red velvet robe and being surrounded by young acolytes. Dalí did not agree to alter the painting in the end, probably because she couldn't meet his asking price, she recalled.

More than three decades later, the happy memory of her brief encounter with one of the most recognised artists of the 20th century has been overshadowed by a far less glamorous affair: a legal fight that has been going on for years with the Italian government, which has prevented Quarestani from selling the painting.

Under rules that were first established in 1909, local officials in Milan have claimed that the portrait should be protected as a piece of Italian cultural heritage. That assessment has given

the government the right to block an attempt by Christie's, the auction house, to sell the painting for Quarestani. It also blocked an offer by the Dalí Foundation to acquire the work, which is valued below £500,000.

"Drawing is the honesty of the art. There is no possibility of cheating. It is either good or bad."



THE
Salvador Dalí
COLLECTORS BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL

VOL 26 NO 1
Jan-Feb 2016

4


"The reasoning was absolutely crazy," Quarestani said. The government's rationale, according to her, was that the portrait was "very beautiful," that it was rare for a work by Dalí to be held in a collection in Italy, and that the portrait appeared to be inspired by an Italian art movement called Valori Plastici -- an opinion that Quarestani thinks is dubious.

Quarestani is not giving up the fight, mostly as a matter of principle. With her lawyer, Giuseppe Calabi, who also works with major auction houses, Quarestani is trying to bring the issue before the European court of justice, in order to determine whether Italy is defying EU rules that guarantee the free circulation of goods.

"Dalí was not an Italian painter. This is not our patrimony," Quarestani said. "I think I should have the right to sell this painting wherever I want."

As it turns out, Sotheby's, Christie's and a host of other auction houses and art traders, strongly agree. They are backing a controversial lobbying push in Italy to change what they see as draconian and "unjustified" rules that have hindered the Italian art market. Under current rules, a piece of art that is in Italy and more than 50 years old must be approved for sale and export by local Italian art authorities if the artist is dead. If the work is deemed to be a matter of cultural interest, its sale can be blocked. Unlike other EU countries, the value of the work or object is irrelevant.

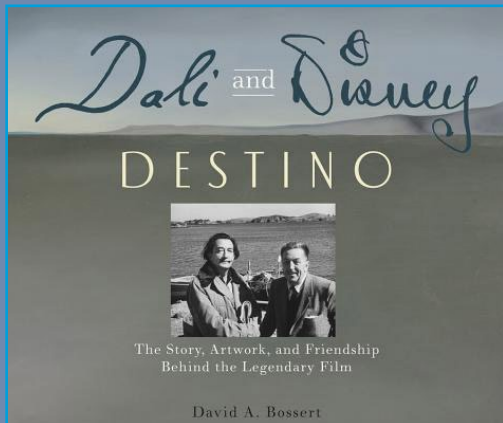
The auction houses sought to convince the government that only works that are older than 100 years ought to require government approval to be exported. Critically, that would allow works that are currently in Italy that were produced after 1915 to evade any review.

The auction houses' plan has largely been endorsed by the government of Matteo Renzi, with one big exception. It wants to set the age limit for artwork at 70 years. That means people who own art in Italy that was produced after 1946 would not have to seek approval for sales outside the country once the proposal is passed, which is expected to happen next year. 

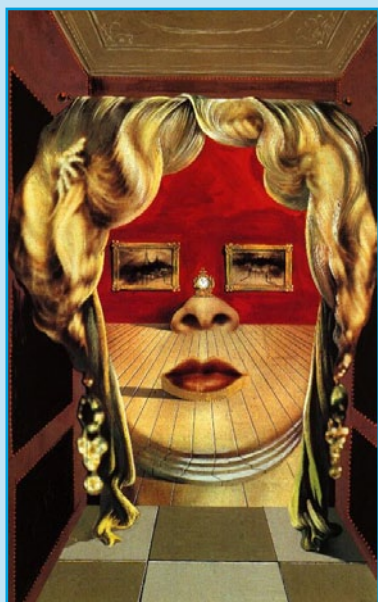
Two New Titles for Your Dali Bookshelf

Nothing beats curling up by your fireplace with a good Salvador Dali book on a cold winter's night. Here are two new ones, worth a look and maybe adding to your Dali library. Both are available via Amazon.com in hardcover editions.

The 208-page Disney Editions October 2015 release of David A. Bossert's *Dali & Disney: Destino: The Story, Artwork and Friendship Behind the Legendary Film* showcases 150 pieces of art created by Dali in partnership with Disney artist John Hench while storyboarding the original *Destino* film project. Bossert currently serves as creative director & head of special projects at Walt Disney Animation Studios.



The 104-page Princeton University Press 150th anniversary edition of Lewis Carroll's *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, released September 2015, has all 13 of Dali's 1969 color illustrations previously available only as a large limited edition. Essays also by Lewis Carroll expert Mark Burstein on Dali's connections to the author and by Dali's friend Thomas Banchoff on the mathematical nature of Wonderland and as an undercurrent of Dali's work. Available in hardcover and Kindle editions.



Classic Design: Dali Lips Sofa

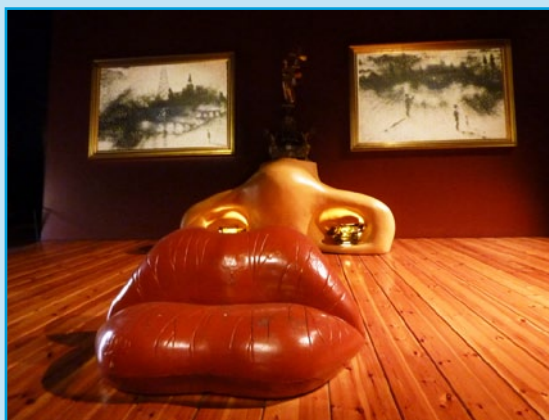
Excerpted from *The Financial Times*, 11/27/2015 by Lily Le Brun

When Hollywood actress Mae West was at the height of her fame, Salvador Dalí made her the focus of a succession of surrealist works. One of these, from 1934-35, was a collage based on a close-up portrait he had found in a magazine. *Mae West's Face Which May Be Used as a Surrealistic Apartment* showed the actress as a domestic interior: a pair of silk curtains frame the room like hair, two pictures of blue eyes hang above a snub nose where a fireplace would be, with a carriage clock perched on its tip to suggest a mantelpiece. In the centre of the room is a sofa, shaped like the actress's distinctive rosebud lips.

Dalí's whimsical collage became reality a few years later. Edward James, the British collector and patron, was helping to turn Monkton House in West Sussex into a surrealist fantasy, replete with a purple exterior, wolfhound print carpet and patterned, padded walls. He commissioned Dalí to design a sofa based on West's lips.

At the time, only five of these sofas were made, all upholstered in red lipstick-coloured satin. But Dalí continued to fill notebooks with sketches of fantastic furniture and in 1972 collaborated with Barcelona Design's Oscar Tusquets to create another sofa for a room devoted to Mae West at the Dalí Museum in Figueres, Spain.

Thirty years later the technology was developed to replicate the sofa in polyethylene, and Dali lips sofas, complete with the original skin-like wrinkles and "Dali" signature on the bottom lip, went into production. Today Barcelona Design sells these replicas for 1,741 Euros.



The Lips Sofa in the Mae West room at the Salvador Dalí Theatre-Museum in Figueres, Spain.

"Gala would often reproach me for putting such great effort into the execution of insignificant and miserably remunerated orders. I would answer that in as much as I was a genius it was a veritable miracle that I got any orders at all."



THE
Salvador Dali
COLLECTORS BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL

VOL 26 NO 1
Jan-Feb 2016

5

"She Asked Me to Marry Dali, But I Refused."

Excerpted from *Voici.Fr*, 7/24/2015 by Anthony Martin



In the 1960s, actress and model Amanda Lear met Salvador Dalí and immediately succumbed to his charm. The feeling was mutual she told *Vanity Fair* in a recent interview.


"I fell in love with this man who recited to me the poetry of Garcia Lorca and compared me to the Melancholia," she says. "He was a lovely gentleman, invited me to tea in his suite at the Meurice Hotel where he was hanging around with the longhaired band of the musical *Hair* who he regarded as angels of rebirth."

After a few days with the artist, Lear prepared for the imminent arrival of his wife, Gala. "This is not an easy woman," Dalí warned her. "You'll have to look good. Put some violet on your eyes, put on a miniskirt."

As if going to an interview or a casting call, Amanda met the infamous Gala. Initially it did not go very well. "She coughed a lot,

could not stand smoke. She threw the windows open wide, screaming that it was making everyone feel sick," says Lear. Over time though, Gala eventually appreciated this tall, blonde grasshopper who made her and Dalí laugh.

"Gala became a little bit like my grandmother," says Lear. "She worried about my heartaches, bought me plane tickets, and in some moments even confided in me intimately about 50 years of life with Dalí." But as her career took off, Lear saw Dalí and Gala less and less.

"Gala felt her end approaching," says Lear. "She asked me to swear on the Virgin of Kazan that I would marry Dalí after she was gone. But I refused. I had a career to build and a life to lead." Gala died in June 1982, leaving behind a terribly sad Dalí who missed Amanda Lear all the more. 

"He is really mad!
For as long as I could
remember I had
savored that phrase
with delight."



THE
Salvador Dalí
COLLECTORS BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL

VOL 26 NO 1
Jan-Feb 2016

6

Dalí Sighting: Famed Retailer Ira Neimark


Excerpted from *Women's Wear Daily*, 12/9/2015 by David Moin

Former Bergdorf Goodman CEO Ira Neimark tells of getting the surprise of this life back in 1939 when he was a doorboy at Bonwit Teller department store on Fifth Ave. in New York. The store was among the most innovative in the country at the time and had asked Salvador Dalí to create window displays.

One day, Dalí pulled up in a cab and noticed that one of his displays was not quite as he had created it. Featured was a milk-lined bathtub with a mannequin in the tub wearing a similar milk. But a customer earlier noticed the mannequin and decided to buy the milk, so a salesperson took the milk from the mannequin, sold it, and replaced it with another that had not been of Dalí's choosing.



That infuriated the artist -- the thought that someone would tamper with his vision. He stormed into the store, went straight to the display and shoved the bathtub right out through the plate glass window.

"All of a sudden I heard this big smash," recalled Neimark, who was stationed at the front door at the time. "It was amazing. People came running to see what happened. If I remember correctly, water came pouring out of the tub." 

AUCTION NEWS



Impression de Bouguereau (top left)
Oil & acrylic and nails on canvas, 1960
Estimated: \$300,000 - \$500,000
Sold: \$365,000 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

Allegorie de Sole (top right)
Gouache, watercolor, pen & ink, collage on board, 1950
Estimated: 250,000 - \$350,000
Sold: \$665,000 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

Ulysse Traverse Invisible Piazza Feaci (2nd left)
Oil, gouache, watercolor, black ink on paper, 1970
Estimated: \$120,000 - \$180,000
Sold: \$197,000 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

The Idolatress (2nd right)
Pen and ink on paper, 1943
Estimated: \$30,000 - \$50,000
Sold: \$65,000 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

Biblia Sacra: Saint Jean le Baptiste (3rd left)
Watercolor, gouache, sanguine on paper, 1964
Estimated: \$20,000 - \$30,000
Sold: \$47,500 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

Vision de l'Age Atomique (3rd right)
Watercolor and ink on paper, 1948
Estimated: \$200,000 - \$300,000
Sold: \$245,000 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

Biblia Sacra: Nabuchodonosor (4th right)
Gouache, gold paint, black ink on paper, 1964
Estimated: \$70,000 - \$100,000
Sold: \$100,000 at Christie's, New York
November 13, 2015

La Sagesse de Salomon (bottom left)
Pen & ink on paper, 1942
Estimated: \$8,000 - \$12,000
Sold: \$11,250 at Sotheby's, New York
December 7, 2015

Divine Comedy: La Prodigalite (bottom right)
Gouache, watercolor, pen & ink, 1951
Estimated: \$44,000 - \$65,000
Sold: \$55,000 at Sotheby's, Paris
December 10, 2015



Cover illustration for
American Fabrics
Fall 1950



THE
Salvador Dali
COLLECTORS BI-MONTHLY JOURNAL

VOL 26 NO 1
Jan-Feb 2016

7

EVENTS & EXHIBITIONS



The Salvador Dali Museum

One Dali Blvd., St. Petersburg, Florida 33701

Disney & Dali: Architects of the Imagination -- January 23 - June 12, 2016

Disney and Dali collaborated on an animated short called *Destino*. Co-sponsored by the Walt Disney Family Museum, this exhibit displays original paintings, sketches, film and photos. Telephone 727-823-3767 or for details online visit <http://thedali.org/exhibit/disney-dali-architects-imagination>



Judith & Norman Alix Art Gallery

147 Lochiel Street, Sarnia, Ontario N7T 0B4, Canada

Beaverbrook Masterworks: Santiago El Grande -- Through February 7, 2016

Dali's monumental *Santiago El Grande* is considered one of his most accomplished paintings. More than four meters high, the work is both majestic and unsettling. See it up close. Telephone 519-336-8127 or for details online visit <http://masterworksatjnaag.ca/exhibition>



Hirshhorn Museum and Sculpture Garden

Smithsonian Institution, 700 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20560

Marvelous Objects: Surrealist Sculpture - Paris to New York -- Through February 15, 2016

More than 100 Surrealist sculpture works from the 1920s - 1950s. Includes Dali's *Lobster Telephone* (1938) and *Venus de Milo with Drawers* (1936/64). Telephone 202-633-1000 or for complete info online visit <http://hirshhorn.si.edu/collection/marvelous-objects/#collection=marvelous-objects>



The Menil Collection

1533 Sul Ross St., Houston, Texas 77006

Secret of the Hanging Egg: Dali at the Menil -- Through June 19, 2016

On loan from the Dalí Museum in St. Petersburg, Dali's *Eggs on the Plate without the Plate* (1932) anchors this exhibit of 30 Surrealist works. Telephone 713-525-9400 or for complete info online visit <https://www.menil.org/exhibitions/241-the-secret-of-the-hanging-egg-salvador-dali-at-the-menil>



The Susquehanna Art Museum, Lobby Gallery

1401 North 3rd St., Harrisburg, PA 17102

Salvador Dali, Les Dinners de Gala -- Through February 14, 2016

The 12 lithographs that illustrated Dali's famed 1973 surreal cookbook are displayed. Telephone 717-233-8668 or for complete info online visit <http://www.sqart.org/galleries/dali>



The British Library, Sir John Ritblat Treasures Gallery

96 Euston Road, London NW1 2DB, U.K.

Imagining Don Quixote -- January 19 - May 22, 2016

Marking the 400th anniversary of Cervantes death. Exhibit includes *Life & Achievements of the Renowned Don Quixote de la Mancha* (Abbeville Press, 1946 First Edition) and *Don Quijote de la Mancha* (Planeta, 2004). Both have 38 gorgeous Don Q. illustrations Dali completed in 1945. Telephone +44 (0)1937 546060 or for info online visit <http://www.bl.uk>