



FUNDACIÓ
GALA-SALVADOR DALÍ

Cat. no. OE 2

Babaouo

Babaouo

Unique Original Work



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Date:	1932
Technique:	Wooden box, sheets of painted glass and light source
Dimensions:	25 x 26,5 x 35 cm
Location:	Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí, Figueres



Description

It is very likely that Dalí conceived this work as a promotional object to publicize his book *Babaouo : scénario inédit, précédé d'un abrégé d'une histoire critique du cinéma, et suivi de Guillaume Tell, ballet portugais*, published in 1932 by Éditions des Cahiers Libres in Paris. This publication presents a script by Dalí for a Surrealist film, which was not in fact made at the time. The object consists of a wooden box with seven panes of glass painted by the artist in its interior, placed one behind the other and lit from the back. The iconography is related to certain sequences of the film project, featuring cyclists with large stones or breads on their head. The result is a painting conceived as a three-dimensional object, with remarkable effects of perspective and depth, a creation that can be related to the Optical Theatre system of animated moving pictures, which fascinated Dalí as a boy.

Observations

For reasons of preventive conservation, in 2007 the original glass panes were replaced by reproductions on PMMA to avoid the risk of breakage.

Exhibitions

- 1964, Paris, Galerie Charpentier, *Le Surréalisme : sources, histoire, affinités*, 13/04/1964 - 30/09/1964, cat. no. 88
- 1979, Paris, Centre Georges Pompidou, Musée National d'Art Moderne, *Salvador Dalí: rétrospective, 1920-1980*, 18/12/1979 - 21/04/1980, cat. no. 177
- 1980, London, The Tate Gallery, *Salvador Dalí*, 14/05/1980 - 29/06/1980, cat. no. 125
- 1982, Tokyo, Isetan Museum of Art, *Rétrospective Salvador Dalí 1982*, 28/02/1982 - 06/04/1982, cat. no. 72
- 1982, Osaka, Daimaru Art Museum, *Rétrospective Salvador Dalí 1982*, 22/04/1982 - 05/05/1982, cat. no. 72
- 1982, Kitakyushu, Kitakyushu Municipal Museum of Art, *Rétrospective Salvador Dalí 1982*, 08/05/1982 - 06/06/1982, cat. no. 72
- 1982, Hiroshima, Hiroshima Prefectural Museum of Art, *Rétrospective Salvador Dalí 1982*, 11/06/1982 - 11/07/1982, cat. no. 72
- 1987, Kobe, The Hyogo Prefectural Museum of Modern Art, *Homage to Catalonia - Barcelona art city*, 11/04/1987 - 17/05/1987, cat. no. 119
- 1989, Stuttgart, Staatsgalerie, *Salvador Dalí, 1904-1989*, 13/05/1989 - 23/07/1989, cat. no. 89
- 1989, Zürich, Kunsthaus, *Salvador Dalí, 1904-1989*, 18/08/1989 - 22/10/1989, cat. no. 89
- 1989, Humlebaek, Louisiana Museum of Modern Art, *Salvador Dalí*, 16/12/1989 - 11/03/1990, cat. no. 76
- 1990, Montréal, Musée des Beaux-Arts, *Salvador Dalí*, 27/04/1990 - 29/07/1990, cat. no. 20
- 2004, Barcelona, CaixaForum, *Dalí. Cultura de masses*, 05/02/2004 - 23/05/2004, cat. no. 120
- 2004, Madrid, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, *Dalí. Cultura de masas*, 15/06/2004 - 30/08/2004, cat. no. 120
- 2004, St. Petersburg (Florida), Salvador Dalí Museum, *Dalí. Mass Culture*, 01/08/2004 - 30/01/2005, cat. no. 120
- 2005, Rotterdam, Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen, *It's all Dalí*, 05/03/2005 - 12/06/2005, no reference
- 2007, London, Tate Modern, *Dalí & Film*, 01/06/2007 - 09/09/2007, cat. no. 72
- 2007, Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Museum of Art, *Dalí & Film*, 14/10/2007 - 06/01/2008, cat. no. 72
- 2008, St. Petersburg, Salvador Dalí Museum, *Dalí & Film*, 01/02/2008 - 01/06/2008, cat. no. 72
- 2008, New York, The Museum of Modern Art, *Dalí & Film*, 29/06/2008 - 15/09/2008, cat. no. 72
- 2012, Paris, Centre Pompidou, *Dalí*, 21/11/2012 - 25/03/2013, no reference
- 2013, Madrid, Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, *Dalí. Todas las sugerencias poéticas y todas las posibilidades plásticas*, 27/04/2013 - 02/09/2013, no reference



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- David Gascoyne, *A short survey of surrealism*, Cobden-Sanderson, [Londres], 1935, p. 122
- *Le Surréalisme : sources, histoire, affinités*, Galerie Charpentier, Paris, 1964, p. [31]
- *Salvador Dalí*, The Tate Gallery, London, 1980, p. 27
- *Salvador Dalí: retrospektive, 1920-1980*, Prestel, München, 1980, p. 234, ill.
- Josep Pla, *Salvador Dalí (il.)*, *Obres de museu*, DASA, Figueres, 1981, p. 53, ill.
- Ignacio Gómez de Liaño, *Dalí*, Polígrafa, Barcelona, 1982, pp. [65], [125], fig. 49
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- Robert Descharnes, *Dalí : la obra y el hombre*, Tusquets, Edita, Barcelona, Lausanne, 1984, p. 121, ill.
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- *Homage to Catalonia - Barcelona art city*, Committee of exhibition (Homage to Catalonia-Barcelona art city), [S.I.], 1987, pp. 189, 239, ill.
- Robert Descharnes, *Salvador Dalí : the work, the man*, Henry N. Abrams, New York, 1989, p. 121, ill.
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- Ignacio Gómez de Liaño, *Dalí*, Albin Michel, Paris, 1990, pp. [65], [125], fig. 49
- *Dalí, el pa*, Tusquets, Barcelona, 1993, p. 36, ill.
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Related works



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The Little Theatre

1934

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