



# The Secret Life of Portlligat

**SALVADOR DALÍ'S HOUSE**

A DOCUMENTARY PRODUCED BY

**Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí**

A FILM BY

**David Pujol**

**Salvador Dalí   Montse Aguer   Jordi Artigas**

SCRIPT

**Montse Aguer   David Pujol**

PHOTOGRAPHY

**Ivan Carrero**

EDITOR

**Jordi Muñoz Salló**

DOCUMENTALISTS

**Rosa Ma<sup>a</sup> Maurell   Lucia Moni**

FILMED BY

**DocDocFilms**



**FUNDACIÓ  
GALA-SALVADOR DALÍ**





The house that Salvador Dalí built, the only lasting home and studio he ever had, provides a narrative thread for the story of his life and work, a biography and a creative *oeuvre* that span the greater part of the twentieth century. This documentary sheds new light on the painter's intimate and abiding connection with the landscape of Cadaqués, Portlligat and Cap de Creus, a landscape in which he immersed himself, and one that shaped and determined him. At the same time it explores lesser-known aspects of his personal life, in particular the relationships with his father and his sister – and first model – Anna Maria: relationships that in turn help us to understand key elements of his work. To know the house-cum-studio at Portlligat is to deeply understand Salvador Dalí.



## *The Secret Life of Portlligat* by the writers



### David Pujol, director and scriptwriter

The Dalí universe represents a great challenge, and this film was also faced with the added challenge of bearing witness to a landscape, a wild and constantly changing landscape with a great personality, which shies away from, but which it was very important to capture. Montse Aguer made very clear to me, as we were writing the script together, the importance of the symbiosis between the landscape of Cap de Creus and the universe of Salvador Dalí, not only in artistic terms but also on a mystical level, because – as is well known – Dalí always turned for physical and spiritual shelter to this special corner of the world.

I wanted to show Dalí in his studio. The painter in his *sanctum sanctorum*. The man in his habitat. And Gala. And a biography: full, as all biographies are, of nuances and radical breaks. From family ruptures to ruptures as bloody and devastating as wars. I wanted to capture the constant to-and-fro between everyday life and exile, between interior and exterior, between intimacy and extraversion.

When you visit the house there is a strange feeling that he is present all the while: Dalí still lives there, he accompanies you through the studio, the patios, the gardens and the narrow corridors that surround the house ... you sense Dalí's presence because his ideas are so powerful, so magical. I have tried to convey this presence in the documentary, combining archive footage of Dalí wandering around the house with images we have shot to create an almost esoteric feeling, to enable the viewers to really understand that if they decide to visit the only house Salvador Dalí ever owned, he will be there to receive them and act as their host.

### Montse Aguer, Director of the Dalí Museums

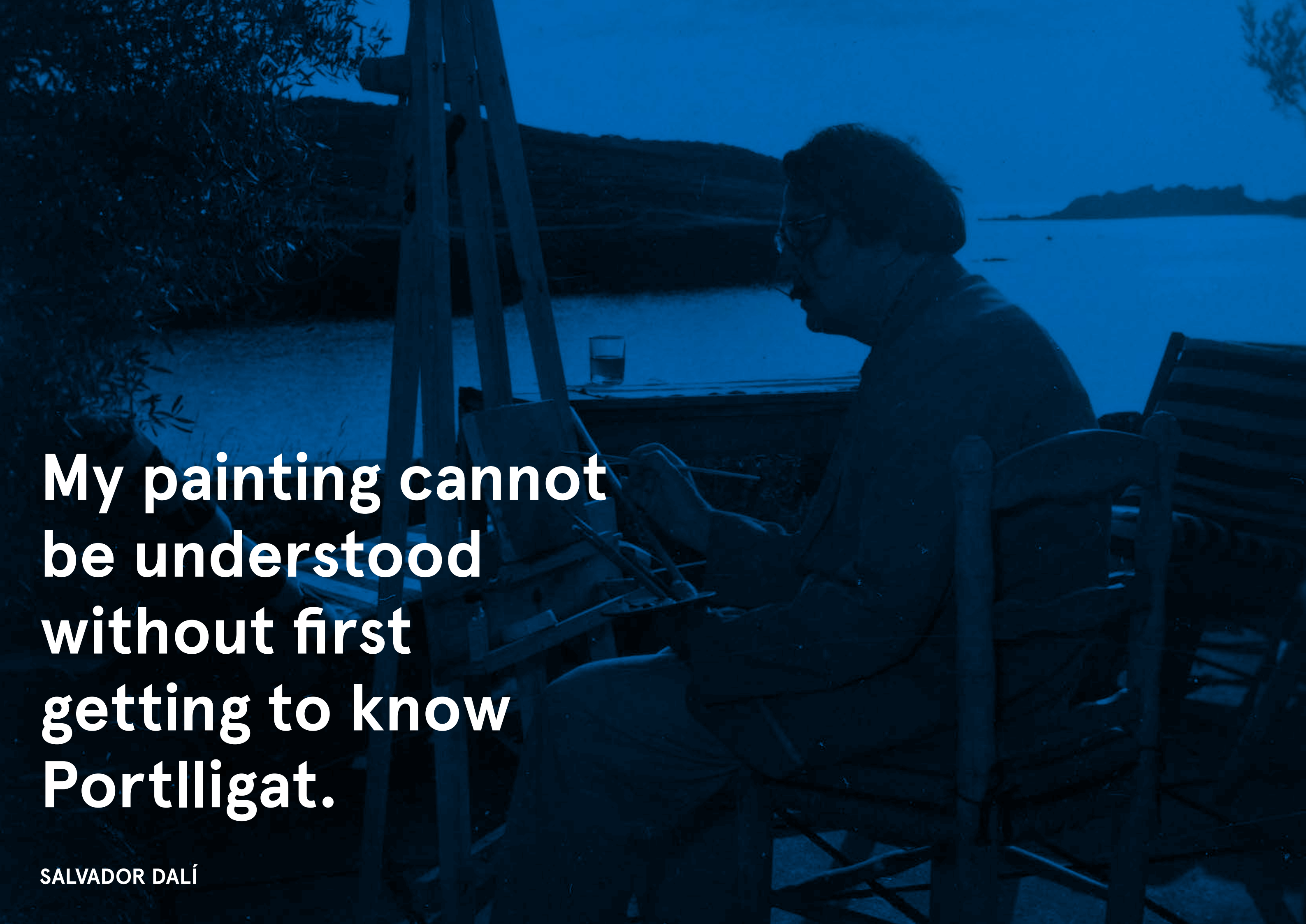
The three Dalí sites – the Dalí Theatre-Museum in Figueres, the house at Portlligat, and Púbol Castle, which make up the Dali triangle – propose to take us on a trip through the life and work of Salvador Dalí, a journey presented in three documentaries, in which the protagonists of story are Dalí himself and a wealth of previously little-known or even unknown documentation and information.

With the documentary about the Portlligat house, the second part of our trilogy\*, our aim is to make better known the only real home and studio that Salvador Dalí ever had. This house-cum-studio was the refuge of the artist and Gala, at the very heart of the only landscape in which it truly belonged: that of Portlligat, Cadaqués and Cap de Creus. A landscape that conditioned and stimulated the painter, I would even dare to say it gave him his identity. Dalí identified with it completely.

The house, every inch of which is studio, is the key to understanding Dalí's cosmogony. This is where he experimented, and also the sacred place where he practised every day, obsessively, the ceremony of the art. Art: Dalí's vital choice, and his passion.

\* The first documentary, produced in 2015, is entitled *Dalí's Last Masterpiece*





**My painting cannot  
be understood  
without first  
getting to know  
Portlligat.**

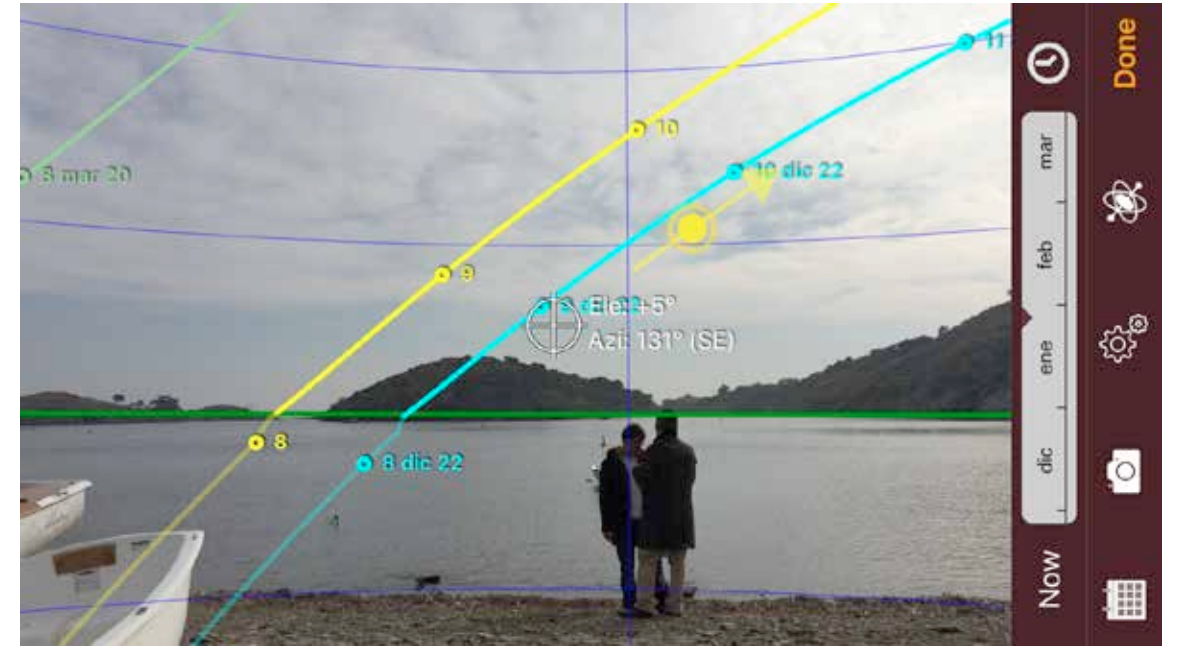
SALVADOR DALÍ



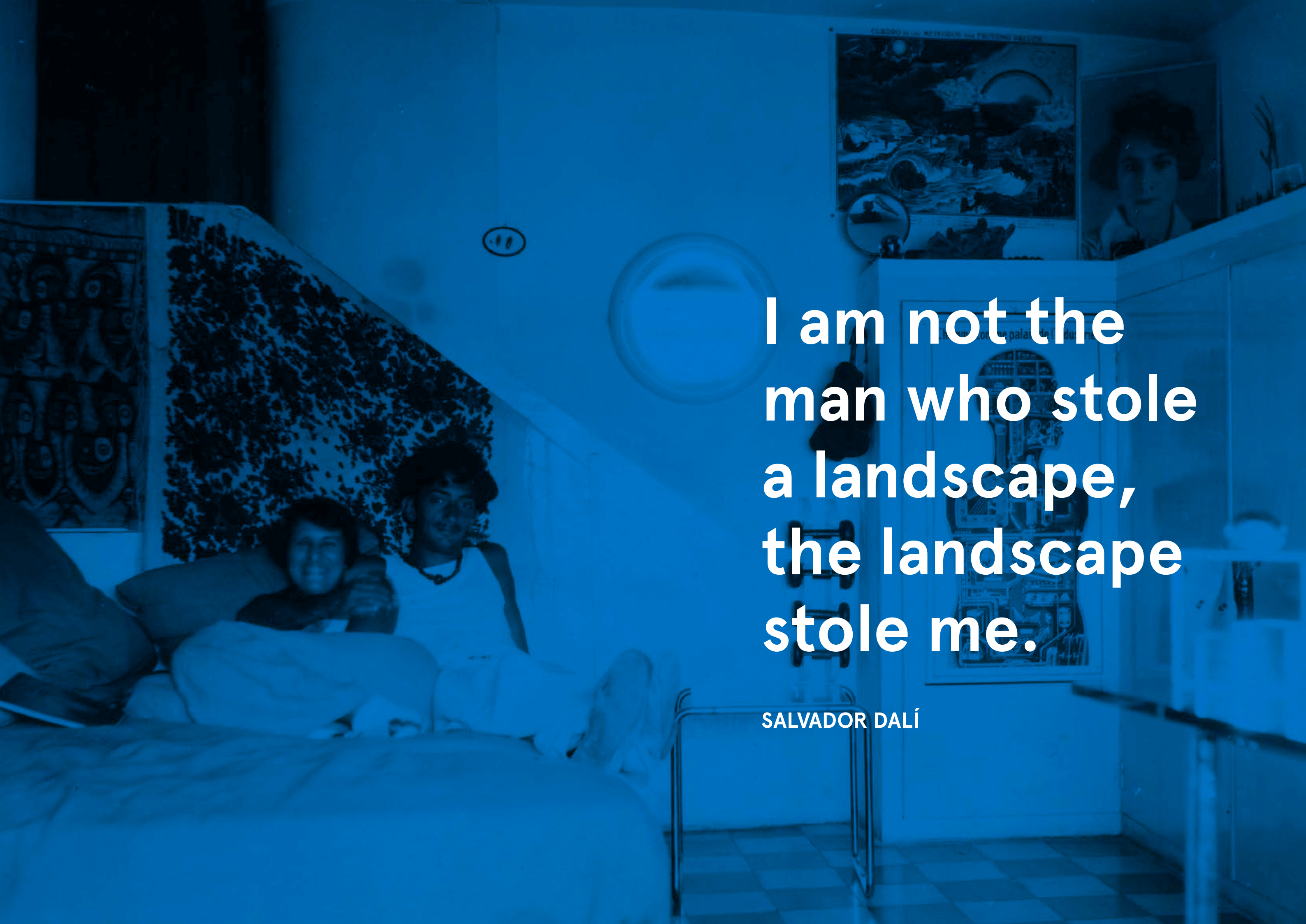
### Purpose

Following on from the documentary *Dalí's Last Masterpiece*, which took us inside the enigmas of the artist's last great work, his Theatre-Museum in Figueres, this second part of the trilogy invites us to discover Dalí's life and work in relation to his house at Portlligat, the only studio of his own he ever had, and its exceptional setting in a landscape that inspired and influenced him profoundly. Here again it is Salvador Dalí himself who guides us on this journey into a very particular geography. This film is aimed at all audiences, from the general public to those who want to delve more deeply into little-known aspects of the artist's life.









I am not the  
man who stole  
a landscape,  
the landscape  
stole me.

SALVADOR DALÍ



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[www.salvador-dali.org/ca/dali/projectes-audiovisuals/la-vida-secreta-de-portlligat-la-casa-de-salvador-dali](http://www.salvador-dali.org/ca/dali/projectes-audiovisuals/la-vida-secreta-de-portlligat-la-casa-de-salvador-dali)