

Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Explore the distorted reality of *Dalí: Mind of a Genius* – *The Exhibition at ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands*

*Unprecedented collection of Dali artworks hits the
shores of Singapore*

Singapore (21 April 2011) Come May 14, visitors to the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands will enter the surreal mind of Salvador Dalí, one of the 20th century's best-known artists. *Dalí: Mind of a Genius - The Exhibition* will display over 250 Dalí artworks, making this the first time ever that such a large number of his masterpieces are shown within a single venue in Singapore.

Salvador Dalí, the most iconic figure of the surrealist movement, explored a wide range of artistic expressions ranging from paintings, sculptures, literature, cinema to decorative art, fashion, furniture, jewelry and last but not least advertising. Visitors to the exhibition will be immersed in three themed areas – Femininity and Sensuality, Religion and Mythology, Dreams and Fantasy – that will transfer them to a place where the conscious and subconscious mind become intertwined, with time becoming a soft, fluid medium.

“Femininity and Sensuality” features Dalí artworks depicting the female form and its sensuality. Important pieces include the sculpture of *Women Aflame* that unites two of Dalí's obsessions: A female form with drawers set aflame. Other highlights include *Space Venus* and *Anthropomorphic Cabinet*.

“Religion and Mythology” reflects Dalí's tempestuous and ambiguous relationship with the Church. Artworks found in this gallery include renowned sculptures such as the *Snail and the Angel*, *Adam and Eve*, and *Vision of the Angel*.

“Dreams and Fantasy” embodies Dalí's enduring fascination with the subconscious mind as the true canvas for expression of personality. This comes into vivid focus through sculptural works such as *Persistence of Memory* and *Dance of Time I*. Other works that refer to a life lived through dreams and distorted visions of reality include the alluring *Alice in Wonderland* and *Spellbound*, a huge 11 meter by 5 meter visually spectacular 1945 painting borne from Dalí's collaboration with Alfred Hitchcock.

In order to highlight the creativeness of Dalí across different mediums, the exhibition will also highlight bronze sculptures, rare graphics, furniture and gold jewelry. A dedicated space will showcase the collaboration between Dalí and Crystal Daum, the crystal maker. The use of glass offered Dalí the perfect medium for the expression of metamorphoses which communicated his surrealistic perception of reality. Pieces under this realm include the *Venus with Drawers*. An additional gallery will showcase gold objects designed by Dalí which include the *Dalí tortoise charm* and *Dalí Flower*. A dedicated space will showcase Dalí's surrealistic transformations in furniture, displaying pieces such as the *Mae West Lips Sofa*, *Vis-à-vis Sofa* and *Bracelli Lamp*.

Mr. Tom Zaller, Director, ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands, said, "*Dalí: Mind of a Genius* showcases the best works of Salvador Dalí under one roof. Visitors to the exhibition will be transported into the eccentric mind of Dalí, and discover his version of reality and his interpretation of art. The ArtScience Museum explores Dalí's inspiration and creative processes, and is the perfect venue for an exhibition showcasing the art of such a genius and his infinite innovations. Visitors will leave the exhibition spellbound and captivated, viewing the world from a whole new perspective."

Mr. Benjamin Levi, President of the Stratton Foundation and curator of the exhibition, said, "Being an avid collector of Dalí's work, I am very proud to be able to present Dalí's genius to the world. By uniting the best of Dalí works, visitors to the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands will have a better appreciation of the man and his life, the way I knew him personally."

Dalí: Mind of a Genius - The Exhibition will run from 14 May 2011 until 30 October 2011. The Stratton Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of culture and the arts. The Stratton Foundation created and manages The Dalí Universe Exhibition which is the only collection of its kind in the world, featuring the largest collection of Dalí sculpture, rare hand signed graphics illustrating the great themes of literature, and many other famous artworks. *Dalí: Mind of a Genius - The Exhibition* was derived from this collection.

Boasting an iconic lotus-inspired design, the world's first ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is poised to be the heart of the growing ArtScience movement. The ArtScience Museum is the premier venue for major international touring exhibitions from the most renowned collections in the world. Featuring 21 gallery spaces, totaling 50,000 square feet, the latest addition to Marina Bay Sands delivers an impressive array of exhibits that embrace a spectrum of influences from art and science, media and technology, to design and architecture.

About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a casino, Paiza Club for premium players and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment acts, including the resident performance “The Lion King”. Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com.

About the Stratton Foundation

The Stratton Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to the promotion of culture and the arts. The President of the Stratton Foundation, Beniamino Levi, personally knew Salvador Dalí – and it was Dalí himself who suggested to Mr. Levi the setting up of museums and exhibitions around the world dedicated to his artistic genius. The exhibition is organized in conjunction with The Dalí Universe one of the largest collections of Dalí artworks.

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For Images

<https://www.yousendit.com/download/VnBvK3BONEh5Ukh2Wmc9PQ>

APPENDIX: TOP THINGS YOU MUST SEE

Dance Of Time I

Year: Conceived in 1979, first cast in 1984

Material: Bronze

Dalí's famous representations of melted clocks are iconic. These liquefying soft clocks represent fleeting time. The notion of time passing, fading beauty, vanishing youth and unavoidable mortality has been crystallized in his melted clocks.



Persistence Of Memory

Year: Conceived and first cast in 1980

Material: Bronze

This sculpture is named after Dalí's famous painting *Persistence of Memory* (1931) found in the Museum of Modern Art, New York. It is a simple figure consisting of a limp clock draped over the branch of a dead tree. The unexpected softness of the clock also represents that speed of time, while precise in scientific use, is widely variable in human perception.



Alice In Wonderland

Year: Conceived in 1977, first cast in 1984

Material: Bronze

Like Alice in the story of *Alice in Wonderland*, Dalí travelled a long and arduous road through the land of dreams. Dalí was drawn to both the incredible story and the extravagant characters in this fairytale. Alice is one of Dalí's favorite images and is an ideal representation of Surrealism.



Woman Aflame

Year: Conceived and first cast in 1980

Material: Bronze

Woman Aflame is one of Dalí's most famous sculptures. Dalí mixes different symbols together and creates improbable combinations: drawers coming out of a woman's body suddenly set on fire. His art blurs the boundaries between dream and reality.



Spellbound

Year: 1945

Technique: Oil on canvas

This large 11 meters by 5 meters painting is the result of a unique collaboration between Alfred Hitchcock and Dalí. Hitchcock's Oscar-winning movie, *Spellbound* (1945) starred two of Hollywood's biggest names, Ingrid Bergman and Gregory Peck, and was one of the very first films to present Freudian psychoanalysis.

Alfred Hitchcock commissioned Dalí to create a film sequence which is now an integral part of Hollywood history. *Spellbound* was used as the background to the filming of the dream sequence.

Dalí vividly captured the illusory nature of the subconscious state where reality is blurred and the mind is animated with suppressed thoughts and hidden codes.



Mae West Lips Sofa

Year: 1974

Material: Various materials

To create this sofa, Dalí was inspired by the actress Mae West's sensual lips. The *Mae West Lips Sofa* illustrates one of Dalí's enduring motifs to see images within objects. The first *Mae West Lips Sofa* was constructed in Paris in 1936, under Dalí's supervision, based on his original sketch. The fabric was in a 'shocking pink' textile from the Italian fashion designer Elsa Schiapparelli.



Venus with Drawers

Created for Crystal Daum

Year: 1988

Material: glass paste, blue and silver metal

The Venus with Drawers is a fascinating example of Dalí's collaboration with the French company Crystal Daum. Here Dalí uses the famous sculpture of Milo Venus, now in the Louvre Museum, Paris as the central shape of his sculpture. He adds to its sensual forms a series of drawers, one of his recurrent symbol, representing hidden secrets.



Montre Molle

Created for Crystal Daum

Year: 1988

Material: glass paste, cobalt blue and gold

Daum Glass Sculptures represent the artistic collaboration between Dalí and the French Nancy-based Daum Cristallerie, resulting in a fascinating and original collection of ethereal glass sculptures. Many pieces were inspired by abandoned objects and debris washed up by the sea.

Others instead derive from his most treasured works such as "Montre Molle" based on the painting "The Persistence of Memory".

Soft watches and others like it allow you to view Dalí's genius through the translucence of sculptures modeled from coloured glass.



Space Elephant

Year: Conceived and first cast in 1980

Material: Bronze

Dalí created the image of an elephant carrying an obelisk, a symbol of technological progress in the modern world. The almost invisible spindle-like legs emphasizes the contrast between robustness and fragility, weight and lightness. This phantasmagoric creature seems to be coming out from a dream.



Snail And The Angel

Year: Conceived in 1977, first cast in 1984

Material: Bronze

For this sculpture, Dalí brings together an angel and a giant snail. By creating this fantastic sculpture, he transports us into another universe where reality and dreams are inseparable. The snail, which is very slow in its movements, has been given wings and is now fluidly moving.

Angels are a lyrical expression of Dalí's world of dreams and fantasy. From the end of the 1940s, when the artist began weaving strong religious themes into his artworks, angels appeared frequently in his work.



Space Venus

Year: Conceived in 1977, first cast in 1984

Material: Bronze

This sculpture represents a classic marble female torso, and adds four Dalínian elements: a soft clock, an egg, two ants and a separation of the body into two parts.

The clock is draped over the neck to give us two opposing messages: that beauty of the flesh is temporary and will vanish, while beauty of art is timeless and eternal. The ants are reminders of human mortality and impermanence, while in the centre, the egg is a positive symbol and symbolising life, renewal, continuation and future.

Dalí often referred to dual themes or elements such as hard and soft, eternal and temporary, dream and reality.

