

# Dora maar

Date: 1907-1997

Style: surrealism

Influences: pablo picasso

Subject matter: surreal faces, shapes, dimension

Chef d'oeuvre: her art is not as famous as her modeling for art in picasso's "weeping woman" in 1937

Biography: Henriette Theodora Markovitch, known as Dora Maar, was a French photographer, painter, and poet. As a talented photographer, Maar made work that developed quickly from acute poetic street realism to otherworldly Surrealist manipulations. She was particularly apt at making work out of her own hidden and dizzying emotional interior - as well as the desire to retreat from it. Mournfully, Maar abandoned photography due to Pablo Picasso's insistence that every photographer was merely a painter waiting to be released. Caught in love with this colossal and powerful personality between the years of 1935-45, Maar became the muse for others as well as a practicing artist herself. Upon her separation from Picasso, Maar experienced a nervous breakdown and recovered with the help of the famous psychiatrist, Jaques Lacan. In later life, she moved from Paris to rural Provence and painted mainly abstract landscapes and melancholy still lifes. She became a recluse and a devout Catholic. Despite her achievements, following their destructive relationship, Maar lived partially in the shadow of Picasso's words; she never returned to photography, the medium through which her exquisite and unusual character shines so brightly.

Interesting facts:

A love partner of Pablo Picasso, Dora Maar was depicted in a number of Picasso's paintings, including his Portrait of Dora Maar and Dora Maar au Chat.

She was accepted into the circle of Surrealists.

Dora Maar is The Weeping Woman.

She managed her own photography studio.

Her and Picasso had an almost 30 year age difference.

Describe a famous painting. What is the artist observing and how does he/she respond to it?

Guernica is a large 1937 oil painting on canvas by Spanish artist Pablo Picasso. It is one of his best known works, regarded by many art critics as the most moving and powerful anti-war painting in history. It is exhibited in the Museo Reina Sofía in Madrid. Dora maar used her photography skills to document the many stages of picasso's creation.



Store of Musical Instrument with Reflection of the Saint-Nicolas-des-Champs Church

1935, Medium: Gelatin silver print



Le Simulateur (The Simulator or The Pretender)

1936 Medium: Gelatin silver print



Portail de garage avec un chien (Garage Entry with Dog)  
1930-31 Medium: Gelatin silver print