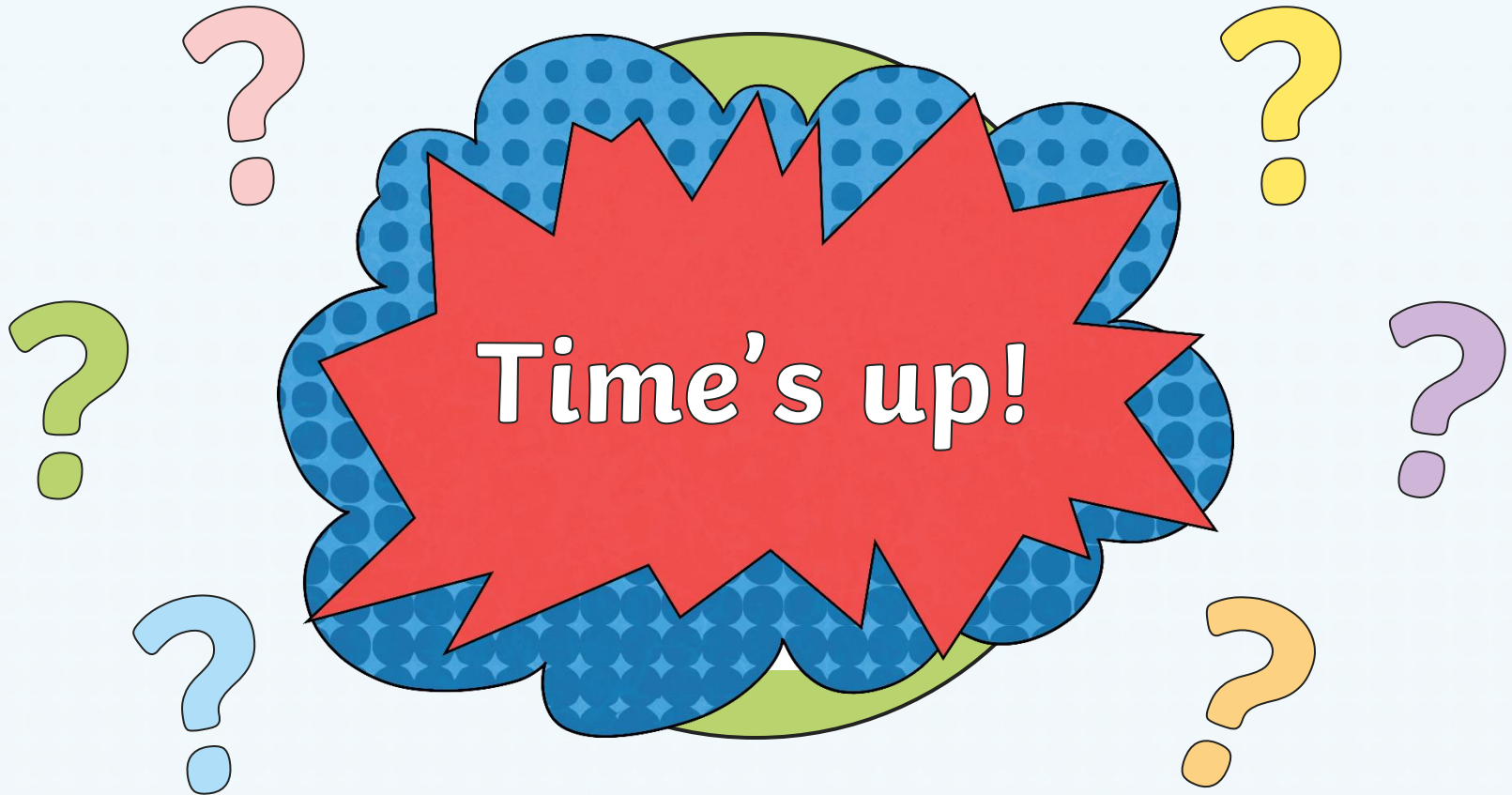


BPS 10 Key Artists



Starter Activity

Name as many artists as you can in 1 minute.





Barbara Hepworth

1903-1975

Dame Jocelyn Barbara Hepworth DBE, born in Wakefield, was an English artist and sculptor.

She was part of the modernism movement – a group who wanted to experiment with new techniques and draw attention to the process involved in making a work of art.



She is one of the most famous female artists and is known all over the world.

She is known for her modern sculptures, made from materials such as stone, wood and bronze.



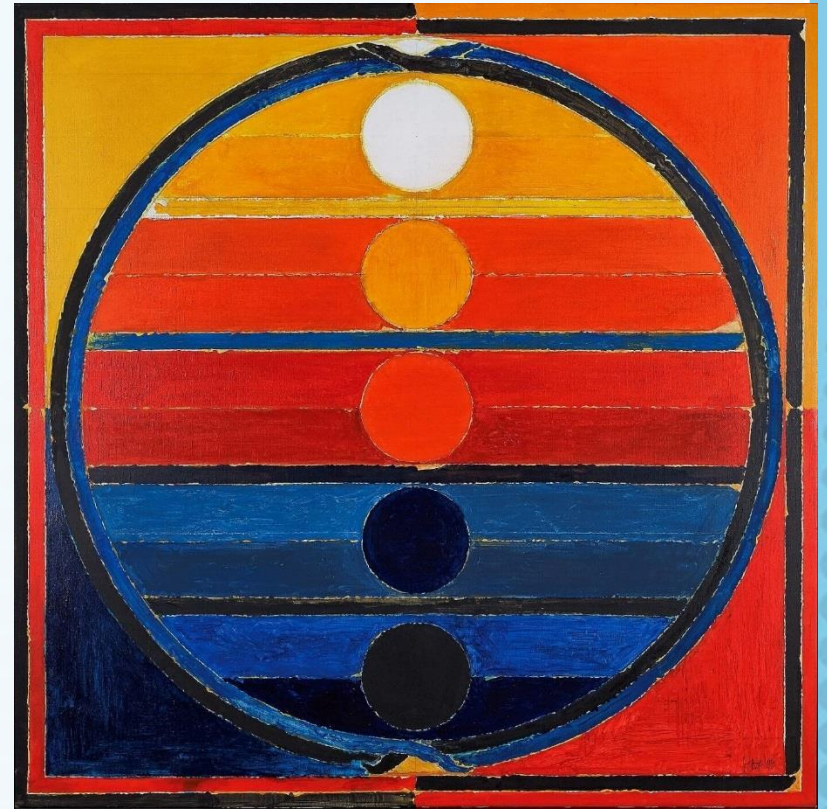
Sayed Haider Raza

1922-2016

The son of a forest ranger, Sayed Haider Raza was born in 1922 in the central Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. He would go on to become one of his country's most important 20th-century painters. 'The most tenacious memory of my childhood is the fear and fascination of Indian forests,' Raza said in 2001. 'We lived near the source of the Narmada river in the centre of the dense forests of Madhya Pradesh. Nights in the forests were hallucinating; sometimes the only humanising influence was the dancing of the Gond tribes. Daybreak brought back a sentiment of security and wellbeing. On market day, under the radiant sun, the village was a fairyland of colours. And then, the night again. Even today I find that these two aspects of my life dominate me and are an integral part of my paintings.'



Raza experimented with a number of Modernist styles, but it's probably his works in Abstract Expressionism and, later, Geometric Abstraction, for which he is most famous. What remained constant throughout his career, however, was his engagement with nature and the landscape, and his mastery of colour, which he deployed in variously rich combinations.





Zaha Hadid

1950-2016

Zaha Hadid was born on 31st October 1950 in Baghdad, the capital city of Iraq. Her father was a businessman who became involved in politics and her mother was an artist.

When Zaha was six years old, her aunt was having a house built. The architect was a family friend and used to bring models and drawings of the buildings. Seeing these started Zaha's interest in architecture.

In the 1960s, Zaha travelled to England to attend boarding school. She also went to a boarding school in Switzerland.

Zaha later studied maths at a university in Beirut before studying architecture in London.



Many of Zaha's most famous buildings have curves (like the Heydar Aliyev Cultural Centre or London Aquatics Centre), to fit either their surroundings or their purpose.





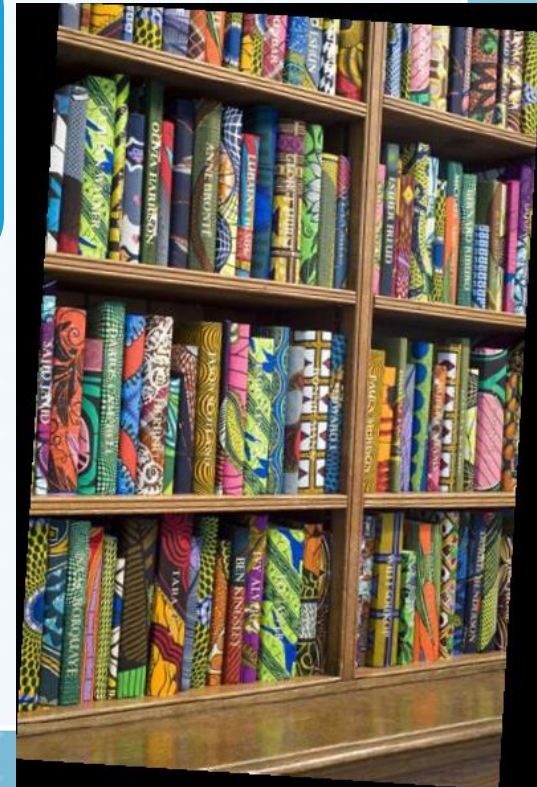
Yinka Shonibare

Born 1962



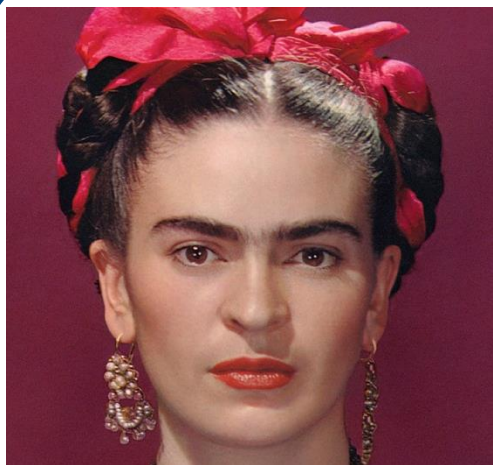
Yinka Shonibare is a British-Nigerian artist who was born in London in 1962. He grew up in Nigeria but spent his summers in England. When he was 17 years old, Yinka returned to live in the UK and went on to study fine art in London.

He is perhaps best known for using brightly coloured, Dutch wax batik fabric. To make batik, some areas of the fabric have hot wax applied to them and then a dye is then applied to the fabric. The parts of the fabric that are covered in wax resist the dye and remain the original colour. This type of fabric was created in the Netherlands and was inspired by Indonesian designs. It became very popular in some parts of Africa and is now a recognised symbol of African identity.



'Scramble for Africa' is a historical piece that explores how various European and world leaders of the 1880s sought to take over Africa. They are sat around a table with a large map of Africa, each making their claim. Yinka has made them headless because he believes that what they did was mindless and resulted in the carving up of the continent.





Frida Kahlo

1907-1954

Frida Kahlo was born in Mexico and had six sisters. When she was a child she would spend hours drawing on her own rather than playing with her sisters.

When she was six, Frida had an illness called polio, which left her with a damaged right leg. Then at 18, she had a terrible bus accident, which left her with lots of injuries, including broken bones in her spine, collarbone, ribs, pelvis, leg, foot and shoulder.

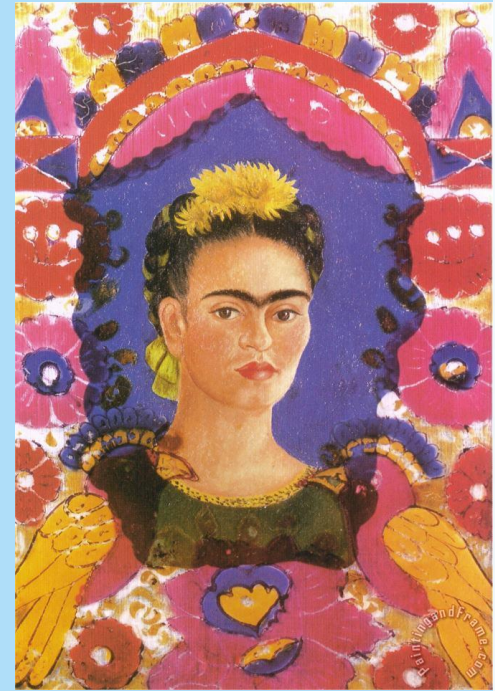


Frida Kahlo

During her time in bed with both illnesses, Frida would draw to help keep her mind busy and pass the time. She couldn't see very much from her bed, so she had a mirror placed on the ceiling so that she could see herself. She drew and painted a lot of self-portraits using this mirror.

Kahlo included lots of bright colours, tropical flowers and animals to remind us of the hot country where she lived.

She died in 1954, a week before her 47th birthday.



“I paint self-portraits because I am the person I know best.”



David Hockney

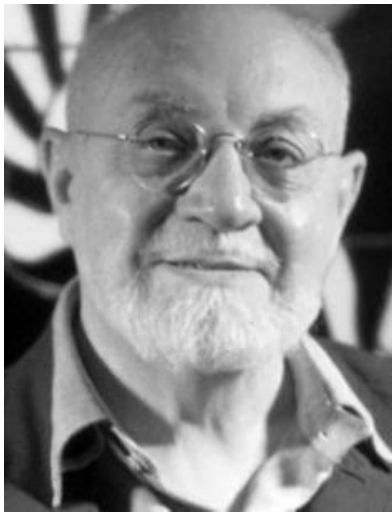
Born 1937

David Hockney was born in 1937 in Bradford, England. David studied at the Royal College of Art in London.

He contributed to the pop art movement of the 1960s and, in 2011, he was voted the most influential artist of 1000 British nominees.

Pop art is art based on modern popular culture. It takes inspiration from different things including pop music, adverts, television shows and famous people.





Henri Matisse

1869-1954

Henri Matisse was a French painter, printmaker, sculptor and draughtsman.

He created '**The Snail**' which is a collage made with colourful pieces of paper.

Why do you think the piece was given this name?



The Snail

Henri Matisse



The Goldfish



Jeanette I - V



Pablo Picasso

1881-1973

Pablo Ruiz Picasso was a Spanish sculptor, draughtsman and painter. He showed artistic talent from a very young age and experimented with different techniques and ideas throughout his life.

Picasso went through different artistic phases, such as '**The Blue Period**' where he was feeling very sad at his time in his life, followed by '**The Rose Period**' in which most of his paintings have roses or pink flowers in them. He then went through a period of experimenting with African art and then moved into Cubism - which many believe Picasso made popular. Cubism is art made up of odd shapes making it look like someone has cut them up and glued them together.

Pablo Picasso

In his lifetime, Picasso produced over **50,000** pieces of artwork.



The Red Armchair



Three Musicians

"The Red Armchair by Pablo Picasso 1931" by [terren in Virginia](#) is licensed under [CC BY 2.0](#)

A portrait of Yayoi Kusama with her signature bright red hair and bangs. She is wearing a pink garment with a large polka dot pattern. The background is a vibrant, abstract pattern of yellow, red, and blue with various organic shapes. A small copyright notice '© YAYOI KUSAMA' is visible at the bottom right of the portrait.

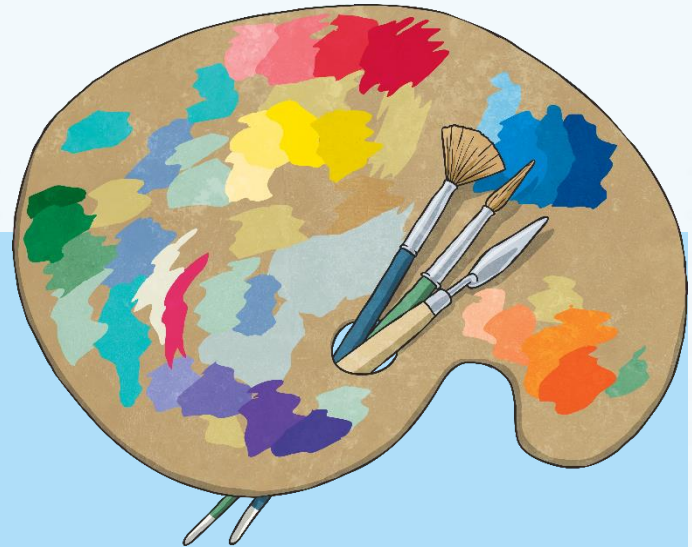
Yayoi Kusama

Born 1929

Yayoi Kusama was born in Japan on 22nd March 1929. She was born into a rich family.

From an early age, Yayoi was interested in art. She particularly enjoyed exploring polka dots, nature and writing poetry.

Yayoi's family didn't want her to become an artist. Her mother would take away her drawings and try to stop her from doing any more. This was because Yayoi's family expected her to get married and have children, instead of getting a job.



Yayoi Kusama

Yayoi convinced her family to let her study at art college. In 1948, she went to the Kyoto City Specialist School of Arts.

Around this time, Yayoi began to further develop her interest in polka dots. She painted them on paper to begin with using different kinds of paints. Then, she began to paint them on walls, floors, household objects and even her assistant! Yayoi called these series of polka dots 'infinity nets'.



"My life is a dot lost among thousands of other dots." ...

"Every time I have had a problem, I have confronted it with the axe of art."

"With just one polka dot, nothing can be achieved."



Vincent Willem Van Gogh

1853-1890

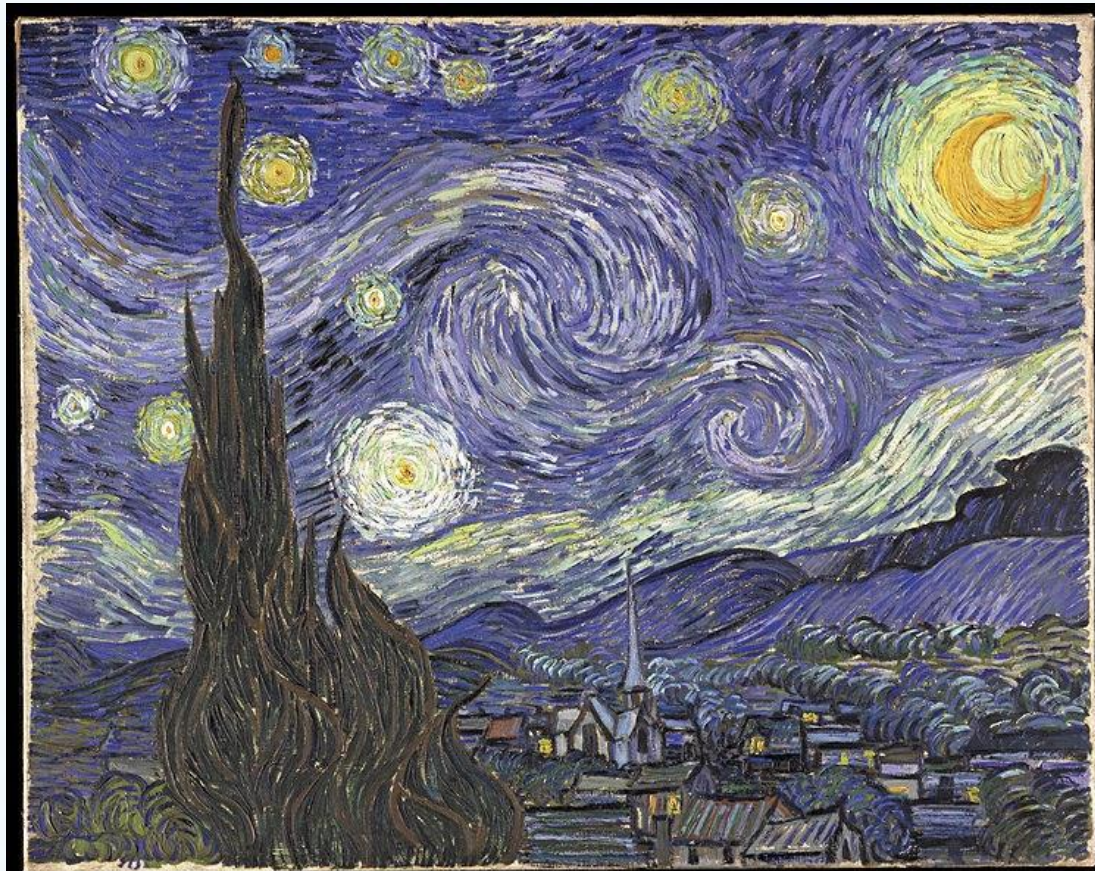
Van Gogh was born in Holland. He painted many pieces such as 'Sunflowers' and 'The Starry Night'.

Learn more about Van Gogh by watching the video [here](#).



Sunflowers

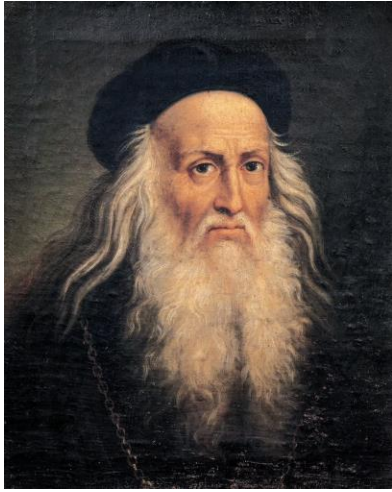
Vincent Willem Van Gogh



The Starry Night

Some Other Important Artists





Leonardo Da Vinci

1452-1519

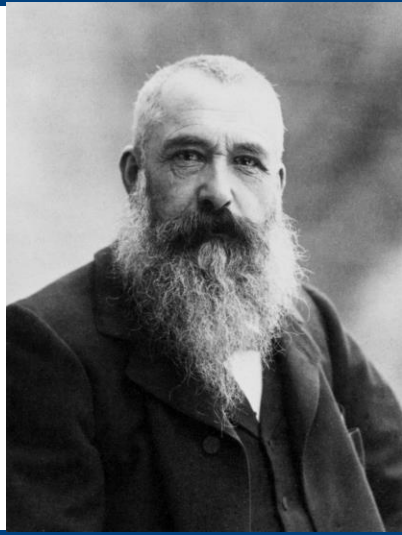
Leonardo was Italian and lived during the Renaissance, a time that led to important developments in science and art.

Leonardo da Vinci was a very talented man. He was a great scientist, engineer, writer, musician and mathematician.

His most famous works include **'The Last Supper'** and the **'Mona Lisa'**.



Mona Lisa



Claude Monet

1840-1926

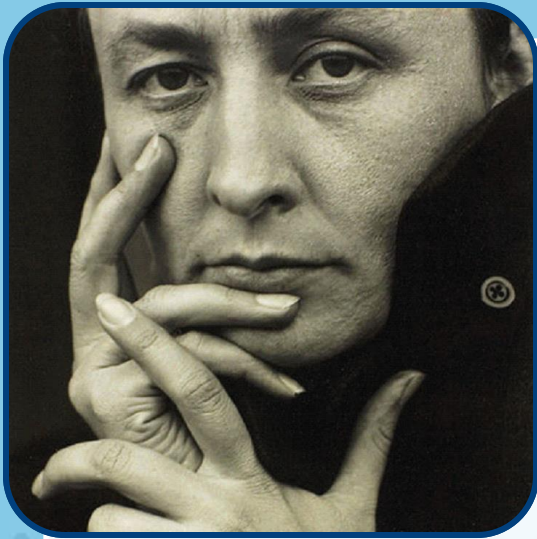
Claude Monet was born in Paris. It was clear from a young age that he was a talented artist. To make money, he would draw caricatures of people.

Later, he met a landscape painter who introduced Claude to painting outside. He would spend hours painting directly from nature - he particularly liked to draw water scenes and was inspired by the affect of light.

Monet become known as an "Impressionist" because his work had an unfinished look.

Water Lilies





Georgia O'Keeffe

1887-1986

Georgia O'Keeffe was an American female artist and is well-known for her painting of flowers.

She liked to paint flowers close up to showcase their beauty. The paintings would fill the canvas.

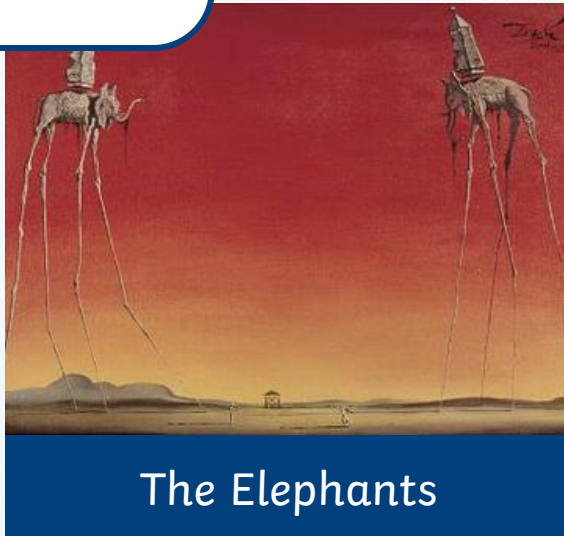


Hibiscus with Plumeria

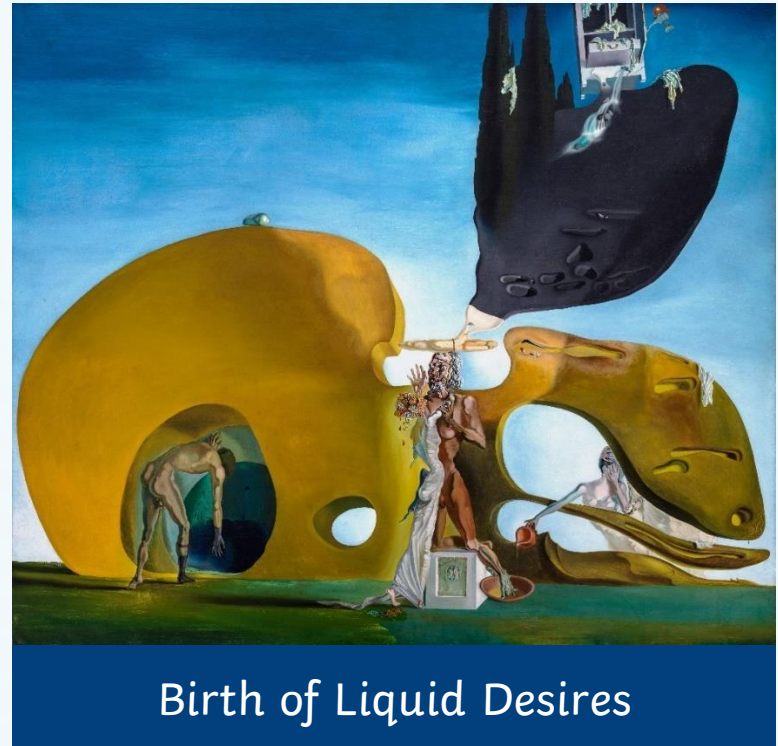


Salvador Dalí

1904-1989



The Elephants



Birth of Liquid Desires

Dalí was seen as a very eccentric artist. He is best known as a Surrealist, mainly using charcoal, paint and sculpture.