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**Peggy Guggenheim Collection presents major Surrealism exhibition in Venice /  
On view in Potsdam starting October 22 as a cooperative project of the Museum  
Barberini with the Peggy Guggenheim Collection**

Venice/Potsdam, April 8, 2022 – On Saturday, April 9, the exhibition *Surrealism and Magic: Enchanted Modernity* opens at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in Venice. The exhibition is the **first large-scale show to focus on the Surrealists' interest in magic and myth**. It will be on view at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection **concurrently with the Venice Biennale until September 26, 2022**. The works will then travel to Potsdam, where the exhibition will be shown at **the Museum Barberini from October 22, 2022 to January 29, 2023**.

With his *Manifesto of Surrealism*, published in October 1924, the French writer André Breton founded a literary and artistic movement that soon became the leading international avant-garde. At the center of the Surrealist enterprise lay a **reorientation towards the world of the night-dream, the unconscious, and the irrational. The artists immersed themselves in the imaginative world of magic**. In their works, they drew on occult symbolism and cultivated the artistic persona of magician, seer, and alchemist.

The exhibition *Surrealism and Magic: Enchanted Modernity* ranges from the “meta-physical painting” of Giorgio de Chirico around 1915, through Max Ernst’s iconic painting *Attirement of the Bride* (1940), to the occult imagery in the late work of Leonora Carrington and Remedios Varo. It includes **some ninety works by more than twenty artists, with key works by Victor Brauner, Leonora Carrington, Giorgio de Chirico, Salvador Dalí, Paul Delvaux, Max Ernst, Leonor Fini, Roberto Matta, Roland Penrose, Kay Sage, Kurt Seligmann, Yves Tanguy, Dorothea Tanning, and Remedios Varo**. The over forty international lenders include the Art Institute of Chicago, the Centre Pompidou in Paris, the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, the Moderna Museet in Stockholm, the Menil Collection in Houston, the Galleria Nazionale in Rome, the Museo nacional Thyssen-Bornemisza in Madrid, the Musées royaux des Beaux-Arts de Belgique in Brussels, and the Museum of Modern Art, Metropolitan Museum of Art, Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, and Whitney Museum of American Art in New York.

**Karole P. B. Vail, Director of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection**, stated:

“The exhibition’s point of departure is the world-class Surrealist holdings of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, containing iconic paintings that powerfully reflect the Surrealists’ dialogue with the occult tradition. In addition to canonical artists, the exhibition also features works by lesser-known players in the Surrealist field. Many of the artists represented in this show were exhibited during their lifetimes by Peggy Guggenheim, who emerged as one of the most energetic collectors and patrons of Surrealism toward the end of the 1930s. Having familiarized herself with the movement during her stay in Paris

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between the wars, she was on intimate terms with Max Ernst and Andre Breton, and she paid for them and the latter's family to escape Europe and reach the United States shores during World War II. Guggenheim's efforts became critical to the survival of Surrealism in exile."

**Ortrud Westheider, Director of the Museum Barberini**, stated:

"For the Museum Barberini, which opened only a little more than five years ago, it is a great honor to realize this exhibition as a collaboration with this prestigious institution, whose founder Peggy Guggenheim so generously supported Surrealist artists and collected their works with great passion. As part of this exhibition, world-class Surrealist holdings from its collection will be on display at the Museum Barberini in the fall of this year. I have no doubt that this will be a highlight of the German museum calendar. My team and I look forward to working closely with the Peggy Guggenheim Collection in the future."

The exhibition *Surrealism and Magic: Enchanted Modernity*, accompanied by an extensive program of events, is on view at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection concurrently with the 59th Venice Biennale, which opens on April 23. Under the motto "The Milk of Dreams" from a book by Leonora Carrington, the Biennale likewise focuses on the artists of Surrealism, featuring works by Leonora Carrington, Remedios Varo, Leonor Fini, Dorothea Tanning and others in the exhibition in the Central Pavilion.

An exhibition of the Museum Barberini, Potsdam, and the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice, curated by Gražina Subelytė (Venice) and Daniel Zamani (Potsdam). The exhibition will be accompanied by 240-page catalog (Prestel, 2022, English/German) with essays by Susan Aberth, Will Atkin, Victoria Ferentinou, Alyce Mahon, Kristoffer Noheden, Gavin Parkinson, Grazina Subelyte, and Daniel Zamani.

**For more information, visit:**

[www.guggenheim-venice.it](http://www.guggenheim-venice.it)  
[www.museum-barberini.de](http://www.museum-barberini.de)

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