

DALINIAN SYMBOL'S

→ *THE SOFT WATCHES*

The main theme of the limp watches is the contrast between the hard outside and the soft inside. We expect and our experience tells us that a watch is hard. In Dali's images the watch loses that shape.

For the limp watches Dali has been inspired while he was eating French Camembert cheese. It's like the watch is running out of the clock. A real clock gives us the exact time...the watches of Dali are timeless.

By making the clock soft it becomes impossible to function and so it refers to eternity. Dali said that when he was with Gala or when he was painting time had no influence on him.

→ *THE BURNING GIRAFFE*

The burning giraffe is the male cosmic monster of the Apocalypse.

He got this idea when he was in Vienna in 1937. He felt the catastrophe that Hitler was going to create.

→ *THE ELEPHANTS*

Dali's elephants have skinny, fragile, long legs. They symbolise men shackled to the earth by gravity but always reaching for the higher. Because of that the legs get longer and longer but the feet stay attached to the ground.

→ *THE DRAWERS*

In the drawers that Dali cuts out of the surface all sins and complexes of men are stored. Dali said: 'Freud's theory is like an allegory that illustrates and helps us to understand the countless narcissistic smells that are released from the drawers.'

A story has been told about the young Dali having a friend from a workers family. The boy always wore clothes with several sewn pockets on. They say that that is where Dali got his passion from for pockets and drawers.

→ *THE CRUTCHES*

For decades crutches were elements in the work of Dali. They symbolise our handicaps and weaknesses but were also an instrument of art and intelligence that give the user the possibility to make superhuman performances.

→ *THE EGG*

The egg is a Dalinian image that symbolises hope and love.

→ *THE ANTS*

Ants symbolise death, decay and an immense sexual desire.

→ *THE SNAIL*

The snail is connected with the head of a human.

The first time Dali met Freud he saw a snail on a bike near the house of Freud.

→ *THE GRASSHOPPER*

Dali was very scared of grasshoppers. They symbolise 'fear' ...he painted them to get rid of his fear.

→ *THE BUTTERFLY*

Butterflies were Dali's favourite symbol since the 50'. In old Greek the word 'psyche' meant soul and butterfly. We only need to think about the transformation of the pupa into a butterfly to understand why Dali was fascinated by the enormous amount of variety, colours and lightness of the butterfly .

→ *THE SILHOUETTES*

Silhouettes are the psychological shadows, spirits and apparitions. They stand for the good, supernatural being, inner dialogue and motivational power as well as for the evil, inner conflicts and inhibitions.

They also stand for imagination, fantasy and dreams.