VIVÍSIMO MUERTO: 
DEBATES ON SURREALISM IN LATIN AMERICA

SYMPOSIUM
FRIDAY, JUNE 25–SATURDAY, JUNE 26, 10:00 AM–4:30 PM
Museum Lecture Hall, The Getty Center
DAY ONE: FRIDAY, JUNE 25
10:00 AM–4:30 PM, Museum Lecture Hall
Reception, 4:30–5:30 PM, Museum Lecture Hall Lobby

9:30–10:00 AM
Check-in

10:00–10:15 AM
Welcome: Thomas Gaehtgens
Getty Research Institute

Introduction: Rita Eder
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

SESSION I
SURREALIST ENCOUNTERS IN THE NEW WORLD: PRE-COLUMBIAN AND NORTHWEST COAST ART

10:15–10:45 AM
Benjamin Péret and Paul Westheim: Surrealism and Other Genealogies in the Land of the Aztecs
Rita Eder
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

10:45–11:15 AM
Wolfgang Paalen’s Mesoamerican Collections and Writings and the “New” Art, circa 1940–45
Amy H. Winter
Godwin-Ternbach Museum

11:15–11:45 AM
Conversation
Moderated by Dawn Ades
University of Essex

11:45 AM–NOON
Coffee Break

NOON–12:30 PM
The Totem as a Sphinx: Wolfgang Paalen’s Urgent Illuminations during His Voyage into Mexican Exile in 1939
Andreas Neufert
Paalen Archiv Berlin

12:30–1:00 PM
El Hijo Pródigo: Surrealist Traits and a Comparison with Dyn
Daniel Garza Usabiaga
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México

1:00–1:30 PM
Conversation
Moderated by Dawn Ades
University of Essex

1:30–2:30 PM
Lunch Break

SESSION II
SURREALIST LOVE LETTERS: THE ART AND POETRY OF CÉSAR MORO

2:30–3:00 PM
César Moro and Surrealism in Latin America
Dawn Ades
University of Essex

3:00–3:30 PM
Soma and Sema: Poetry of the Body in the Love Letters of César Moro
Yolanda Westphalen
Universidad Nacional Mayor de San Marcos

3:30–4:00 PM
A Language of Stones: César Moro and the Object
Kent L. Dickson
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

4:00–4:30 PM
Conversation
Moderated by Annette Leddy
Getty Research Institute

4:30–5:30 PM
Reception
9:30–10:00 AM
Check-in

10:00–10:15 AM
Welcome: Rebecca Peabody
Getty Research Institute

Collections Overview: John Tain
Getty Research Institute

SESSION III
THE SURREALISM EFFECT:
LEGACIES AND RECEPTIONS IN
ART, LITERATURE, AND
POLITICS

10:15–10:45 AM
André Breton’s Anthology of Freedom:
Le Pouvoir Contagieux de la Révolte
María Clara Bernal
Universidad de los Andes

10:45–11:15 AM
I Believed That I Long Dreamed I Was Free:
Maria Martins and Surrealism in the 1940s
Terri Geis
Los Angeles County Museum of Art

11:15–11:45 AM
Conversation
Moderated by Donna Conwell
Getty Research Institute

11:45 AM–NOON
Coffee Break

NOON–12:30 PM
The Photographic Legacy of Surrealism in
Late-Twentieth-Century Chilean Poetry
Matías Ayala
Universidad Alberto Hurtado

12:30–1:00 PM
After-Images of Argentinean Surrealism
Andrea Giunta
University of Texas at Austin

1:00–1:30 PM
Conversation
Moderated by Graciela Speranza
Universidad de Buenos Aires

1:30–2:30 PM
Lunch Break

2:30–3:00 PM
Sixties: Julio Cortázar’s Narrative and the
Imagery of Surrealist Art
Gavin Parkinson
The Courtauld Institute of Art

3:00–3:30 PM
Wanderers: Surrealist Legacy in Latin American Contemporary Art and Fiction
Graciela Speranza
Universidad de Buenos Aires

3:30–4:30 PM
Conversation and Closing Remarks
Moderated by Rita Eder
Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
SYMPOSIUM STATEMENT
This two-day symposium explores the history of surrealist ideas and practices in Latin America. Scholarly presentations and moderated discussions examine the relationship between surrealism and pre-Columbian art; the role of key figures such as Peruvian poet César Moro and Austrian painter and editor Wolfgang Paalen; and surrealism’s continuing legacy in the work of postwar artists in Latin America.

SYMPOSIUM ORGANIZERS
Dawn Ades, University of Essex
Donna Beckage, Getty Research Institute
Donna Conwell, Getty Research Institute
Rita Eder, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México
Annette Leddy, Getty Research Institute
Rebecca Peabody, Getty Research Institute
Evelyn Sen, Getty Research Institute
John Tain, Getty Research Institute
Rebecca Zamora, Getty Research Institute

RESEARCH PROJECT STATEMENT
The Surrealism in Latin America research project is inspired by the Getty Research Institute’s extensive Latin American surrealist collections. These collections from Chile, Peru, and Mexico trace the reception and evolution of surrealism in Latin America and include, most notably, the papers of poet-editors Enrique Gómez-Correa, Vicente Huidobro, César Moro, and Emilio Adolfo Westphalen, as well as the journals Mandrágora (Chile, 1938), Las moradas (Peru, 1947), Dyn (Mexico, 1942), and El hijo pródigo (Mexico, 1943). Drawing on research conducted both within and beyond these collections, this project aims for a sustained engagement with surrealism in Latin America.

IMAGES

The Getty Research Institute is a program of the J. Paul Getty Trust. Other programs of the Trust include the J. Paul Getty Museum, the Getty Conservation Institute, and the Getty Foundation.