

What's On 06/2010

United Kingdom

Surreal Friends: Leonora Carrington, Remedios Varo and Kati Horna

**Pallant House Gallery,
Chichester**
19 June-12 September
www.pallant.org.uk

When Mexico opened its borders to refugees from Europe in the late 1930s, it attracted a host of artists fleeing World War II and the Spanish Civil War, among them three women surrealists who settled there, their professional and personal lives becoming closely intertwined. Leonora Carrington (b1917), who had escaped her stifling upper-middle-class British upbringing by moving to Paris, was separated from her lover, Max Ernst, when he was interned in a Vichy concentration camp. She fled to Mexico City in 1943 after marrying the Mexican poet and diplomat Renato Leduc. There she joined painter Remedios Varo (1908-63), a republican in the Spanish Civil War and the lover of the left-wing poet Benjamin Péret, and the Jewish photographer Kati Horna (1912-2000), a friend of Robert Capa, also active in the war in Spain.

The three artists, still only in their late 20s and early 30s when they arrived in Mexico, had already had the experiences of a lifetime, having faced the brutality of war, and known and met some of the leading figures of 20th-century art, including Picasso, Mondrian, Man Ray and Ernst. In exile, the three women became very close, raising families and becoming independent artists rather than muses.

"When they arrived, the Mexican scene was dominated by Rivera, Figuerroa, Orozco and the other muralists, and the art was very much dominated by men, and very much a political instrument," says the curator and director of Pallant House Gallery, Stefan van Raay. "The ideals of the Mexican revolution were expressed in their work. These women came from Paris, and were much more independent and anarchistic, and perhaps they were looked at with a bit of suspicion."

Carrington, now 93—with Dorothea Tanning, aged 99, one



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of the only surviving members of the original surrealist movement—is not well known in the UK, but is "now seen as one of the greatest living artists in Mexico, and so it is a kind of homecoming for her," says van Raay. Among the 45 paintings by Carrington, influenced fairy tales, myths and religion, is *The Giantess, or the Guardian of the Egg*, 1947 (above), which sold for a record \$1.5m to an unnamed Mexican collector at Christie's last year. Varo, who died in 1963, is represented by 21 paintings with themes that are evidence of her closeness with Carrington, and there are 66 vintage photographs by the Hungarian photojournalist Horna on display, including one of Robert Capa—and one of Horna by Capa.

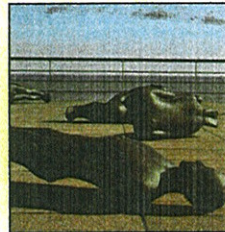
"The story of these women is

the story of world events: surrealism in Paris, then the centre of the art world, the Spanish Civil War, and World War II," said van Raay. "What I think is really interesting is how it is reflected in personal lives, and how it has resulted in bodies of work."

The exhibition is accompanied by three related displays (all until 12 September): "Surrealism in Sussex" explores the county's links with the movement through collector, and close friend of Carrington, Edward James at West Dean, and Roland Penrose and Lee Miller in Chiddingfold; an installation by Mexican artist Francisco Toledo; and photographs by Lee Miller. "Surreal Friends" travels to the Sainsbury Centre for Visual Arts, Norwich, from 28 September to 12 December. The show is sponsored by Mexicana and Gam. **J.H.**

UNITED KINGDOM

Aberdeen
Aberdeen Art Gallery
Titian: Diana and Actaeon
until 27 June
www.aagm.co.uk
Aberystwyth
Aberystwyth Arts Centre
Association of Illustrators: Images
until 10 July
www.aberystwythartscentre.co.uk
Aylesbury
**Waddesdon Manor-The
Rothschild Collection**
Campana Brothers
until 31 October
Belfast
Ulster Museum
Visions: Spectacular Art from the
Ulster Museum
until 26 October
www.ulstermuseum.org.uk
Bexhill on Sea
De La Warr Pavilion
*Modern Times Responding
to Chaos
until 13 June
*Tony Bevan: New Paintings
until 13 June
Antony Gormley: Critical Mass
until 31 August
www.dlwp.com



Antony Gormley's *Critical Mass* on the roof of the De La Warr Pavilion, Bexhill on Sea

Birmingham
**Birmingham Museum and Art
Gallery**
Steve McCurry
26 June-17 October
www.bmag.org.uk
Ikon Gallery
Madlen: Seeing One's Own Eyes
until 11 July
Olivia Beer: Training
until 11 July
www.ikon-gallery.co.uk
Bowness-on-Windermere
Blackwell Arts and Crafts House
*William Morris (1834-96):
a Sense of Place
26 June-17 October
www.blackwell.org.uk
Brighton
**Brighton Museum and
Art Gallery**
From Sickert to Gertler: Modern
British Art from Boxted House
until 12 September
www.brighton.virtualmuseum.info
Bristol



Still from *Double Take*, 2009, by Johan Grimont at the Fruitmarket Gallery, Edinburgh

Highlights of Impressionism
until 15 August
www.nmgw.ac.uk
Chichester
Pallant House Gallery
Julian Trevelyan: Centenary
until 13 June
Toby Paterson: Mural
until 13 June
*Surreal Friends: Leonora
Carrington, Remedios Varo
and Kati Horna
19 June-12 September
Surrealism and Sussex
until 12 September
www.pallant.org.uk
Dundee
Dundee Contemporary Arts
Chicks on Speed
until 8 August
www.dca.org.uk
Eastbourne
Towner Art Gallery
A Walk in the Park: Images of
the South Downs
until 26 September
www.eastborne.org
Edinburgh
Dean Gallery
Diane Arbus
until 13 June
Strange Encounters : Davies,
Gordon, Boyce, Colquhoun
until 27 June
www.nationalgalleries.org



Fruitmarket Gallery
Johan Grimont
until 11 July
www.fruitmarket.co.uk
National Gallery of Scotland
Confrontation
until 18 July
www.nationalgalleries.org
National Museums Scotland
Lewis Chessmen
until 19 September
www.nms.ac.uk
**Royal Botanic Gardens,
Inverleith House**
Vincent Fecteau
until 11 July
www.rbge.org.uk
Royal Scottish Academy
RSA Annual Exhibition
until 23 June
www.royal.scottishacademy.org
The Queen's Gallery
Dutch Landscapes
until 9 January 2011
www.royalcollection.org.uk
Ingleby Gallery
Sean Scully
until 26 June
www.inglebygallery.com
Exeter
Spacex Gallery
Theo Jansen
until 3 July
www.spacex.co.uk
Gateshead
**Baltic Centre for
Contemporary Art**
Raqs Media Collective
until 20 June
John Cage: Every Day Is a
Good Day
19 June-5 September
*Cornelia Parker:
Doubtful Sound
19 June-5 September
www.balticmill.com
Glasgow
Burrell Collection
Tapestries: a New Interpretation
until 11 July
Gallery of Modern Art
'Unnerved: The New Zealand
Project'
until 4 July