



**Pablo Picasso**  
(Spain, 1881 - 1973)

## Biography

Pablo Picasso, born in Malaga, Spain on October 25, 1881, is perhaps the most influential artist of the 20th century. Picasso may be best known for pioneering Cubism and fracturing the two-dimensional picture plane in order to convey three-dimensional space.

By the age of 15 he was already technically skilled in drawing and painting. Picasso's highly original style continuously evolved throughout his long career, expanding the definition of what art could be. Inspired by African and Iberian art, he also contributed to the rise of Surrealism and Expressionism. In addition to painting, he would explore sculpture, ceramics and other art forms, and become one of the most influential artists of the 1900s.

Paintings from Picasso's blue period (1901-1904) depict forlorn people painted in shades of blue, evoking feelings of sadness and alienation. After his move to Paris in 1904, Picasso's rose period paintings took on a warmer more optimistic mood. In 1907 he and French painter George Braque pioneered cubism; and by 1912 Picasso was incorporating newspaper print, postage stamps and other materials into his paintings. This style is called collage. By the late 1920s he turned toward a flat, cubist-related style. During the 1930s his paintings became militant and political.

Picasso's sizable oeuvre grew to include over 20,000 paintings, prints, drawings, sculptures, ceramics, theater sets, and costume designs. He painted *Guernica* (1937), a masterpiece and his most famous work from this period, in response to the Spanish Civil War; the painting depicts the terror of the bombing of the town of Guernica during the Spanish civil war. Following World War II, Picasso's work became less political and more gentle. He spent the remaining years of his life in an exploration various historical and experimental styles of art like sculptures, etchings and ceramics.

Picasso died on April 8, 1973 at his home, Notre-Dame-de-Vie in Mougins, France. He was buried on April 10 at his chateau Vauvenagues, 170 kilometers from Mougins. The indefatigable artist has been the subject of exhibitions at the world's most prestigious institutions, from the Museum of Modern Art and Centre Pompidou to the Stedelijk Museum and Tate Modern.

### Selected Collections

Musée Picasso, Paris, France  
Musée Picasso de Vallauris, Vallauris, France  
Musée Picasso Antibes, Antibes, France  
Museo Picasso, Barcelona, Spain  
Museo Picasso, Málaga, Spain  
Museo Picasso de Buitrago, Madrid, Spain  
Graphikmuseum Pablo Picasso Münster, Münster, Germany

The Museum of Modern Art (MOMA), New York, USA  
Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, New York, USA  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, USA  
National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C., USA  
San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco, USA  
Hirshhorn Museum & Sculpture Garden, Washington DC., USA  
Dallas Museum of Art, Dallas, USA  
Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA,  
Nasher Sculpture Center, Dallas, USA  
Tate Modern, London, UK  
Hammer Museum, Hasloch, Germany  
Museum Ludwig, Cologne, Germany  
Museum Berggruen, Berlin, Germany  
Moderna Museet, Stockholm, Sweden  
Louisiana Museum of Art, Humlebæk, Denmark  
Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona (MACBA), Barcelona, Spain  
Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain  
Museo Thyssen-Bornemisza, Madrid, Spain  
Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France  
Lille Métropole Musée d'art moderne (LaM), Lille, France  
Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Design Museum Den Bosch, Den Bosch, The Netherlands  
Van Abbemuseum, Eindhoven, The Netherlands

### Selected Exhibitions

2012

*Picasso & Modern British Art*, Tate Modern, London, United Kingdom

2011

*Pablo Picasso from Musée National Picasso, Paris*, Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, San Francisco, USA  
*Picasso in Parijs*, Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

2010

*Picasso: Challenging the Past*, National Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
*Picasso and the Avant-Garde in Paris*, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Philadelphia, USA  
*Klee trifft Picasso*, Zentrum Paul Klee, Bern, Switzerland  
*Picasso: Peace and Freedom*, Tate Liverpool, Liverpool, United Kingdom

2009

*Picasso: Challenging the Past*, National Gallery, London, United Kingdom  
*Picasso Cézanne*, Musée Granet, Aix-en-Provence, France  
*Pablo Picasso: Meisterwerke aus dem Musée Picasso*, Art Museum Ateneum, Helsinki, Finland

2008

*Picasso and Masters*, Grand Palais, Paris, France

2007

*Picasso — Malen gegen die Zeit*, Albertina, Vienna, Austria;  
Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen, Dusseldorf, Germany  
*Goya und Picasso – Tauromaquia*, Wallraf-Richartz-Museum, Cologne, Germany  
*Cézanne to Picasso: Ambroise Vollard, Patron of the Avant-Garde*, Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, USA  
*Picasso in Den Haag*, Gemeentemuseum Den Haag, The Netherlands

1993

*Picasso — Die Zeit nach Guernica 1937–1973*, Kunsthalle der Hypo-Kulturstiftung, Munich, Germany

1986

*Picasso — Pastelle, Zeichnungen, Aquarelle*, Kunsthalle Tübingen, Germany

1971

Retrospective, Louvre, Paris, France

1967

*Picasso*, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, The Netherlands

1955

Retrospective, Paris, France; Munich, Cologne and Hamburg, Germany

1939

*Parijsche schilders*, Stedelijk Museum Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Retrospective, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, USA