

## Activity # 1: The Mexican Album (10 points)

Step 1. Select FIVE ITEMS from the course material or from any other source to create your own personal album of Mexico and the spectacle of the Mexican Revolution. List of Items: TWO WORKS OF ART: either easel painting, a mural a mural cycle or an engraving. / ONE PHOTOGRAPH / ONE FILM CLIP / ONE BUILDING, PUBLIC SCULPTURE OR ANY TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION. Step 2 Post a critical commentary for each image justifying your selection. Write a minimum of ONE HUNDRED words per image and offer a general critical commentary expanding on the criteria of your selection. See the Model below. Students can use the images used in this model.

**FIT ONLINE LEARNING** DEC 12, 2018 10:23PM

### Work of art # 1

WRITE A CRITICAL COMMENTARY



### Work of art # 2

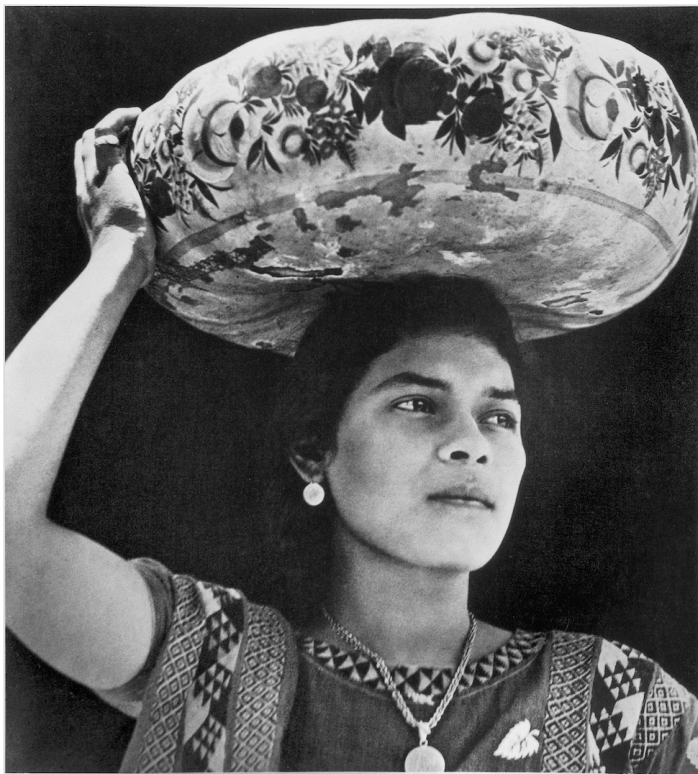
WRITE A CRITICAL COMMENTARY



### Photograph

WRITE A CRITICAL COMMENTARY





## WRITE A CRITICAL COMMENTARY

ytCropper | Los Olvidados/The Young and the Damned

ytCropper cropped video inside!

YTCROPPER



## Bridget McCusker- La Calavera Catrina

La Calavera Catrina by José Guadalupe Posada could be considered one of Posada's most famous prints if not the most famous print. Posada and his prints are known for their mocking depiction of Mexican society prior to the Mexican Revolution. This print while it is satire on the high society in Mexico; it shows a blend of the European culture and Mexican traditions. La Catrina is reminiscent of the indigenous cultures in Mexico as the Aztecs had a death goddess who undertook a month long event honoring the dead. Yet, La Catrina is dressed in a European style, which was quite common with the landowners at the time. La Catrina is a famous image, and is synonymous with Día de los Muertos. At this time in Mexican society, unrest was growing in Mexico's deeply fractionalized society during the Díaz regime.

**Posted By: Bridget McCusker**

<https://publicdomainreview.org/collections/the-calaveras-of-jose-guadalupe-posada/>

<https://www.learner.org/courses/globalart/work/124/zoom.html>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La\\_Calavera\\_Catrina](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Calavera_Catrina)



## Bridget McCusker- Dream of a Sunday Afternoon in Alameda Park

This mural by Rivera is busy and filled with important historical references while having an autobiographical tone as

## Public Sculpture

WRITE A CRITICAL COMMENTARY



## FILM CLIP

Rivera places some of his childhood events with those of major events in Mexico that occurred in Alameda Park. Some of these events include political protests of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. This mural by Rivera provides a loose chronology of the history of Mexico. On the left side, he addresses the conquest of Mexico and its subsequent colonization. Both sides address the violence that Mexico struggled with in the past while the center is calm and peaceful; there is a childlike optimism in the center of the mural. I think this balance of positivity and negativity is addressed with Khalo holding the ying-yang symbol. It shows that violence and peace are on a fine line and Mexico is treading that line very carefully. The center of the image depicts Rivera as a child with Khalo, La Catrina who connects him to Posada. I think the placement of Posada and La Catrina offers as an acknowledgment to Posada for paving the road for Rivera and the other subsequent artist. This mural highlights major events that have occurred in Mexico's history.

<https://www.diegorivera.org/dream-of-a-sunday-afternoon-in-alameda-park.jsp#prettyPhoto>

<https://www.khanacademy.org/humanities/ap-art-history/late-europe-and-americas/modernity-ap/a/rivera-dream-of-a-sunday-afternoon-in-alameda-central-park>

<https://www.theartstory.org/artist-rivera-diego-works.htm>

**Posted By: Bridget McCusker**



## **Bridget McCusker- Anniversary celebrations of the death of Emiliano Zapata, the Mexican Revolutionary**

This image captures the celebration of Zapata's death, which occurred in 1919. One can see many wearing the similar sombrero that Zapata wore. This photograph captured by Cartier-Bresson is synonymous with his style of capturing the daily occurrences in someone's life. This photograph was taken in 1963, nearly thirty years after Cartier-Bresson was in Mexico, I feel like this photograph was him going back to his roots, to honor the place that made him the successful photographer that he is. In addition, one can see the impact that the Mexican Revolution and the revolutionary figures like Zapata still have on the Mexican society.

<https://www.magnumphotos.com/arts-culture/travel/henri-cartier-bresson-mexico/>

**Posted By: Bridget McCusker**



## **Bridget McCusker- Secretaría de Educación Pública**

The headquarters of the Secretaría de Educación Pública is located in the center of Mexico. The style of the building is very European. The building was originally a convent while Spain controlled Mexico; it was the largest convent in Mexico. This building has a lot of history especially in regards to the muralist movement as this was the first large-scale mural projects for Rivera. In this building through government initiatives and the murals by Rivera, there were continual themes of the Mexican Revolutions and stresses the importance on all things Mexican. I selected this as this would be the headquarters where José Vasconcelos who was the Secretary of Public Education developed the Muralist Movement to reinforce Mexican nationalism and strengthen the pride in the citizens' history of Mexico.

<http://historicalmx.org/items/show/35>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretariat\\_of\\_Public\\_Education\\_Main\\_Headquarters](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretariat_of_Public_Education_Main_Headquarters)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretariat\\_of\\_Public\\_Education\\_\(Mexico\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Secretariat_of_Public_Education_(Mexico))

**Posted By: Bridget McCusker**






## Bridget McCusker- Río Escondido

The scene I selected from Río Escondido is the one where the president is asking Rosaura to go to Río Escondido to teach. I selected this scene because I feel those initiatives put forth by the government of Mexico to strengthen the national pride of the country is quite evident here. The President of Mexico is asking Rosaura to teach young children in a rural and educationally deprived area. She takes this responsibility with great honor. This scene looks to be filmed in headquarters of the Secretaría de Educación Pública, which is fitting as Vasconcelos developed the muralist movement there and the President is asking Rosaura to teach in a rural area. She seems to be in awe of the grandeur of the building with its history and with the President. Both are requesting similar things, to teach those without a formal education, the history of Mexico.

<http://www.vernonjohns.org/snuffy1186/rio%20escondido.html>

Posted By: Bridget McCusker

ytCropper | RÍO ESCONDIDO  
ytCropper cropped video inside!  
YTCROPPER

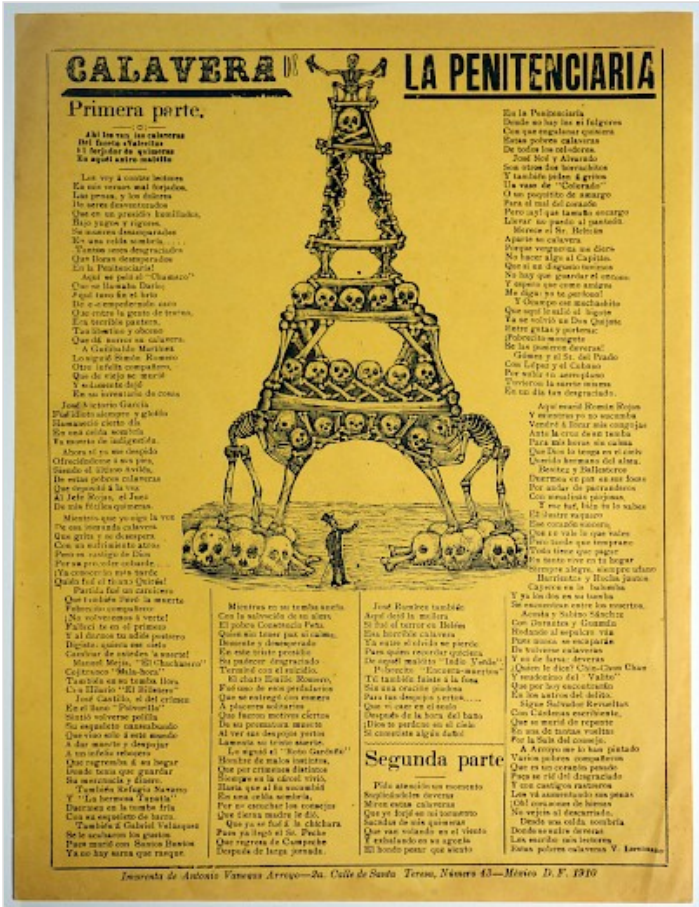


## Work of art #1 Manuel Manilla (1830-1895)Calavera La Penitenciaría

Etching was very popular in Mexico. It was used in advertisements and creative stories in Mexico's culture. I uncovered one artist by the name of Manuel Manilla whom practiced the art of etching, who worked in Arroyo's shop. Manilla utilized the symbolism of the Calaveras in his etching as well. He practiced the same style of artwork and was

heavily influenced by Posada and later Antonio Vanegas Arroyo. His themes in his illustrations included images of corridos(songs), scenes of bullfighting, circuses, street living and adaptations of magic. He was recognized for his religious compositions and motifs of parody's using skeleton images or Calaveras. He was credited for making 500 illustrations and paintings in wood cuts and acid etchings specifically employed for Vanegas Arroyo. Posada and Manilla composed exceptional contributions. The popular Calaveras skeleton etched paintings were significant in Mexican culture. The illustrations were effective and subsidized information to the masses. He also produced illustrations and engravings for over thirty publishing condominiums. His mentor Posada and Manilla worked together to cultivating and categorizing the skeleton artwork style in etching from 1889 to 1892.

Posted by Zachary Mundon



## Work of art #2 Jose Celestino Orozco Catharsis 1934,

During the Muralist Movement artists portrayed artworks from all shapes and sizes to bring awareness and responsibility of the Mexico's history during the Mexican Revolution. The Muralism movement have revered some of the



most prominent artists in the Mexican Revolution. One artist which I think had a strong significance to the revolution is Jose Orozco. In his earlier years, he was a student intrigued by social, political and economic conflict. Mexican muralism remains a distinguished commendation to the revolution. Orozco's paintings were expressionistic and arose during the muralism movement as perception of his aspirations and opinion about events occurring in his country. Muralist, recovered lost stories, characterize narratives and reassembled history. Orozco idealized the Revolution compared to other muralist artists. In the painting *Catharsis* 1934, he symbolizes the cleansing of civilization through warfare, death and tragedy. In addition, this painting gives no regard to the human condition and it capitulated the exuberance of moral degradation. The discount of righteous acts and the aspects of meaningless war, destruction and how present during this time. This painting also determines how present, war, violence and prostitution was during this time. In addition, the mural shows how active these problems remained throughout the century. The title itself "Catharsis" means the process of releasing or to have relief from. In translation to this painting this was a relief of life and the immoral world we live in.

Posted by Zachary Mundon



## Photograph #1 The Workers Hands. Tina Modotti

This image is a subtle celebration of the laborers respectability. It was captured in 1972. I think the image pays tribute to the hardworking farmers and laborers with an extensive focus on the worker's hands. The image introduces a new concept of realism about the struggle for commoner's survival in everyday life. Identically, the *Workers Hands* is the focal point in the entire image and the viewer is reduced to

just the workers dirty, rough hands to show the resilient spirit of Mexico's workforce. The frame is considered a close-up shot and with the quality of sharpness. But there is significant depth of field. Tina Modotti shoots this photo in natural light. The exposure is dark and does not over highlight the hands. If the photographer was to brighten the exposure on the workers hands we would lose the injuries and realism of the hands. I believe she kept her exposure low and lowered her shutter speed. Consequently, because she lowered her shutter speed, there is a little blurriness in the photo, either from the subject moving or herself when taking the image. In addition, the photographer is shooting during morning or sunrise from where the shadow is being casted on the hands. In *The Workers Hands*, Modotti, is also shooting her image at a high ISO or film camera because there is a significant amount of graininess in the image. However, Film cameras naturally have a grainy texture when they are developed so this could contribute to the overall look of the image. The exposure, lens, time of day and shutter speed all contributed in catching a beautiful image of the hardships for laborers in the workforce of Mexico.

Posted by Zachary Mundon



## Film clip #1 Los Olivados Dream Sequence Pedro. Luis Bunel

According to Britannica Encyclopedia, Buñuel was "an unregenerate atheist and communist sympathizer who was preoccupied with themes of gratuitous cruelty, eroticism, and religious mania." His film *Los Olivados* takes place in the hardships of Mexico City. The film tells the story of a gang of young children. They committed crimes including a scene where they rob a blind street musician and legless man. The



leader Jaibo influences the gang and is the antagonist of the group. Things get worse when Jaibo, begins a revenge spree and kills Julian, whom he thinks betrays him and put him in prison. Jaibo's colleague Pedro, witnesses the murder of Julian and desired only to return to a life of simplicity and crimeless. Consequently, after his mother rejects him after accusing Pedro for stealing a knife (which Jaibo stole.) Pedro is later sent to reform school. He meets a school administrator who mentors him and tries to teach him right from wrong. However, because of his corrupt living atmosphere and his previous life in the hardships of Mexico it it's difficult for Pedro to escape the constraint of his past.

In the film, there are moments in scenes that are highly intensified and if we formulate a sequence of these cinematic moments. I dissected three screen shots of scenes that I think renders the techniques and genre of the Buñuel. In this scene, the main character is experience a dream. The sequence is shot in a cerebral/experimental matter. For example, in the beginning of the scene Pedro wakes up in his own body but in a transparent version of himself. Thus, informing the audience that he is not in the real world. There also slow movements and slow motion cuts of Jaibo on the ground surrounded by pedals claiming he is hurt or even mourning for his friend. However, Jaibo is clearly unbothered by the incident. Additionally, Pedro's mother wakes up and seems angelic almost celestial; even by the way she moves. She brings Pedro a dead chicken which Pedro saw a few moments earlier ALIVE. We can assume that this could relate to Pedro himself as foreshadowing to the hardship of his life. I think this scene was stylized very appropriately for the dream. The slow-motion movement, depiction of death and life and flower pedals all hold significance in the overall film style of Buñuel.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sBrKiIQxDLU>

Posted by Zachary Mundon



### Los Olvidados Sueño de Pedro

by Andrei Kamiya

YOUTUBE

## Construction work #1 Luis Barragán

Luis Barragán was a profound architect in Mexico. He started as an engineer and rose to be an architect which he completed structural construction of: gardens, plazas and extravagant houses and fountains (which won him the Pritzker Prize in 1980.) He was born into a wealthy family in which he lived in a farm near Guadalajara, Mexico. As a student, he attended Escuela Libre De Ingenieros (School of Engineers.) He learned civil engineering and furthered his education in architecture. Luis Barragán gained a lot of knowledge about design and architecture through his travels around Italy, Greece and other parts of the world. Analysts, would suggest that some of his inspiration comes from his study of the composition. Luis Barragán was influence by Bac and Le Corbuiser who inspired most of his architectural style. According to Britannica "*Barragán began to conceive new methods by which he could create what he called an "emotional architecture," one that would encourage meditation and quietude. "He revolutionized the art of architecture in Mexico expressing his own ideas that cauterized the maturity of his later years as an architect. He introduced natural sitting, classic surfaces, water features, expressive color pallets and other adaptations of modern architecture. Stated in Britannica he built a strong "1952 he developed El Pedregal ("The Lava") as a subdivision of Mexico City, taking great care to incorporate intact its volcanic outcroppings and other natural formations."* If we review his work we can determine that he still emphasizes the beauty of Mexico through with open atmosphere and big windows. He also uses color to distinguish the ambience of the room, I will also say that he doesn't have a consistent color pallet. It changes based on the project. In



addition to his prominent works are the house he created around existing buildings at 20–22 Calle Ramírez in the Tacubaya district of Mexico City. He also developed a creative house of his work which still is recognized for its innovation and adaptation of Mexican architecture.

Posted by Zachary Mundon

Sources:

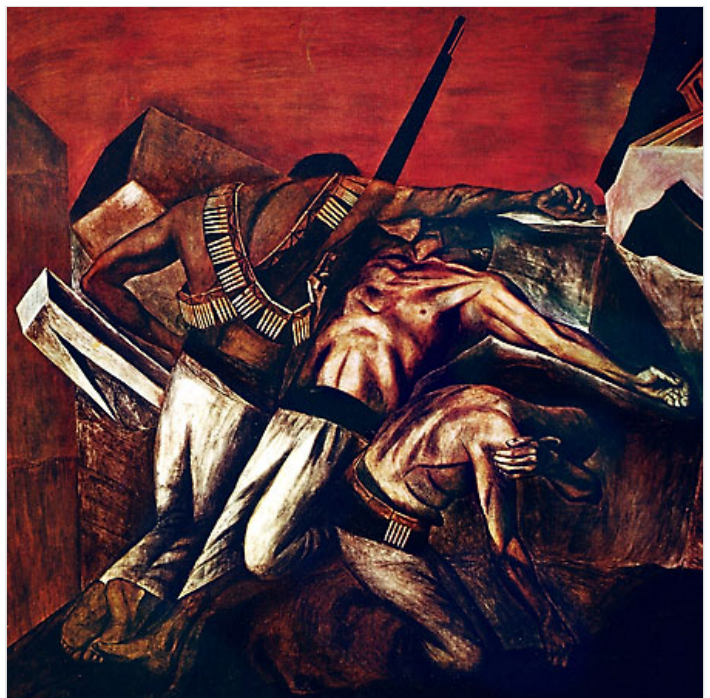
Luis Barragan: Mexican Architect.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Luis-Barragan>



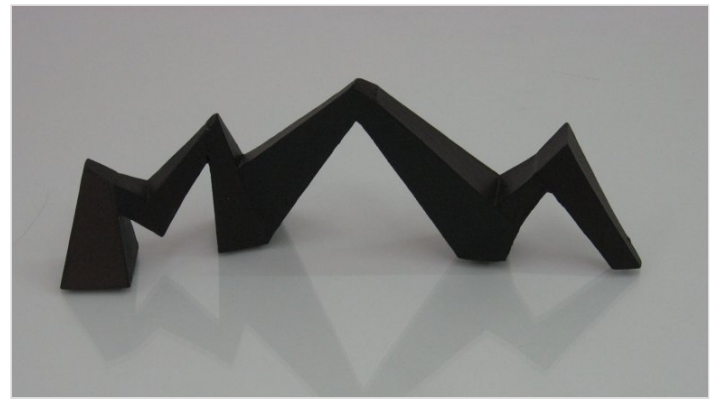
**José Guadalupe Posada (February 2, 1852 – January 20, 1913) was a Mexican political printmaker and engraver. He used skulls, calaveras, and bones to make political and cultural critiques. His career began with a job as the political cartoonist for a local newspaper in Aguascalientes, The image depicts a skeleton dressed only in a hat befitting the upper class outfit of a European of her time. The image captures the famous calaveras or skull/skeleton image that had become popular at the turn of the 20th century. The skeletons, often dressed in finery, move playfully and smile widely, in some ways. Post by Karla Streber**

**José Clemente Orozco (November 23, 1883 – September 7, 1949) was a Mexican painter who specialized in political murals that established the Mexican Mural Renaissance. Jose Clement Orozco was a politically active Mexican muralist - The Trench depicts soldiers fighting in the Mexican Revolution. His murals always have symbolic meaning, which usually pertained to politics and the sorrows of the time. His murals are not known for being cheerful but rather for depicting reality: cold, harsh, and brutal. Post by Karla Streber**





**Casasola Archive. In November 1910, the Mexican Revolution broke out when rebel forces organized against President Porfirio Díaz Mori. The dictator, whose implacable rule of over three decades had stripped Mexico's poor of both rights and land. In this photo Pancho in a maderista camp, 1911. Ready to take an action. Post by Karla Streber**



**Los Olvidados - The scene I selected is where Jaibo tracks down Julián, Jaibo puts his arm in a fake sling and hides a rock in it. El Jaibo confronts Julián, who denies that he reported him to the police. Julián refuses to fight with Jaibo because it wouldn't be a fair fight with El Jaibo's arm broken. As Julián starts to walk away, El Jaibo hits him in the head with the rock. He then beats Julián to death and takes his money. This is a strong film with a political content.**

Post by Karla



## **"Qué Viva México"**

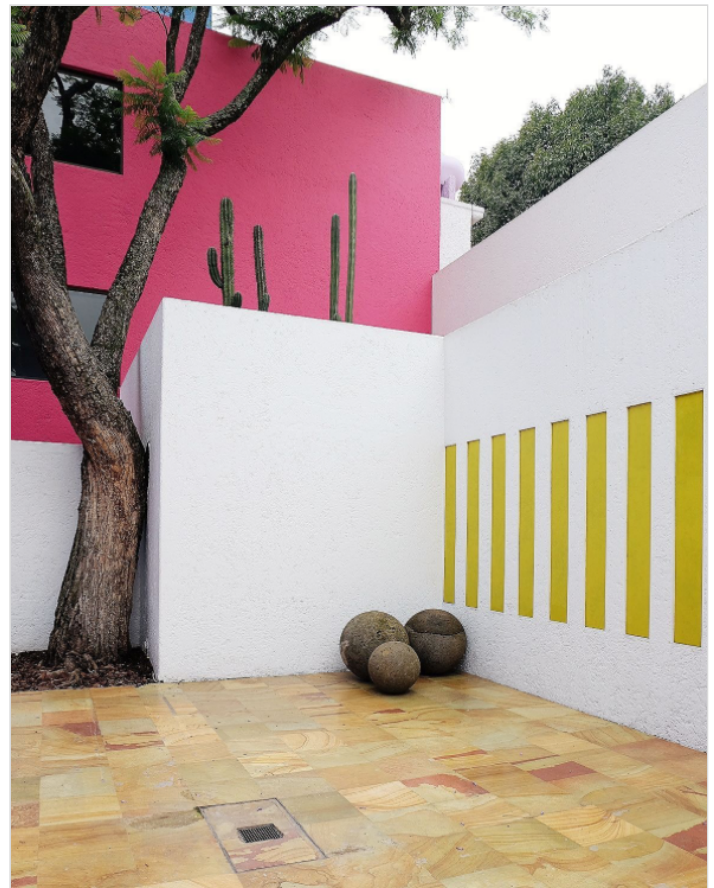
In "Qué Viva México" I love the passion of emotions that Sergei Eisenstein and Grigori Aleksandrov exhibit. They created a beautiful wedding scene in the beginning that really explores the beauty and unity in Mexican Love. They were all showcased wearing the same kind of garments that were beautifully draped over the heads and bodies. The black and white film captures different angles that expressed peace and unification for the family. The bride and groom ended the experience with this moving ceremony of contentment and euphoria with everyone dancing and singing. The next scene clips into the couple with their kid that gave a nice feeling in your stomach even though the movie was no way near ending.  
-Shawntel King



## Luis Barragan

Architect Luis Barragan (1902-1988) influences contemporary architects by allowing them to think in terms of concept or abstract ideas and in ways that explore the relationship between seeing and sight. He was a minimalist which is a pretty trendy term for our society currently and he also explore more than just ideas of form and space. This structure that he designed shows the importance of form and function while utilizing his use of bright colors that displays limitlessly. The aesthetic of the shapes on the walls and placements on symmetry is show in the windows in the back and the yellow rectangle up front. I love that he always used traditional elements of Mexico to express the cultural aspects that goes into designing.

-Shawntel King



## Juan Rulfo

Juan Rulfo's photography explores the empowerment I nature and the power that its expresses throughout humans. His photography normally captures the entire landscapes and he normally works with multiple silhouettes to explore different shapes. This angle exhibits his point of style adding to the proportion that this photograph expression. This photo shows the formation of line that is displaying on the woman garments and hands. Lastly he is able to work around the negative space with drawing the viewers eyes to different locations. The highlights and shadowing that is presented in the background signifies the importance of the subject and unity between the women. -Shawntel King





## Leonora Carrington

Leonora Carrington was a surrealist artist that lived most of her adult life in Mexico. Her key figures in the Surrealist movement was essentially her artist approach on individuality. She created these colorful and vibrant works of art that was a mix of unconscious thoughts that were always understood. She was able to achieve dreamlike compositions that actually created political and cultural influences. The settings of these pieces were unknown and confusing which made it more fun to analyze. Lastly she constantly communicated ideas of sexual identity that didn't stereotype women or create them as sexualized beings. She was amazing for empowering women into male dominated environments and narratives.

-Shawntel King

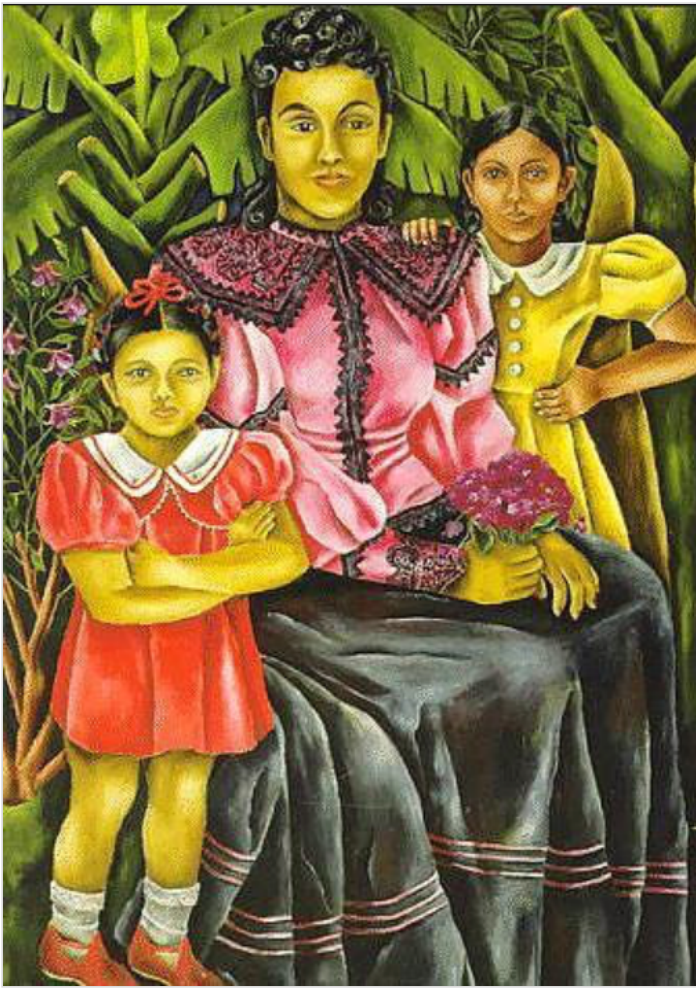


## Maria Izquierdo

Maria Izquierdo *Mis sobrinas*, 1940.

This piece creates a subtle questionable feeling that is only unfulfilled because of the littlest girl body language. Also the mom sitting down doesn't look the happiest and again the body language of the girl in the back is a little stand-offish. The tropical background creates a deeper contrast of the family which works well with the different colors in the room. Comparing this first one to the last one, Kahlo's artwork uses much more subtle tones and neutral substitutions. The attention to detail is the shown throughout both of the dresses all the way to the front strands of hair. The length of the brushstrokes was definitely constructed much longer than Izquierdo. Izquierdo also worked with color a lot more and deepens the shadows more harshly with the blacks mixed with the other bright colors.

-Shawntel King



## Work of Art #1: Mural: Secretary of Public Education (1923-1928)

The Secretary of Public Education Mural by Diego Rivera  
It has a short story of what the Mexico society/government was going during those times. It was a way to portray the history of over one million people who died in the civil war during the long years of fighting for their country. In the center, we can see Frida which was a representation for many people as their hero. She was Diego's love and represented the Mexican culture beautiful by showing them in her own paintings. In the background, we can see the soldiers and workers which represented war when it was going on before and the production of bullets on the side. It's a historical representation of what Diego and many people saw during those times. It's one of my favorite murals because it's a representation of history, showcasing Frida who for many was a hero for representing our country with so many beautiful stories in paintings and how so many people fought for their rights.

Posted by Valeria Trevino



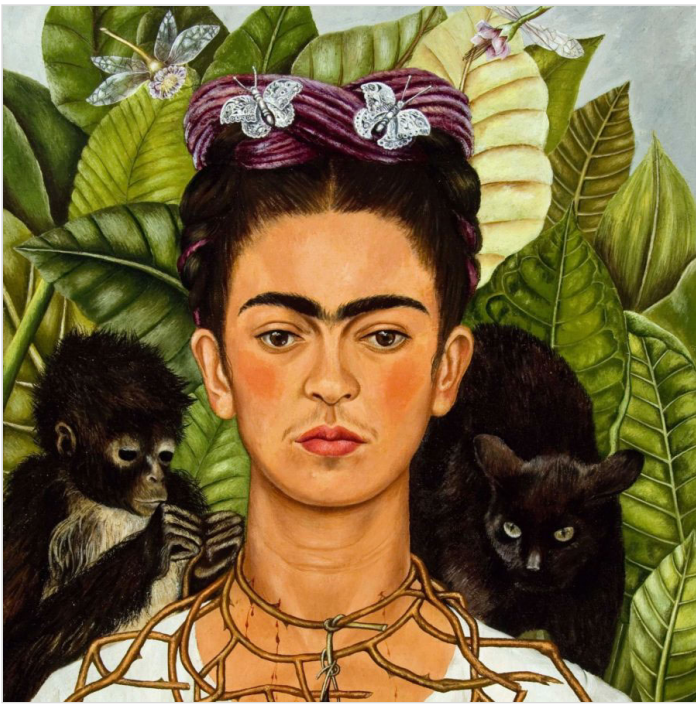
## Work of Art #2: Painting: Self Portrait with torn necklace and hummingbird (1940)

Frida Kahlo Self-Portrait Hummingbird

Frida Kahlo's self-portrait in 1940 represents her personality. Her love for animals and nature was always present in her paintings. But at the same time, her surrealist style was present in the butterflies, monkey/cat, and thorns. It was a way to show her feelings and stories of her own life with Diego. This is one of the few paintings of her that is now showing violence or the representation of Catholicism and death. Many of her paintings represent her grief of not being able to have kids and the many personal problems she had with Diego. But many other paintings also represent the history of what the Mexican society was going thru and she portrayed that in her paintings. Frida Kahlo is one of my favorite artists and I'm proud to know she still represents the Mexican culture in her paintings worldwide.

Posted by Valeria Trevino





## Building #1: UNAM (1950)

Mexico's National Autonomous University Campus in Mexico City

The UNAM has a long history of famous mural artists in every hallway and building. Many of their building was also designed by architects like Juan O' Gorman. The Administrative building has a mural by David Alfaro, which represents the country's colors and the students' unity in the university. The Central Library building was designed by Juan O' Gorman who also painted murals inside the building that had a representation of farmers working in the rural areas. Many of the murals in the building, as well as the design of the architecture of the entire school, is a representation of the Mexican culture and people who inspired many students. One of my favorite buildings from knowing so many important people graduated from here and are huge figures in their professional field.

Posted by Valeria Trevino



## Photograph #1: General Porfirio Díaz by the Casasola Archive (1900)

Porfirio Diaz photograph from 1900 by the Casasola Archive. General Porfirio Diaz was born in Oaxaca, Mexico. He was part Indian and joined the army at a very young age. This shapes him in many ways that made him lead Mexico with an authoritarian regime that will change everything during his presidential years. Porfirio Diaz was a rectum modernist character that wanted progression in Mexico, at whatever cost, that in the end hurt many citizens by losing their jobs, moving to rural areas for losing land and properties, and making them slaves. He did make an impact economically by building one of the most important transportation methods today, which was the railroad. It helped transport goods from coal, food, mechanic parts...etc. Porfirio Diaz also made a change by investing more in foreign industries, mines, and railroads. This made a huge impact on the Mexican economy by opening new doors to treaties in Europe and even in the USA. General Porfirio Diaz was an important leader in the history of Mexico, who for good and bad will still remember. He hurt many people economically and by stereotyping society but made big changes to the country.

Posted by Valeria Trevino



## Hernan Cortes y La Malinche by Jose Clemente Orozco

In Jose Clemente Orozco's fresco of Hernan Cortes y La Malinche there lies a certain amount of uncertainty. As we know Hernan Cortes is the Spanish Conquistador and La Malinche, his slave, served as a translator and thought of as one of the main reasons Cortes was successful in his conquest. The fresco shows both individuals nude, similar to an image of Adam and Eve. Which we can assume it is the reference to beginning of something new. They are sitting over a male figure of the same ethnicity of la malinche. This is the representation of miscegenation and the mixing of races. Cortes is also shown holding malinche's hand and we are unsure if this is him protecting her or restraining. However, this is a clear image of the newly founded Mexico and again we are uncertain if this meant to be a good or bad thing. La Malinche is also thought of as a traitor because of her non patriotic behavior.

-Luis Peregrina

## General Lázaro Cárdenas, President of Mexico

This photograph is of General Lázaro Cárdenas, whom had a great impact on Mexico's society. Best known for his nationalization of the oil industry in 1938 and expropriating large landed estates and distributing land to small holders. With providing land to "peasants" Cardenas also extended the services of the banks to allow new owners borrow money. In the grand scheme of things this allowed the minority groups of Mexico to begin to move forward as individuals and was a sign of hope for the Mexican people. In the photograph that was taken of Cardenas, he is getting off a train and we see the community waiting for him and we see a form of respect for who he is.





prohibits him from walking on her street. The importance of this scene is this is a prime example of perhaps how the middle and lower class were treated during the revolution. To place this scene into perspective, Jose Juan is a revolutionary leader and Beatriz the daughter of one of the wealthiest men in the town. As she is part of that circle her perception of the revolution is that it is against her and her beliefs. However, Jose Juan is madly in love with her and is persistent in conquering Beatriz's heart. This is perhaps Emilio Fernandez, the director, way of showing us how the revolution happens to change certain people's perspectives as Beatriz ends up leaving her rich family to join Jose Juan in his fight.

-Luis Peregrina



## La Pelona

Frida Kahlo's paintings possess a narrative quality. All producing a story and specifically in her self-portrait, La Pelona, many believe she is telling a story of a heartbroken woman. La Pelona was painted after her divorce from Diego Rivera and she is seen with all her hair cut off and in a man's suit. The suit is believed to be of Diego Rivera and the hair around the floor is meant to represent how her life has fallen apart. However, Frida does contain one strand of hair in her hands. My interpretation is she has kept the most important part of herself, which is her dignity and self-worth. This isn't a painting of someone who is sad, but an awakening and an expression of freedom and independence from a man.

-Luis Peregrina

## Mathias Goeritz

German-born artist Mathias Goeritz immigrated to Mexico in 1949 and became a critical figure in the development of modern art in postwar Latin America. Developing the principle of "emotional architecture", Goeritz created a transition for artists from the overarching influence of national mural movement. Emotional Architecture is the consideration of spaces and objects that are produced to evoke empathy and celebrate collaboration rather than the functionality and authorship. Goeritz opened El Eco, a museum in Mexico City designed to house art, music, theater, literature, and cinema. All forms of art that contained a single purpose: eliciting true emotions and spiritual uplift. This was such a transition from muralism as the movement was to deliver a direct message and in specific political or social views. One of his most known pieces of work is La Serpiente de el Eco. Placed in El Eco, La Serpiente was meant to be a form of interaction in the courtyard it was placed in. Goeritz created a series of variations on the sculpture where the shape rises and falls with various thicknesses. Goeritz's work is also considered to be an early indication of what we know as minimalism.

-Luis Peregrina



## Clip from Enamorada

The clip I chose was from the film Enamorada, where Beatriz is insulting Jose Juan. She belittles him, his clothes, and even



## March of the Revolutionaries: Orozco

José Clemente Orozco was a Mexican painter who was part of the Mexican muralist movement. I chose to use this piece as part of my album because I felt that it embodies the period of the Mexican revolution. Orozco is known for his paintings to be political and express his views which I think was vital at the time to express. His art not only was an outlet for his views, but a gateway to reach other people and send a message to whoever views it.

This mural done by Orozco is a reflection of the Mexican revolutionary soldiers who fought for their country and the people who make it what it is. He also includes women in the painting, showcasing how even the women played a vital role in the revolution by being the back bone and supporting the men while taking care of them.

-Julia Rodriguez



## Film #1: Los Olvidados - Pedro - Luis Buñuel

In the film, "Los Olvidados" is a tragic story of how adults run like kids and kids are dying like adults. Jaibo is a kid who took charge of being the leader of the group. But Julian was the only one who stood up to Jaibo and got killed. This is what we see in this scene, Pedro is so scared that Julian died that he tries to act well for Jaibo. Here we get to see how he's dreaming of wishing his mother was back and Julian dead underneath the bed. It's a metaphor of Julian taking away the raw meat from Pedro which in a way means he took his ability to be strong and just be a kid by witnessing such a hard time by learning how to survive without his parents. This film shows how the rich get more rich and the poor become more poor and how the child care system wasn't a priority in the government during that time.

Posted by Valeria Trevino

## Josef Albers Abstract paintings

I chose to use Josef Albers in my selection because I think he is an example of how influential and inspiring Mexico is. Albers traveled all around Mexico with his wife, exploring archeological and architectural structures. He sources his inspiration in lines and geometric patterns from the pre-Colombian art.

I find it fascinating and inspiring personally, because he created such beautiful abstract pieces stemming from the lines of homes in Mexico and how the structures were built. His art defines and emphasizes the fact that inspiration is all around you it's just a matter of what you do with it.

Julia R.

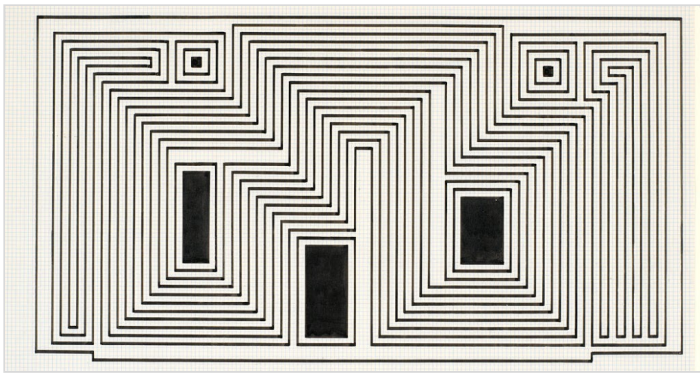
ytCropper | Los Olvidados/The Young and the Damned

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structures should strike an emotional response, and strictly not just for aesthetic pleasure.

This specific piece against the mountains contrasting the lines go in harmony together. The minimalistic sculpture almost seems as if Georitz took and striped mountains to the bare minimum exposing the structure and the contours of its raw beauty. Mathias Georitz stands out from other artists at the time because he took the most unconventional way of art, creating something new and inspiring much like his travels around the world.

Julia Rodriguez



## The Execution of Emperor Maximilian, 1867 – Edouard Manet

The Execution of Emperor Maximilian was painted by Edouard Manet in 1867. Edouard chose to present a very dramatic effect in this painting. A bit of background on the painting is that Emperor Maximilian was abandoned by his troops and supporters after the civil war. Maximilian was then captured in 1867 by Queretaro and was sentenced to death which was ordered by Benito Juarez himself. He was sentenced to be executed by a firing squad. In the painting itself, we are shown the actual execution of the emperor. If you observe closely you see that the soldiers have already fired their weapons and that the smoke is clearing away from two of Maximilian's supporters. We also note in the back one soldier that appears to be preparing his weapon to deliver the final shot to end the Emperor's life. Interesting enough, it is believed that this particular painting was done in two other versions but neither truly showed enough detail. Many were just sketches and unfinished pieces. Manet incorporated much detail into the painting. In the background, you can make out the audience and even their reactions. Of course much of the emphasis of the painting is actually focused on the soldiers and Maximilian himself.

## Paul Strand:

Paul Strand is an American photographer who was part of the handful of artists who started to establish photography as an art form. In his career he was invited to Mexico to document the changing landscape and people. During his stay he captured the raw beauty in the everyday lives of these people. He focused on real people in the streets, capturing their daily tasks and lives.

I like this photo in particular because it showcases the women on the country and the different generations taking care of each other. A woman holds a child, and the other women stick together. They also wear matching scarfs and walk barefoot along the rough floors and distressed brick walls. The photo captures the group in real time, freezing it forever for the world to see.

Julia Rodriguez



## Mathias Georitz

Mathias Georitz was a sculptor. He combined the two forms of sculptures and architecture to create these hybrid master pieces. Georitz is known for the idea that these architectural



- Posted By Eric Saucedo



## The Epic of American Civilization: Anglo America, Hispanic America

Artist Jose Clemente Orozco painted the Mural "The Epic of American Civilization, Anglo American, Hispano-America, and Gods of the Modern world. This piece was completed in 1934 and consisted of 24 individual panels in the Baker Library of Dartmouth College. Orozco's main focus for these murals was that he wanted to depict the impact of indigenous and European people in North America. He also wanted to show the horrors of the Mexican Revolution along with World War I in which he was able to portray the impact on the human spirit as well as show the rapid growth of industrialization. The murals were meant to predict the rise of the Military that would lead up to World War II.

- Posted By Eric Saucedo



## Striking Worker Murdered – 1934

Photographer Manuel Alvarez Bravo is said to be one of the founders of Modern Photography. From being able to capture images that are raw and unfiltered to being able to show a piece of history or tell a story with just a simple shot of his camera. Manuel in this particular photo captures the reality of death and the picture holds nothing back. We see a man that has just been killed and is believed to be a factory worker who was protesting against the laborers conditions. While the picture shown was brutal and uneasy to see, critics also said it was one of Manuel's best photographs. The photo captured the perfect angles and framing that make the picture all that more powerful.

-Posted By Eric Saucedo



## Que Viva Mexico - Prologue

The very first few minutes of the film "Que Viva Mexico" filmed by Sergei Eisenstein are a very important part in the film and to Mexican film industry. We are introduced to a background of Mexico giving us a pre-history of the country and its indigenous people. We are also given several shots of the ruins, monuments, and sculpture. It provides a pretty good in-depth view of Mexico's history and landscape. While the film was never actually completed nor edited as Sergei Eisenstein would have liked, it still went on to be a very much discussed film in the latin film industry as it helped examine Mexico as a country and its people at the same time. In a sense it gave the country more exposure to the public.

- Posted By Eric Saucedo

ytCropper | Que Viva Mexico!  
(ENGLISH SUBTITLES, FULL  
VERSION) - 1979

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## Chac Mool Sculpture

The Chac Mool was an art piece sculpture that was associated with ancient cultures such as the Aztecs and Mayans. The statue itself shows a reclined man and he is holding some sort of bowl or tray perhaps. What's interesting about the statue is the man's body placement. If you take note the man is laying reclined but his head is facing 90 degrees from the front of his body. The purpose of the Chac Mool was that it was to be used for religious ceremonial purposes. While the statue was not actually worshipped, rather it was used for sacrificial offerings for the gods. These offerings would be anything from food, tobacco, flowers, and even gold. The Chac Mool also served for human sacrifices for ritual purposes.

- Posted By Eric Saucedo



## The Creation - 1922

The Creation, a work of art and mural that was truly significant to the Mexican Revolution, in depicting various aspects of the revolution. This was Diego Rivera's first government commissioned mural, that was specifically chosen to be done in Mexico's oldest high school. The piece Rivera was commissioned to do, was a very oddly shaped arch, which at the time could be seen as nothing, but now could be seen as major symbolism. The mural has figures standing on both sides with God in the center. This could very well represent the revolution, with the two sides of power, but all believing in the same god and faith. No matter what kind of government you practice or are fighting for, there is the same faith involved.

Ayana Schultz  
Work #1



## Portrait of Two Women

Diego Rivera, had a fairly large part in the Mexican Revolution. Eventually he had adopted a form of art known as cubism. His form of cubism could easily be distinct upon others by the mediums in which it was presented on. The textures it contained within, the image is ultimately displayed, and the message behind the image. This image is said to be Rivera's first wife and a Russian artist, which again could mean many things, and only he would truly know, but some symbolism behind this could be the fact that Mexico also needs to learn to let go, like he let go his wife. Everything should be taken with a grain of salt as no one really know what this was supposed to be.

Ayana Schultz  
Work #2



## Tina Modotti

Tina Modotti, an artist that immigrated from Italy, and still had a huge influence in the art that was concerned with the Mexican Revolution. Modotti was very interested and invested in the political movements and that can often be seen portrayed in her photographs. Her photography is often meant to show the balance between work and beliefs which often was depicted by a working tool and a sickle. In the photograph chosen, there is ammo depicted with corn and a sickle. This to me represents the balance and true pride she had in communism. She was an activist until the day she died, and never once doubted her beliefs because of the opposing government.

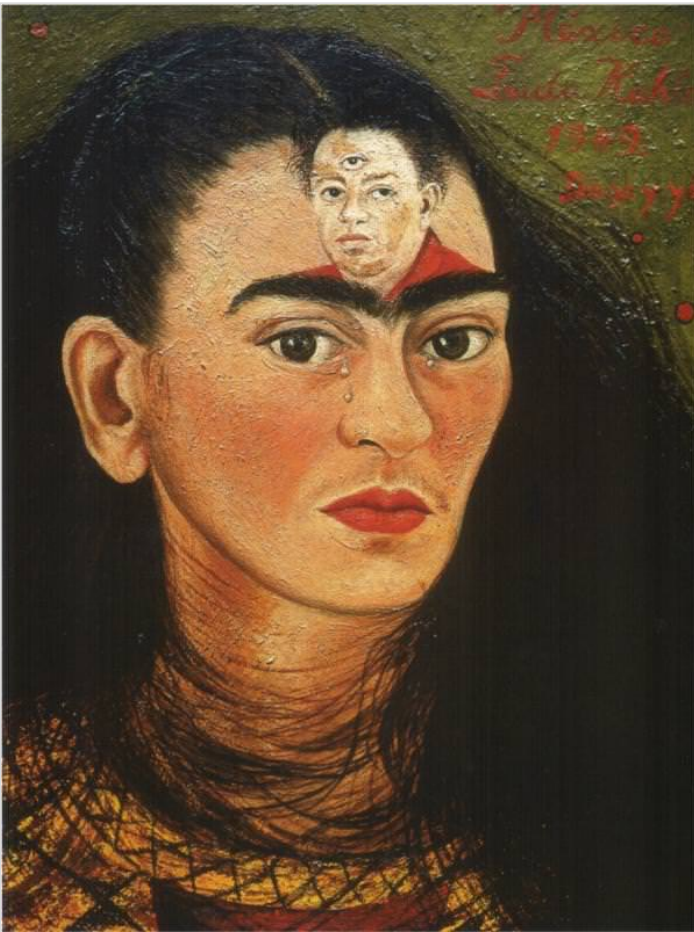
Ayana Schultz  
Work #3

## Frida and Diego

Frida and Diego's relationship was so controversial. She was much younger than him, they were literally known as beauty and the best. In my critique, this painting shows the control Diego has over her. He cheated on Frida with her younger sister! Yet, she still stayed with him. They did marry twice and divorce twice then she died a few years later. Diego has three eyes which may show that he is "always watching her". While she is flushed in the face and there are tears coming down. Possibly due to the infidelities, his control, or her need to be with him. She always showed her pain so her pain was towards Diego here.

-Alexis Martino





## José Guadalupe Posada

This is José Guadalupe Posada who made illustrations that usually had some sort of skull in it. He made his illustrations that remind me a lot of Day of the Dead. His art was humorous but could be serious as well. He would illustrate regular people like you and me and then turn them into skeletons. He showed no matter how much money or how much money you didn't have, we are all the same on the inside. I found this enlightening to see someone have a dark humor but still have a very powerful message.

- Alexis Martino

## Luis Barragán

Luis Barragán's house and its importance to the history of the Mexican Revolution, is truly spectacular. Luis Barragán himself, was a fantastic architecture and it is often said that no one could compare to his work. His house was obtained by the government and made into a museum, due to the fact that it housed so many brilliant pieces from the revolution, not limited to but including art of Picasso, Diego Rivera, and Jose Orozco. The house itself was a brilliant piece of art, bringing modernism and a sense of cubism into architecture, but the fact that it had so much original furniture and artwork inside is what made it truly fantastic and a piece for the times.

Ayana Schultz  
Work #4



## Diego Rivera

Diego Rivera was something else. He had a very scandalous relationship with Frida Kahlo, but he also had some controversy over his mural. This mural was called Man at the Crossroads, and it was destroyed. I can totally understand why Rockefeller had it destroyed. It wasn't something they agreed on and I think Diego was just being stubborn and petty. However the painting itself was very powerful. It is said Diego felt pressured because he was a communist and the Rockefeller's were not. So, Diego gave in to his communist people and the person in the middle is Vladimir Lenin, a communist revolutionary. Although it was destroyed in New York, you can see the mural in Mexico.

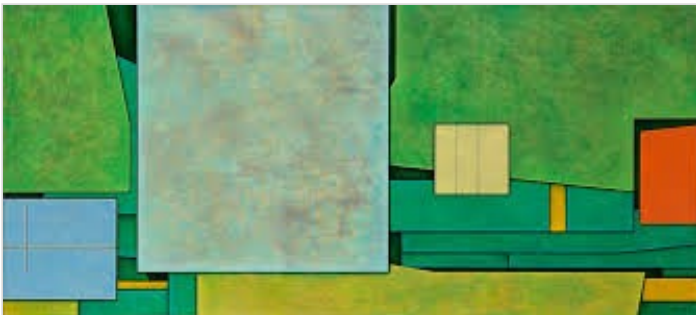
- Alexis Martino



## Gunther Gerzso

Architectonic abstractions, is how his paintings are characterized. Looking at his paintings, they do not do anything for me. They are plain, bright colored, and geometric shapes. He was a very good set designer in Ohio for a few years and painting was his hobby. Around 1944 he became more serious is painting. I can see his set designing background in his paintings. You can see a building, town, street, in his paintings that seem like you are looking down on a city. He moved around from Mexico, Switzerland, and Ohio so he came to know different cities around the world.

- Alexis Martino



## Frida Kahlo

I first saw this painting in my freshmen year of college in my Art 101 class and I loved it ever since. First, she had polio so one of her legs weren't good already from that. Then she is out with a friend and they get into a bus accident. She gets a rod in her body and lives. I can see why she paints her pain. This photo is the essence of her constant pain. Obviously the column represents the rod that was in her body. Then the pins show that her whole body is in constant pain and how her emotions are handling it as well, which doesn't look good because she is crying. Frida wasn't afraid to show how she feels and that is sometimes harder for women but she is really an idol. Showing pain isn't weak, It is strong and I think she showed that very well.

- Alexis Martino



## Los Olvidados

In this scene from Los Olvidados, there is a fight happening with a fairly large crowd around. The people fighting are two children. This scene depicts the harsh reality that was often seen in Mexico to go right along with the hardships that were already present because of the ongoing revolution. This scene shows the ugly side of how people were treated by other people in their community, when they should have been lifting each other up, and yes they are children, but that is no excuse on why they couldn't be civil. The only reason that I can think of is because they didn't have anyone to look up to since the revolution was taking so many people, they were all so sad and lost that they had nothing to look forward to either.

Ayana Schultz

Work #5

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## Los Olvidados: The Young and the Damned



The dream sequence in Los Olvidados stuck out to me in the film. The scene used different techniques to portray and emphasize how the young boy was feeling in an unconscious realm. Layering of the film to create the illusion that he is having an outer body experience. When it cuts to under the bed, Julian's face and actions are creepy while he tried to take the meat. The use of cuts back and forth create the illusion of his odd behavior. As the mother approaches, Julian's hand pops up again adding to the nightmare effect. As the young boy speaks with his mother, his mouth does not move, and she looks at him with this fake lifeless love. All these elements throw the view off, making the scene seem dislocated, adding

and emphasizing the tone.

-Julia Rodriguez

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