

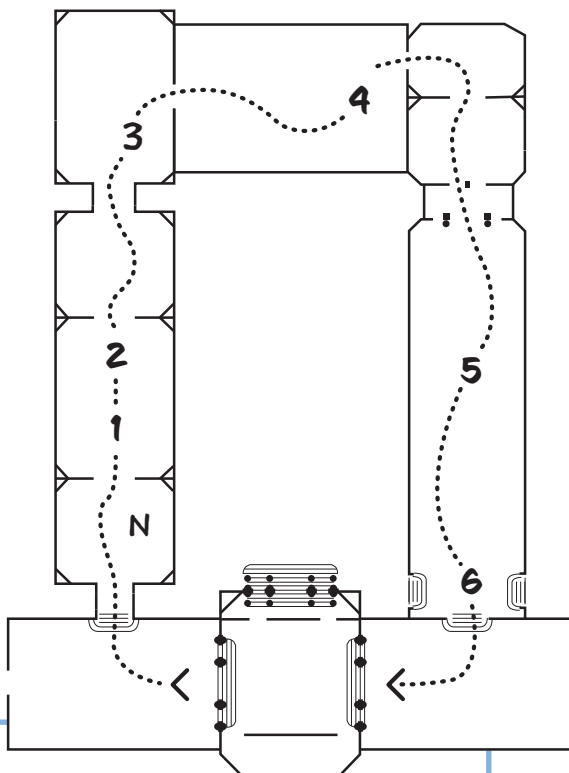
Kids Guide



**Histoire de ne pas rire.
Surrealism in Belgium**

21 Feb. » → 16 June '24 at Bozar

No dates,
no historical facts!
This guide simply
invites you to look,
imagine and wonder
about art.



A few tips for grown-ups before you begin

We are delighted to welcome you and your young visitors to the exhibition
Histoire de ne pas rire. Surrealism in Belgium.

An exhibition is a place dedicated to discovery, where you can observe many things, ask questions and put your imagination and creativity to work.

- Let yourself be guided by the young visitor you are accompanying and discover which works appeal to them the most.
- Don't feel obliged to stop in front of every work in the exhibition!
Explore at your own pace and take your time: the aim is certainly not to see everything.
- Leave plenty of room for discussion: when it comes to art, every interpretation is welcome.
- And above all, have fun!

Hello, my name is Paul Nougé.
Can you find me in this first room?
I'll be your guide throughout the
exhibition. Together with my artist
friends, we are the Belgian Surrealists.
We create works of art in different areas:
painting, photography, writing,... .
We share a taste for revolution
and humour! As you can see, art is our
favourite tool for
changing the world.



1. IMAGINE

Take a tour of this room and the next one.
You're about to discover works with surprising elements.
Which objects catch your attention the most?

Write down or draw your chosen objects here,
then incorporate them into a story that you imagine together.



2. WORDS AND IMAGES

We Surrealists like to play with words; in poems, texts and even paintings. But what we like most of all is to change their meaning. For example, Magritte and Miro wrote words on their canvases that didn't correspond to their drawings. A sword, a mountain, the sky...

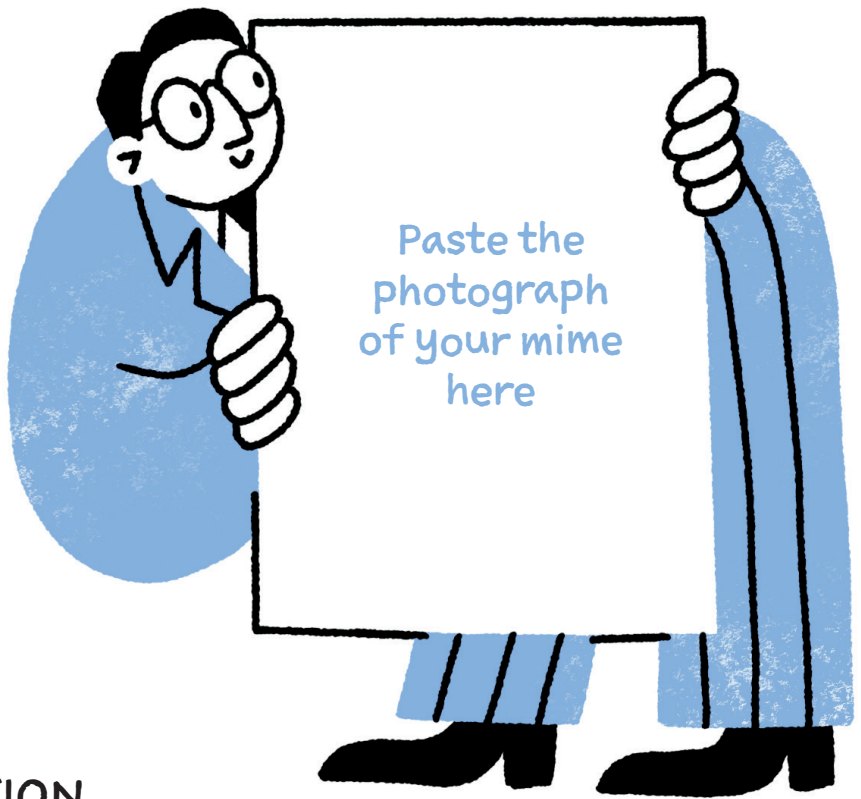
Look at these paintings.
Why do you think they did this?

.....



Find a small treasure in your pocket or bag (a sweet wrapper, a pencil, a parking ticket, etc.) and draw it in this frame. Then give your work an original title that has nothing to do with your drawing. Don't think too much, just be spontaneous!





3. ACTION

Welcome to my "cabinet".
Here you'll find photographs
inspired by my everyday life.
Look at them carefully:
I promise you a nice surprise!

In secret, choose a photograph and mime it for the others. Then the roles are reversed: try to guess what the others are miming. Want to play again? Go for it! This activity can be repeated throughout the exhibition.

If you like, capture your poses with a mobile phone. You can paste the photos above.

4. OBSERVATION

“Plein Soleil” means “full sun”.

It refers to the works that René Magritte created during and just after the Second World War. This difficult period did not prevent him from bringing colourful, poetic works to life!
Can you find them in this room?



Choose a work from this series that most appeals to you. Take a minute to observe its colours, shapes, textures, atmosphere,... . Use your hands to form a telescope to get a better view. Then talk about how you felt during the exercise.

Was it difficult to concentrate for so long?

What emotions did you feel?

What were you thinking when you looked at this picture?

Write down some of the ideas you've exchanged.

.....

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5. WHO'S PAINTING WHO?

There were also women among the Surrealists.
Here are some works by my friend Jane Graverol.
In her paintings, she mixes the everyday with the magical,
making them poetic and mysterious.

Choose the work that catches your eye and provokes
the most emotion.

Look at it and try to understand what's behind the image.
Do you see any conflicting ideas? Discuss them.

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What is the title of the work
you have chosen?

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Does the title match what we see?



Draw here what you think a painting
with such a title "should look like".

6. THE END

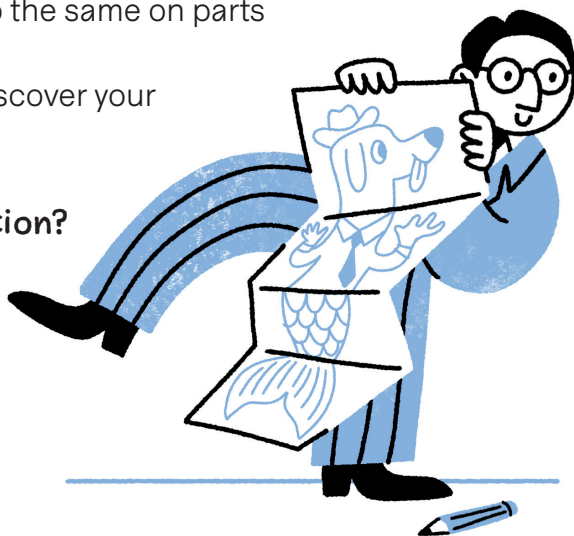
We've already reached the end of the exhibition. Do you recognise me? In this painting by Jane Graverol, I look a few years older, don't I? If you turn your head, you'll see another of Jane's paintings. On this one you'll find all our friends, the artists we've met over the course of this exhibition, and myself, of course!

We, the surrealists, are fond of playing "exquisite corpse," a group game aimed at creating a drawing without seeing what the previous person has drawn. The end therefore holds a special surprise!

Here's how to do it:

1. Cut out the next page.
2. On part 1, make a drawing, letting some lines extend onto part 2 as a guide for the next person.
3. Fold the sheet and pass the drawing to the next artist, making sure to hide your drawing!
4. The following players do the same on parts 2, 3, and 4.
5. Unfold the sheet and discover your exquisite corpse!

**Running out of inspiration?
Remember everything
you saw when you
visited the exhibition.**









To find out more about our activities
for families, visit our website
www.bozar.be/en/kids-and-youngsters

We organise a wide range
of school activities.
For more information, visit
www.bozar.be/en/education

Histoire de ne pas rire. Surrealism in Belgium
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Kids guide

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