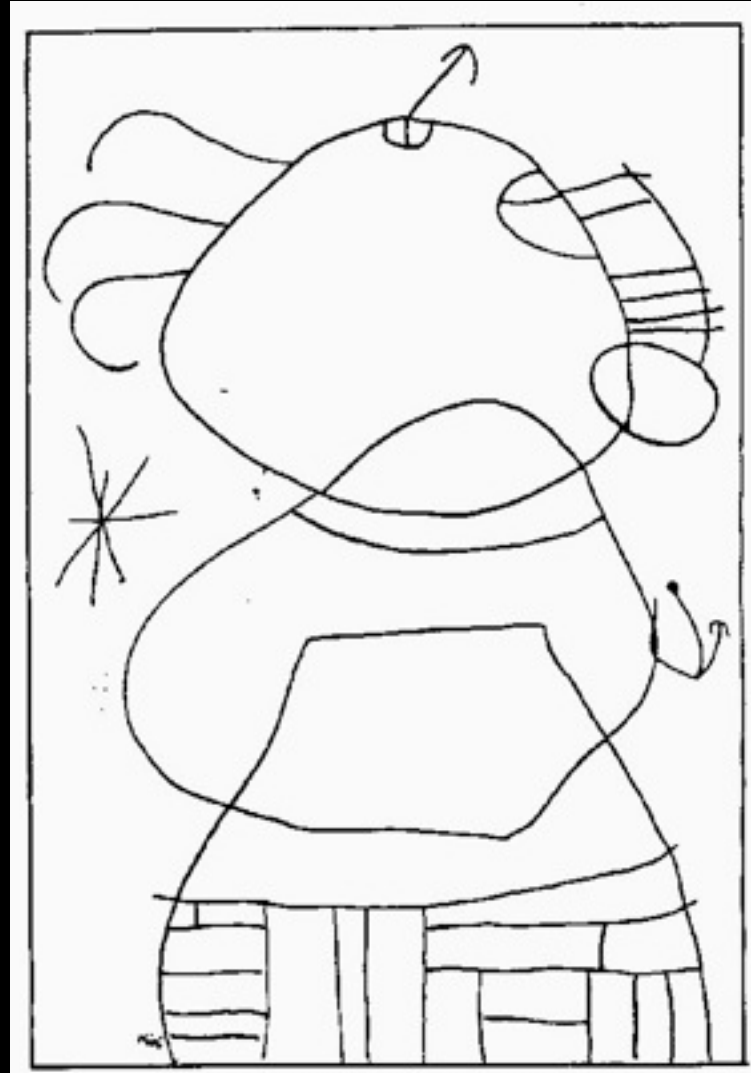




Is this art?

or this?



or this?



DaDa

1916–1920

Dada philosophy: described as “the sickest, most paralyzing and most destructive thing that has ever originated from the brain of a man”

Literally, the word **dada** means several things in several languages: it's French for "hobbyhorse" and Slavic for "yes yes." Some authorities say that the name Dada is non-sense babble.

DADA Overview

Cultural movement that began in Switzerland during World War I.

It was an anti-war movement and meant to counter the logic that was used for killing of millions during the war.

Dada ridiculed the seriousness of traditional art and made fun of its meaninglessness.

Dadaists wanted to prove the bankruptcy of existing style and artistic expression rather than promote a particular style itself.

Dada was not art — it was "anti-art". Dada sought to fight art with art."

Dada artists wanted to offend & shock with disrespect, mockery and absurdity because of their rage of militarism, chauvinism and the bourgeois civilization.

The Cabaret Voltaire was the birthplace of Dada. Hugo Ball established the café to provide a space for he and his friends to stage their Dada activities.



Hugo Ball performing his "Sound Poem"

KARAWANE

jolifanto bambla ô falli bambla
grossiga m'pfa habla horem

égiga goramen

higo bloiko russula huju

hollaka hollala

anlogo bung

blago bung

blago bung

bosso fataka

ü üü ü

schampa wulla wussa ólobo

hej tatta gôrem

eschige zunbada

wulubu ssubudu uluw ssubudu

tumba ba- umf

kusagauma

ba - umf

(1917)
Hugo Ball
53

Marcel Duchamp

His ready-mades
= "ordinary objects

transformed into
artworks simply
through the decision
of the artist" are often
complex and cynical.

His most recognized
work is the
provocative porcelain
urinal. Taking this
object that is not art,
and making it art,
creates a paradox.

What is usually seen
as a non-art object,
recontextualized,
becomes an art
object.



Fountain, Duchamp,
1917



Bicycle Wheel, Duchamp,
1913

The Dadaists were also known to de-face famous artwork just for the reaction.

Marcel Duchamp, *Mona Lisa parody "LHOOQ"* (1919), post card reproduction with added moustache, goatee and title in pencil)

The new title of the piece, L.H.O.O.Q., is meaningless in itself, but when read aloud in French, the letters make the sound of “elle a chaud au cul,” meaning, “She has a hot ass.”



DADAISTS took the concept of collage a step further than Cubistic design and introduced photography, in a process known as **photomontage**.



The collage **Gurk**, (1919) by Raoul Hausmann is a perfect example of the use of propaganda in the reverse. The head is collage-like, but it is exclusively composed of strips cut out of the daily newspapers reporting the events of the day. Hausmann suggests that journalistic propaganda fills everyone's head until this propaganda becomes one's own reality.

One Dada concert had no musicians and no sound. The audience grew restless and the sound of shifting bodies, wrappers, climaxed with the outraged cry of some audience members storming out at the lack of a show --- the Dadaists thought it was a great success.