

Textual Analyses: Drama



Dadaism

- 1916 (Zurich)
- Political, artistic and philosophical movement
- Challenged tradition, cultural values, art and artists
- Provocative
- Anarchy in art (anti-everything)
- Anything can be exhibited as art
- Short-lived (1923-1924)



Fountain (1917) by Marcel Duchamp



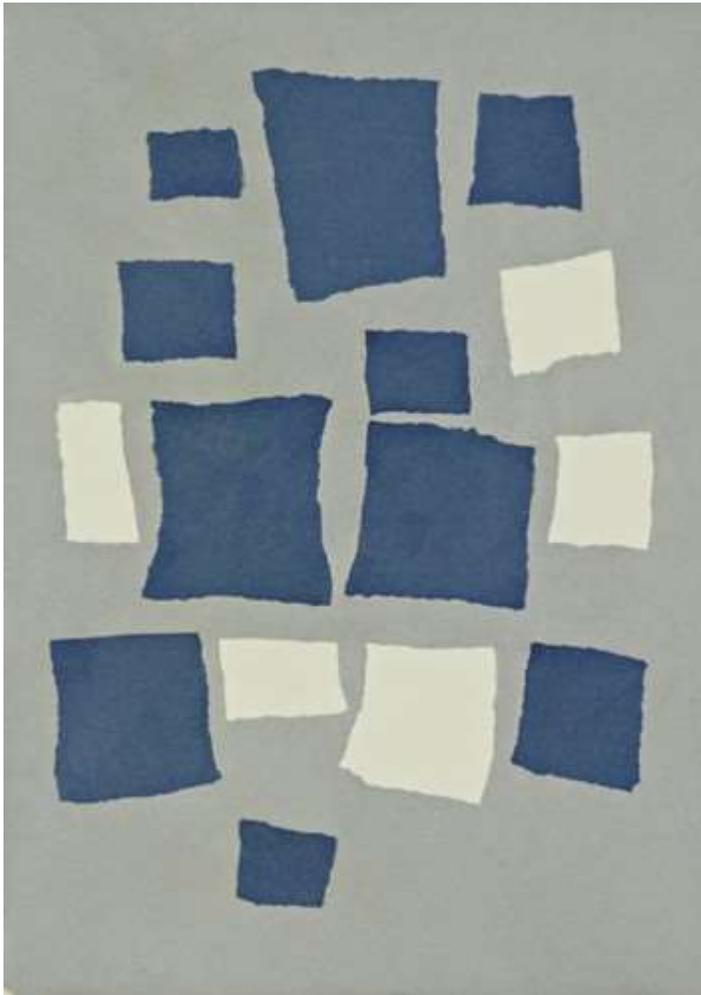
L.H.O.O.Q. (1919) by Marcel Duchamp



Gift (1921) by Man Ray



Typical Vertical Mess as Depiction of the Dada
Baargeld (1920) by Johannes Baargeld



Rectangles arranged according to the laws of chance (1917) by Jean Arp

Pop Art (50s and 60s)



Just what is it that makes today's homes so different, so appealing? (1956)
by Richard Hamilton



Shot Marilyns (1964) by Andy Warhol



M-Maybe (1965) by Roy Lichtenstein



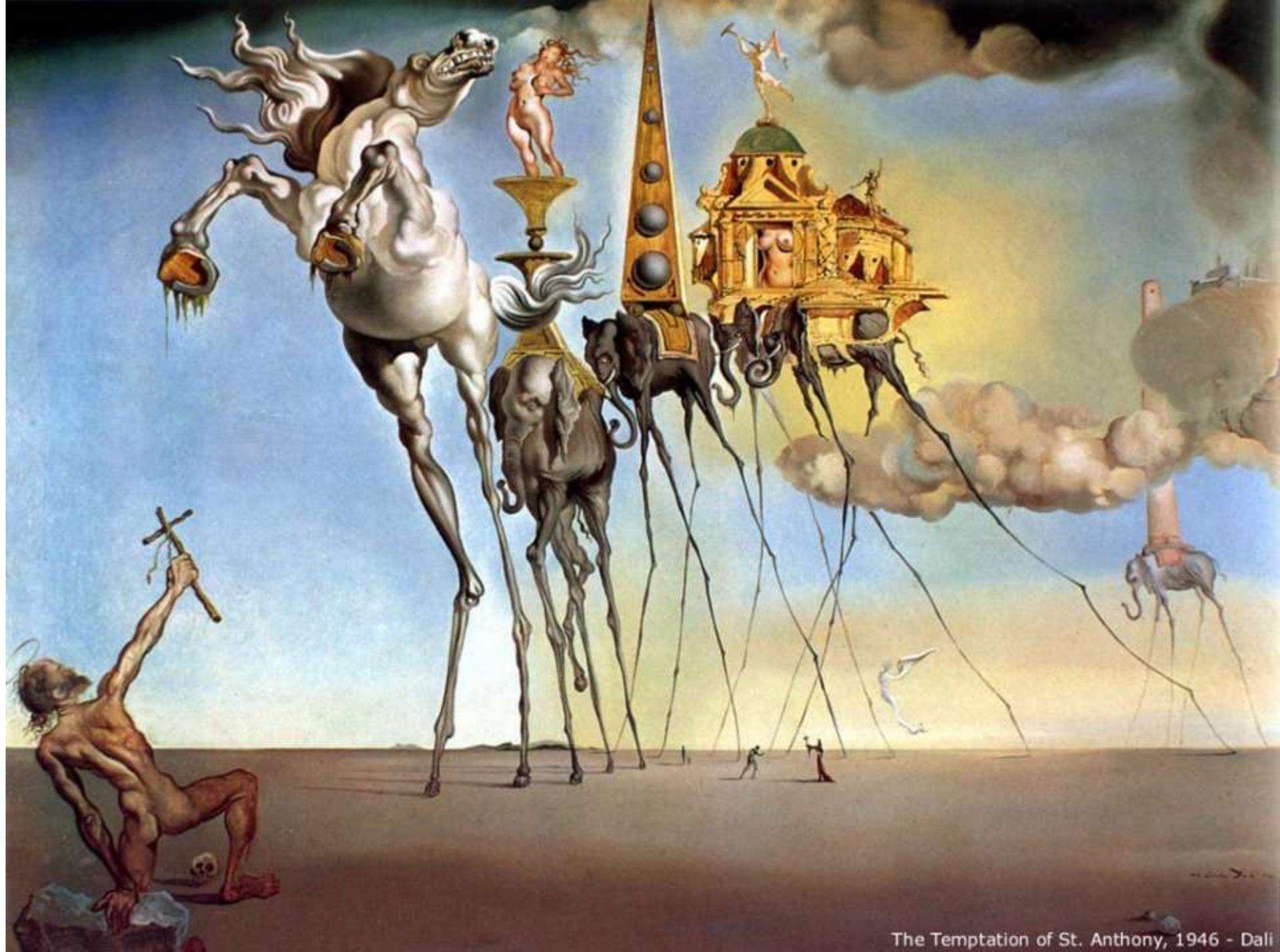
Artist's Shit (1961) by Piero Manzoni

Surrealism

- Free association
- Interpretation of dreams
- Juxtaposition
- Surrealism, noun. masc., Pure psychic automatism, by which it is intended to express either verbally or in writing, the true function of thought. Thought dictated in the absence of all control exerted by reason and outside all aesthetic or moral preoccupations (from the *Surrealist Manifesto*, 1924, by André Breton).



The Persistence of Memory (1931) by Salvador Dali



The Temptation of St. Anthony, 1946 - Dali

Existentialism

- Result of post WWII anxiety
- Basic stuff: What am I? Who am I? Why am I?
- Rejects preconceived ideologies of purpose and meaning in life
- “Existence precedes essence” (Jean-Paul Sartre)
- Individualism and subjectivity
- The myth of Sisyphus (Albert Camus)

Theatre of the Absurd

- Let's go.
- We can't.
- Why not?
- We are waiting for Godot.

(Waiting for Godot, 1953, by Samuel Beckett)

Theatre of the absurd

- A little bit of all the above (Dadaism, Surrealism, Existentialism)
- Time and space
- Lack of action/plot
- Repetition
- Incoherent and (seemingly) nonsensical
- Lost characters
- No answers