

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 2, 2021

DENVER BOTANIC
GARDENS

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Salvador Dalí: Gardens of the Mind

April 10 – August 22, 2021



Denver Botanic Gardens presents *Salvador Dalí: Gardens of the Mind* featuring *FlorDalí* and *Surrealist Flowers*, two rarely seen series of fanciful color lithographs of flowers and fruits on loan from The Dalí Museum in St. Petersburg, FL. Mixing flora with the artist's signature motifs, these works underscore Dalí's ongoing infatuation with his native landscape of Catalonia and the intriguing images of his Surrealist works. The exhibition, organized by Marie Selby Botanical Gardens and The Dalí Museum, is on view April 10 – August 22, 2021 in the Freyer – Newman Center and is included with general admission.

In *FlorDalí* and *Surrealist Flowers*, the artist invents an array of new species—*Dahlia unicornis* has a central bloom with a long, twisted horn. *Lilium musicum* stems sprout vinyl records and sheet music. *Pisum sensuale* is a compilation of blossoms, fingertips with painted nails and lips while *Panseé* (*Viola cogitans*) is a self-portrait with pansy eyes, a mouth and a mustache. Many of these flowers tower over a landscape with the distinctive rocks of the Catalonian coast in the distance, along with miniature figures, including an equestrian on a unicorn, a piano player at a keyboard, and a figure in the pose of Rodin's *Thinker*. True to Surrealist principles, these images of fruits and flowers unsettle what we think we know about reality by juxtaposing seemingly incongruent elements. The exhibition features nearly 40 works.

RELATED PROGRAMS

ONSITE TOUR | Docent-led

Most Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, 9:15-10 a.m.

\$16, \$12 member, \$10 student

Tour and discover Dalí's *Gardens of the Mind* during a docent-led tour.

ONSITE TOUR | Curator-led

Select Thursdays, 9:15-10 a.m.

\$19, \$15 member, \$13 student

Stroll through Dalí's *Gardens of the Mind* with a curator and get the scoop on the artworks and how the exhibition came to life.

ONLINE TALK | Dalí's Spain: A Geological Delirium with Peter Tush

April 15, 6-7 p.m.

\$15, \$10 member

Peter Tush, Curator of Education at The Dalí Museum in St. Petersburg, FL, talks about the landscapes of Dalí's homeland on Spain's "wild coast" and their influence on his work and life.

Denver Botanic Gardens' presentation of *Salvador Dalí: Gardens of the Mind* is sponsored by RBC Wealth Management.

Image credits: *Lys (Lilium musicum)* from *FlorDalí*, 1968, photolithograph with original engraved remarque and color. Collection of The Dalí Museum, St. Petersburg, FL (USA) 2021, © Salvador Dalí Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí (ARS), 2021. *Marguerite (Chrysanthemum frutescens)* from *FlorDalí*, 1968, photolithograph with original engraved remarque and color. Collection of The Dalí Museum, St. Petersburg, FL (USA) 2021, © Salvador Dalí Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí (ARS), 2021.

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About Denver Botanic Gardens: Green inside and out, Denver Botanic Gardens was founded in 1951 and is considered one of the top botanical gardens in the United States and a pioneer in water conservation. Accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, the Gardens' living collections encompass specimens from the tropics to the tundra, showcasing a plant palette chosen to thrive in Colorado's semi-arid climate. The Gardens is a dynamic, 24-acre urban oasis in the heart of the city, offering unforgettable opportunities to flourish with unique garden experiences for the whole family – as well as world-class education and plant conservation research programs. Additional sites extend this experience throughout the Front Range: Denver Botanic Gardens Chatfield Farms is a 700-acre native plant refuge with an active farm in Jefferson County; Mount Goliath is a high-altitude trail and interpretive site on the Mount Evans Scenic Byway. The Gardens also manages programming at Plains Conservation Center in Aurora. For more information, visit us online at www.botanicgardens.org.