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| **Date** | **History and Culture** | **Art and Architecture** |
| 1888 | Nicaraguan poet Rubén Dario launches *Modernismo,* a literary phenomenon that has great resonance in all of Latin America. |  |
| 1889 | Exposition Universelle – The world’s fair celebrates the 100th anniversary of the French Revolution. |  |
| 1895 | Upon his return from Germany, the Mexican symbolist artist Julio Ruelas (1870-1907)becomes the art editor for the literary magazine *Revista Moderna* (1898-1911) in Mexico City. |  |
| 1900 |  | The Mexican sculptor Jesús F. Contreras (1866-1902) wins the grand prize at the Paris Universal Exposition for his work *Malgre Tout* (1898). |
| 1901 | The United Fruit Company begins its economic control of Guatemalan ports and territory with the support of Guatemalan President Manuel José Estrada Cabrera (1857-1924). |  |
| 1902 |  | Argentine Martin Malharro (1865-1911) returns to Buenos Aires and exhibits his landscape paintings at the famed Galería Whitcomb including the iconic *Nocturne* (ca. 1910). |
| 1909 |  | Italian poet Filippo Tommaso Marinetti (1877-1944) publishes the *Futurist Manifesto.* The manifesto stated that Futurism was a celebration of speed, machinery, violence, youth and industry. |
| 1910-1920 | The Mexican Revolution. Social uprising against the thirty-five year dictatorship of military officer Porfirio Díaz, known as “El Porfiriato,” 1876-1911. After the defeat of Díaz, civil unrest continued due to lack of a viable, representative government. | Mexican artist Gerardo Murillo (Dr. Atl, 1875-1964) organizes the exhibition *Society of Mexican Painters and Sculptors* to showcase the work of young avant-garde artists. |
| 1911 | Agrarian leader Emiliano Zapata (1879-1919) gains prominence among the working class after drafting the *Plan de Ayala*, which demanded land reform in Mexico. Zapata is betrayed and killed in 1919 in a conspiracy by Mexican President and revolutionary leader José Venustiano Carranza. | Uruguayan artist Rafael Barradas (1890-1929) develops an artistic style mixing aspects of Cubism and Futurism, which he calls Vibracionismo (Vibrationism). |
| 1912 | The U.S. occupies Nicaragua (1912-1933) to prevent them from building the Nicaraguan Grand Canal that would connect the Pacific Ocean with the Atlantic Ocean. | French artists Albert Gleizes and Jean Metzinger write the Cubist Manifesto titled "Du 'Cubisme'. Illustrated by the leading exponents of Cubism like Fernand Léger, Juan Gris, Pablo Picasso, and Georges Braque, the treatise explains Cubism’s concept of multiple abstraction and simultaneity. |
| 1913 |  | José Guadalupe Posada creates the iconic image of *La Calavera Catrina.* |
| 1914 | The Panama Canal is completed. |  |
| 1914-1918 | World War I. Following the assassination of Franz Ferdinand of Austria, war breaks out between the Central Powers (Germany, Austria-Hungary and the Ottoman Empire) and the Allied Powers (Great Britain, France, Russia, Italy and Japan). The War was a battle of hegemony and imperialism. |  |
| 1915 | Due to local political turmoil the U.S. military occupies Haiti to protect the interest of American corporations. The occupation lasts until 1934. | Argentine artist Emilio Pettoruti (1892-1971) paints *Dynamic of Wind* evoking the movement and speed that defines Futurism. |
| 1915 |  | Diego Rivera paints the *Zapatista Landscape –* his most important cubist painting*.* Mastering different modernist styles while in Europe, Rivera’s *Zapatista Landscape* is a great example of Synthetic Cubism. |
| 1916 | The Dominican Republic is occupied by the U.S.military from 1916 to 1924. | German author Hugo Ball (1886-1927) recites the first Dada manifesto at Cabaret Voltaire. Later in 1918 the second Dada manifesto is published in the journal *Dada* by the Romanian poet Tristan Tzara (1896-1963). |
| 1917 | The Uruguayan artists Rafael Barradas (1890-1929) and Joaquín Torres-García (1874-1949) exhibit together at the Galería Dalmau in Barcelona. | Joaquin Torres-Garcia publishes the revolutionary manifesto *Art Evolució* in the magazine *Un enemic del poble*. |
| 1920 | Álvaro Obregón (1880-1928) is elected president of Mexico, signaling the end to the Mexican Revolution. |  |
| 1921 | Mexican artist Diego Rivera (1886-1957) returns to Mexico City after spending 14 years living and studying in Europe. | Poet Manuel Maples Arce (1900-1981) created "Estridentismo," an artistic movement inspired by the modernization of Mexico, for which elements of Cubism, Futurism and Ultraismo are utilized. |
| 1921-1924 |  | Álvaro Obregón appoints José Vasconcelos (1882-1959), the former director of the Universidad Nacional de Mexico, as Secretary of Education. |
| 1922 | Semana de Arte Moderna. Art festival that brings the impetus of Modernism to Brazil. The festival is organized by the painter Emiliano di Cavalcanti (1897-1976), and the poets Oswald de Andrade (1890-1954) and Mario Andrade (1893-1945). | Brazilian painter Tarsila do Amaral (1886–1973) returns to São Paulo after pursuing artistic training in Europe. |
| 1922 |  | Upon invitation from José Vasconcelos, the artists José Clemente Orozco (1883-1949), Diego Rivera and later David Alfaro Siqueiros (1896-1974) begin work on the first state-sponsored public art murals at the Escuela Nacional Preparatoria. |
| 1922-1923 | The Mexican artist Diego Rivera, Xavier Guerrero and David Alfaro Siqueiros form the “Union of Technical Workers, Painters, and Sculptors,” based on the manifesto baring the same name. |  |
| 1923 | Mexican revolutionary leader Francisco "Pancho" Villa (1878–1923) is assassinated in Chihuahua. | Italian photographer Tina Modotti (1896-1942) moves to Mexico. Modotti is exiled from Mexico in 1930 due to her involvement with the Communist party. |
| 1923 |  | Cuban artist Wilfredo Lam pursues artistic training in Paris. Lam returns to Cuba in 1941. |
| 1924 | Members of the Ultraist movement, including the renowned writer Jorge Luis Borges (1899–1986), publish the literary journal *Martin Fierro*. | French artist André Breton (1896-1966) publishes the groundbreaking Surrealist Manifesto. |
| 1924 | Brazilian artist Oswald de Andrade (1890–1954) publishes a book of poetry entitled Pau-Brasil (Brazilwood). | Argentine-born artist Xul Solar (1888–1963) returns to Argentina and associates with the "Grupo Martín Fierro." That same year he paints the watercolor *Mystics*. |
| 1924 |  | Emilio Pettoruti holds the first exhibition of Cubist paintings in Argentina. |
| 1924-1945 | German politician Adolph Hitler (1889-1945) rises to power and becomes Führer of the Nazi Party in Germany. Hitler commits suicides in 1945 before being captured by the Allied powers marking the end of WWII. |  |
| 1925 | José Vasconcelos writes the iconic essay *The Cosmic Race.* | Peruvian journalist and political philosopher José Carlos Maríategui (1893-1930) defines and coins the term “Indigenism” in Peru. |
| 1926 | José Carlos Mariátegui founds the influential journal *Amauta*. | Ecuadorian artist Camilo Egas (1899-1962) establishes the first journal on art in Ecuadorcalled *Hélice.* |
| 1927 | Nicaraguan revolutionary leader Augusto Cesár Sandino (1895-1934) launches first *Sandinista* uprising against the U.S military occupation of Nicaragua. |  |
| 1928 | The Mexican group known as “Los Contemporáneos” publishes the journal baring the same name. The journal is in circulation until 1931. | Oswaldo de Andrade writes the *Anthropophagite Manifesto*. |
| 1929 | The Great Depression. The U.S. stock market crashes on October 24 triggering a worldwide economic collapse, also known as "Black Thursday." | Diego Rivera begins working on an ambitious mural titled *The History of Mexico from the Conquest to the Future* at the National Palace in Mexico City. |
| 1929 | Ecuador is the first country in Latin America to grant women the right to vote. |  |
| 1930 | The Dominican Military General Rafael Leónidas Trujillo leads a coup d’état against president Horacio Vásquez stabling a dictatorship (1930-1961) in Dominican Republic. | Joaquin Torres-Garcia and Belgian painter Michel Seuphor (1901-1999) found the group “Cercle et Carré” in Paris and launch a publication baring the same name. |
| 1931- | The Museum of Modern Art, New York opens a solo exhibition of Diego Rivera – the first retrospective exhibition of a Latin American artist in the U.S. | New School Director Alvin Johnson (1874-1971) commissions four murals by Mexican artist José Clemente Orozco. |
| 1932 | La Matanza. An uprising of Indian workers in the coffee plantations of El Salvador claims the lives of thousands, and a military regime is established until the 1970s. | Ecuadorian artist Camilo Egas (1899-1962) paints *Ecuadorian Festival* at the New School for Social Research, NY. |
| 1932 | Camilo Egas is named instructor at the New School for Social Research. Later in 1935, Egas is appointed director of the Art Department. | Mexican artists Rufino Tamayo (1899-1991) and Frida Kahlo (1907-1954) participate in the Surrealist exhibition at the prestigious Julian Levy Gallery in New York. |
| 1933 | Peruvian painter and theorist José Sabogal (1888–1956) heads the Escuela Nacional de Bellas Artes (School of Fine Arts) in Lima (1933-1940). | Mexican muralist Diego Rivera (1886–1957) is commissioned by Nelson Rockefeller (1908–1979) to paint *Man at the Crossroads* at Rockefeller Center. However, the mural is destroyed when Rivera refuses to remove the image of Russian Communist leader Vladimir Lenin. |
| 1934 | Joaquín Torres García returns to Montevideo after forty-three years abroad. The following year, he founds the *Asociación de Arte Constructivo* | Argentine artist Antonio Berni (1905-1981) paints in a social realist style his iconic *Demonstration*. Berni’s social realism proposed as an alternative visual language to Abstraction in Argentina. |
| 1935 | Colombian artist and member of the Bachué Movement Pedro Nel Gómez, paints the mural *Life and Work: The Dance of Coffee* (1935-1938)*.* | Peruvian poets César Moro (1903-1956) and Emilio Adolfo Westphalen (1911-2001) organize the first Surrealist exhibition in Peru and in Latin America. |
| 1937 |  | Brazilian artist Cândido Portinari is commissioned to paints several murals at the Ministry of Education in Rio de Janeiro including the one titled: *Azulejo.* Portinari becomes a leading figure of the muralist movement in South America. |
| 1936 | Spanish Civil War (1936-1939). The Republicans fought against the Nationalist party led by the fascist dictator and military general Francisco Franco (1892-1975). Franco won the war and ruled until his death in 1975. | David Alfaro Siqueiros (1896–1975) runs the Experimental Workshop in New York, attracting American artists including Jackson Pollock (1912– 1956). |
| 1937 | President Getúlio Dornelles Vargas (1883–1945) institutes *Estado Novo* in Brazil perpetuating his rule and assuming dictatorial power. | The *Taller de Gráfica Popular* (People's Graphics Workshop) is founded in Mexico City. |
| 1938 | André Breton travels to Mexico as cultural commissioner of the French government. | David Alfaro Siqueiros paints the controversial mural *Tropical America* in Los Angeles. |
| 1939 -1945 | World War II. The Allies (Britain, France and Russia) declare War on Germany to stop the rising power of Adolf Hitler and his Nazi Party from invading Europe. |  |
| 1939 | Peruvian poet César Moro (1903-1956) arrives in Mexico City | David Alfaro Siqueiros paints *Portrait of the Bourgeoisie (1939-4)* at the Mexican Electricians’ Syndicate in Mexico City. |
| 1940 | David Alfaro Siqueiros attempts the assassination of the Russian Marxist Leon Trotsky (1879-1940) while he sought exile in Mexico. | André Breton organizes the *International Surrealist Exhibition* at Galeria de Arte Mexicano in Mexico City with the support of gallery owner Inés Amor. |
| 1940 | The Museum of Modern Art in New York presents the exhibition: *Twenty Centuries of Mexican Art.* | In Ecuador Camilo Egas establishes “Galéria Egas,” and Eduardo Kingman (1913-1997) founds “Galería Caspicara.” |
| 1941 | Attack on Pearl Harbor. The Japanese Navy stroke against the military base in Hawaii to prevent the U.S from interfering on Japan’s imperialist mission to invade South East Asia. | British artist Leonora Carrington (1917-2011) arrives in Mexico. |
| 1941 | Brazilian muralist Cândido Portinari (1903-1961) paints *Discovery of the Land* at the Library of Congress in Washington D.C. | Ecuadorian artist Eduardo Kingman paints *The Haulers* at Casa de la Cultura Ecuatoriana in Quito. |
| 1942 |  | Wolfgang Paalen founds the Surrealist magazine *Dyn.* |
| 1943 | Argentine artist Antonio Berni (1905-1981) establishes the Mural Art Workshop gaining public art commissions. | Frida Kahlo paints *Self-Portrait With Cropped Hair* after her divorce from Diego Rivera. |
| 1943 |  | Wilfredo Lam paints *The Jungle –* his first work upon returning to Cuba from Europe. |
| 1944 | Cuban art critic José Gómez Sicre (1916-1991) co-curates the exhibition *Modern Cuban Painters* at the Museum of Modern Art, New York. | American artist and educator Dewitt Peters (1865-1948) establishes the Art Centre in Port-au-Prince, Haiti. |
| 1944 |  | Joaquin Torres-Garcia opens in his own studio, the *Taller Torres-García*. |
| 1945 | American Air Forces dropped the world’s first deployed atomic bombs over the Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the last stages of World War II. |  |
| 1946 | Populist leaderJuan Perón (1895–1974) is elected president of Argentina. Perón wins a second term in 1952 but is deposed in 1955 and is forced into exile. |  |
| 1947 |  | The Haitian artist Hector Hyppolite’s painting *A Prostitute* is featured in the French Surrealist magazine *Le Surrealisme et la Peinture*, and at the UNESCO exhibition in Paris. |
| 1948 | The Cold War begins. Tension between the U.S. and the USSR arise culminating in the Cuban Missile Crisis of 1962. | Founding of the Organization of American States (OAS), formerly known as the Pan American Union. |
| 1948–1958 | Leader of the Popular Movement in Colombia, Jorge Eliécer Gaitán (1902–1948), is assassinated triggering The Civil War ("La Violencia"), which leaves hundreds of thousands dead. |  |
| 1950 |  | Mexican architects Enrique del Moral (1906–1987) and Mario Pani (1911–1993) reveal the plan for the expansive Ciudad Universitaria of the Universidad Nacional Autónoma (UNAM) in Mexico City. |
| 1951 | The São Paulo Biennale is inaugurated, the first of its kind in Latin America. | Venezuelan architect Carlos Raúl Villanueva (1900–1975) invites international artists to collaborate in the design of the new Ciudad Universitaria in Caracas. |
| 1952 | Puerto Rico becomes a U.S. Commonwealth. | Mexican artist and architect Juan O’Gorman (1905-1982) creates the mosaic mural *The Colonial Past*. |
| 1953-1957 | Colombian Lieutenant General Gustavo Rojas Pinilla (1900-1975) organized a coup d’état against President Laureano Gómez Castro and establishes a military dictatorship until forced into exile. |  |
| 1953-1959 | The Cuban Revolution. Revolutionary leader Fidel Castro (b.1926) conducts an armed revolt against President Fulgencio Batista instituting a socialist state. |  |