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| **Your article** |
| Surrealism |
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| Soupault's publication of *Manifeste du Surréalism* in 1924. Rising in the wake of the First World War, Surrealism revolted against a world that had become deadened by habit, cliché, and scientific rationality. The movement was an offshoot of Dada, which emerged in Zurich in 1916. Dadaism and Surrealism both created work that mocked and insulted bourgeois aesthetic, moral, and social norms. However, Dada held that all ideals were inherently absurd and substituted nothing for the norms it ridiculed. Surrealism instead drew upon Sigmund Freud's belief that a primal, non-rational Id lurked beneath our rational intellect and idealized the creative potential of the subconscious  Surrealists dedicated themselves to collapsing the barrier between the dreaming and waking worlds. They developed techniques to suppress their rational intellect and tap into unconstrained consciousness. Using automatism, artists and writers worked in a trance-like state without interruption or later revision as a means of producing unfiltered art. Surrealists also emphasized collaboration and chance occurrence. This produced techniques like the exquisite corpse, in which individuals took turns drawing figures or writing lines while simultaneously obscuring preceding sections of text or the image. Furthermore, because of their interest in non-rational states of being, Surrealists idealized those who lived outside the bounds of traditional society. Breton famously said that "beauty will be convulsive or will not be at all," and this revolutionary spirit helped to reenergize fields that had largely reached a state of decadence.  [File: cadaver.jpg]  Cadavre Exquisite. 1926-7. Yves Tanguy, Joan Miró, and Man Ray. The Museum of Modern Art, New York.  <http://www.moma.org/learn/moma_learning/max-ernst-levade-the-fugitive>  [File: memory.jpg]  Salvador Dalí. The Persistence of Memory. 1931. The Museum of Modern Art, New York.  <http://uploads5.wikiart.org/images/salvador-dali/the-persistence-of-memory-1931.jpg!Blog.jpg>  [File: fountain.jpg]  Marcel Duchamp. The Fountain. 1917. Museum of Modern Art, San Francisco.  <http://www.sfmoma.org/images/artwork/medium/98.291_01_b02.jpg> |
| Further reading:  (Artaud)  (Breton, Nadja)  (Breton, The Automatic Message)  (Breton and Soupault, Manifeste du Surréalism)  (Dalí)  (Freud)  (Morise)  (Oxford University Press)  (Tzara) |