



FUNDACIÓ
GALA-SALVADOR DALÍ

Cat. no. OE 9

L'enveloppe

The Envelope

Unique Original Work



© Salvador Dalí, Fundació Gala-Salvador Dalí, VEGAP, Figueres, 2019 Brassai © Estate Brassai-RMN-Grand Palais

Author:	Salvador Dalí i Domènech - Gyula Halász, alias Brassai
Date:	ca. 1933
Technique:	Photograph and found object or object of automatic origin Gelatin silver print
Dimensions:	23,4 x 17,7 cm The dimensions correspond to the original print run of the photograph
Inscriptions:	On the back: <i>L'enveloppe</i>
Location:	Centre Pompidou - Musée national d'art moderne - Centre de création industrielle, Paris



Description

Between 1932-1933, Dalí took on the artistic direction of a series of photographs made with Gyula Halász, alias Brassai (1899-1984), in which certain objects, probably of automatic origin, acquire a new conceptual and artistic dimension, grounded in the essence of the photographic image. Several of these photographs were published anonymously in 1933 in the magazine *Minotaure*, under the heading 'Sculptures involontaires', each with a descriptive title drawing attention to details of the work. A number of these photographs that were not made public at the time constitute further examples of this type of creation, such as this photograph, conserved in the Centre de création industrielle at the Pompidou Centre in Paris. A letter from Dalí to Brassai, in or around 1933, includes a preliminary design for this work together with a mention of the word 'envelope' [*sic*].

Observations

The dimensions and the inscriptions correspond to the original print run of this photograph, which is conserved at the Centre de création industrielle in Paris.

Bibliography

- Didier Ottinger, *Dictionnaire de l'objet surréaliste*, Gallimard, Centre Pompidou, Paris, 2013, pp. [245], 246, [307], ill. (reversed image)
- Anna Dezeuze, Julia Kelly, *Found sculpture and photography from surrealism to contemporary art*, Ashgate, Farnham, UK, Burlington, VT, 2013, pp. 5-9, [13]-18, 30, 99-102

Related works



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Cat. no. OE 3

«Symmetrically» rolled-up bus ticket, forming a rare mechanism of automatism with evident germs of stereotypes

1932-1933



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Cat. no. OE 4

Ornamental Modern Style bread escapes the soft stereotype

1932-1933



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Cat. no. OE 5

Piece of soap presenting Modern Style automatic shapes, found in a washbasin

1932-1933

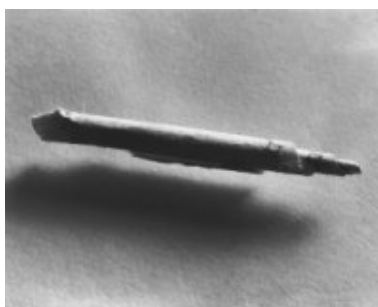


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Cat. no. OE 6

The morphological accident of the squeezed toothpaste does not escape the fine ornamental stereotype

1932-1933

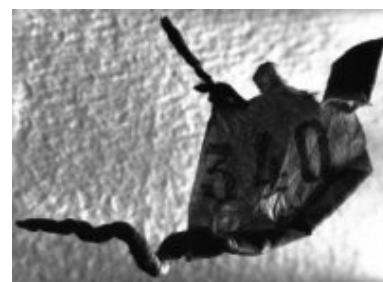


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Cat. no. OE 7

Elementary rolling-up obtained from a «mental defective»

1932-1933



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Cat. no. OE 8

Rolled-up bus ticket, found in the pocket of an average bureaucrat (Crédit Lyonnais); the most frequent characteristics of «Modern Style»

1932-1933



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Cat. no. OE 10

Untitled. Automatic object

ca. 1933



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Cat. no. OE 13

Shell

ca. 1933



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Cat. no. OE 11

**Piece of cotton wool
instantly rolled up and
abandoned (category of
«aborted automatism»)**

ca. 1933



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Cat. no. OE 12

Untitled. Automatic object

ca. 1933

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