

Cat. no. OE 28

She Was a Surrealist Woman - She Was Like A Figure in a Dream

Unique Original Work - Installation

See Cat. no. OE 29, 30, 31



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Date: 1936

Technique: Unknown

Dimensions: Unknown

Location: Lost / Ephemeral work



Description

In *The Secret Life of Salvador Dalí*, the artist recalls the commission to create this window display for the famous department store on New York's Fifth Avenue: 'By way of demonstration, I accepted an offer to dress one of the windows of Bonwit-Teller's [sic] shop with a surrealist display. I used a manikin whose head was made of red roses and who had fingernails of ermine fur. On a table, a telephone transformed into a lobster; hanging on a chair, my famous "aphrodisiac coat".' Many years later, in *The Unspeakable Confessions of Salvador Dalí*, the artist acknowledged these elements as the three characters of the *mise-en-scène*. In the window display, both the female mannequin and the table can be related to the iconography of the 1935 painting *Woman with Head of Roses*, while the telephone and the jacket are identified as sculptural works. The floor was covered with spoons and various objects and fashion accessories hung from the elongated arms projecting through the side walls. This window display is a good example of Dalí's involvement with the world of fashion during the 1930s.

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