



Dalí's Mustache

Salvador Dalí, Philippe Halsman

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With 101 Life magazine covers to his credit, Philippe Halsman (1906-1979) was one of the leading portrait photographers of his time. In addition to his distinguished career in photojournalism, Halsman was one of the great pioneers of experimental photography, motivated by a profound desire to push this youngest of art forms toward new frontiers by using innovative and unorthodox photographic techniques. One of Halsman's favorite subjects was Salvador Dali, the glittering and controversial painter and theorist with whom the photographer shared a unique friendship and extraordinary professional collaboration that spanned over thirty years. Whenever Dali imagined a photograph so strange that its production seemed impossible, Halsman tried to find the solution, and invariably succeeded. As Halsman explains in his postface, Dalí's Mustache is the fruit of this marriage of the minds. The jointly conceived and seemingly nonsensical questions and answers reveal the gleeful humor and assumed cynicism for which Dali is famous, while the marvelous and inspired images of Dali's mustache brilliantly display Halsman's consummate skill and extraordinary inventiveness as a photographer. This combination of wit, absurdity, and the off-handedly profound is irresistible and has contributed to the enduring fascination inspired by this unique photographic interview, which has become a cult classic and valuable collector's item since its original publication in 1954. The present volume faithfully reproduces the first edition and will introduce a new generation to the irreverent humor and imaginative genius of two great artists.

Dalí's Mustache Details

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From Reader Review Dalí's Mustache for online ebook

Miguel Soto says

Una verdadera joya encontrada casi por casualidad; hurgando entre las librerías en línea di con el ejemplar y lo adquirí.

Esta serie de retratos del genio de Figueras, tomados por el incansable Halsman nos dan algunas respuestas sobre Dalí, pero sobre todo, nos abren el campo a más preguntas. Dalí irradia su genio surrealista, absurdo, cómico y preciso a lo largo de estas cortas páginas. Un libro que puede leerse en unos pocos minutos pero qué está destinado a convertirse en uno de cabecera. Más de alguna sorpresa puede uno llevarse con él.

También vale mucho la pena las notas de producción, con algunos datos curiosos.

Jen says

hahaha hilarious...i want to be best friends with Dali.

Rosie says

The back cover says it all:
"Warning: This book is preposterous"

Ranjeet (Pawan) Jha says

Absurd!!! I flipped through these pages and photographs repeatedly... However, I am not sure that I like it or not... Maybe, it had made some subconscious impact on me, but I am not sure...

Read on your own risk...lol

Eileen says

Dali taken to a whole new level. Tee hee.

Kim Reynolds-Jolles says

Beautiful, hilarious, and informative.

Apple says

I'm a photography student, but I'm not sure which I appreciate more, Dali's personality, or Halsman's talent. Dali is such a ham! My fave photo in particular is the "no problem is too knotty for me" photo. I've never seen a bowed out mustache before! Or maybe I'm just biased (I love bow ties!) + the last photo cracks me up. On the other hand, I wonder how Philippe Halsman feels now that the days he spent on manipulating his images can now be done within hours in photoshop. :>

This book made me realize how much I need a trademark!!:/ I would definitely love to have this in my personal collection!

Harv Griffin says

Inspired photographic collaboration between Dali and Philippe Halsman.

Photographic genius?

Just when you think they can't possibly do anything else with Dali's mustache, they do ten more.

@hg47

Stacia says

Fun for the Dali fan. Also for photography/Halsman fans (re: notes in the back that discuss how the photos were created). A nice little art piece.

Ken says

A wry little book; a minor collection of Q & A with the famous facial hair illustrated with artful photographs. A minor, if amusing, work that says more about Dali's marketing than it does about the man, his work, or ideas. Surrealism and absurdism are so ubiquitous in today's society that it has lost the power to shock or confound. But then we wouldn't have programming like Space Ghost Coast to Coast and 12 oz. Mouse today if Dali and his fellows hadn't laid the foundation.

Nate D says

Total fluff, but that seems to have been by the design of making a "preposterous" book. Halsman's a clever pop portraitist, so this can perhaps be just taken as a series of inventive variations in representing a single

subject. The fact that that subject is Dali's mustache and this is framed as a kind of interview might make this more annoying or more essential depending on your interest in Dali's persona. Despite my interest in surrealism, for me that tips this towards "a little annoying". HOWEVER, this was in the library of a house I stayed in in Mexico City, which makes running across it at random nothing but a perk.

Tumchenmamentumlein says

Humour

Livre humoristique dédié au moustaches de Salvador Dali avec des photos et quelques questions auxquelles il donne des réponses farfelues, amusant!

tENTATIVELY, cONVENIENCE says

Another artist whose work I dearly love. & even further proof that my politics doesn't always exclusively determine wch artists I endorse. After all, Stalin was great for that sort of thing, anarchists don't need to be doing it too. In the early 1980s I put together 2 editions of a small pamphlet called "Famous Moustaches". In the 1st edition, I included Frank Zappa, Adolph Hitler, John Waters, Groucho Marx, & myself (as Tim Ore). Waters pointed out that Dali shd be included. How cd I've missed him?! Hence the 2nd edition. Why wdn't I endorse Dali for political reasons? Welp, he was into money & he reconciled himself to the authoritarian regime of Franco in Spain. But, what the fuck, he had a fabulous imagination & that transcends it all.

K.H. Vaughan says

A wry little book; a minor collection of Q & A with the famous facial hair illustrated with artful photographs. A minor, if amusing, work that says more about Dali's marketing than it does about the man, his work, or ideas. Surrealism and absurdism are so ubiquitous in today's society that it has lost the power to shock or confound. But then we wouldn't have programming like Space Ghost Coast to Coast and 12 oz. Mouse today if Dali and his fellows hadn't laid the foundation.

Aaron Dietz says

Oh, sure, it's a goofy, quick interview of Dali being surreal with his moustache. The few pages of text from the photographer and publisher are awesome, and ramp up what you get out of this book. It's actually pretty brilliant.
