

Salvador Dali

by Curator Hope Lloyd Brown

What would it have been like to be a teenager in 1920's Paris? To have seen the freedom and possibility of a post-World War I France. Paris was a haven for creative Europeans and Americans alike, what would the atmosphere have been like? To sense the energy, the mystique, almost like a scene from Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris." The young Pierre Argillet was fortunate enough to be an onlooker to this artistic microcosm.

In 1930, the twenty-year-old Pierre Argillet was already an avid collector of the Futurists, Dadaists, and Surrealists' works, and very early on, met the major artists of the 20th century. As a freelance journalist, he was never without his trusty Rolleiflex camera, Argillet stumbled into a community that would make generations of romantics extremely envious. He counted Duchamp, Di Chirico and Jean Arp among his acquaintances but when he met the incomparable Dali, it led to a life-long friendship that lasted until the painter's death in 1989.

In 1959, Argillet and his wife and partner Genevieve Argillet met the preeminent Salvador Dali to ask if they would be able to commission a copper engraving for their first illustrated art book. This meeting led to a thirty-year collaboration, but more importantly a life-long friendship. The beauty, depth and longevity of this collaboration was strengthened by the personal relationship between Dali and Argillet. This was more than just the relationship of an artist and his/her publisher but a creative and nurturing exchange.

When Argillet and Dali had originally met they had discussed what subject matter Dali might etch. Pierre had suggested the ancient world and its mythology, and the subject immediately intrigued Dali, who was always interested in concepts larger than conventional comprehension. Argillet, realized that he would need to work side by side with Dali, without the distractions of Paris, to allow this collaboration to succeed.

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DALÍ - THE ARGILLET COLLECTION

Triad Art Group has recently been granted exclusive representation of the prestigious Jean Christophe Argillet Collection of Salvador Dali etchings. This collaboration between Dali and his friend and publisher Pierre Argillet consists of nearly 200 editions of hand-colored drypoint etchings. Dali's extraordinary mastery in etching reflected in these works is just further assurance of his place in history as one of the greatest artists of the 20th Century!



Surrealistic Bullfight: "The Parrots"

In cooperation with Jean Christopher Argillet we have published a full catalogue raisonne for The Salvador Dali - Pierre and Genevieve Argillet Collection. Make this catalogue a part of your library by emailing info@triadartgroup.com or calling us directly at (847) 590-9081.



72 Page Color Catalogue



Fantomes: "Magic Circle"



"Diane De Poitiers"



Hippies: "Corridor of Kathmandu"

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Pierre and Genevieve took their children to the Spanish coast every summer in order to work more closely with Dali, as Dali spent his summers in Port Lligat, Spain, just 45 minutes from his hometown of Figueras. Dali was most at home in this part of Spain, on the rugged Costa Brava. This partnership took place every summer for fifteen years. Less the famed "DALI" and more the comfortable Salvador, this atmosphere allowed for a broad body of work, and a trusting relationship between artist and publisher. Dali would etch all summer and throughout the year they would return to Paris to work with the most reputable print makers.

The marvelous Salvador Dali – Pierre Argillet Collection created during all of those beautiful summers, have been broken down into several suites. The suites cover topics of great interest to Dali. Subjects like timeless pieces of literature, and topics of great depth and mystery. It is only fitting that he would be drawn to some of the great accomplishments in literature. Their subject matter was rich enough for Dali to interpret in his own way, whether it was ancient mythology, the story of Doctor Faust, or the surrealist mantra of Isadore Ducasse's "Le Chants de Maldoror", Dali was more than willing to explore the visual interpretations of some of these most recognizable and complicated literary works.

What makes this collection so special is not just the subject matter chosen for this collaboration but also Dali's sheer skill as an artist. Dali worked primarily with a diamond stylus, etching directly into the unforgiving soft copper plate. Much like a drawing but by pressing into the metal with incredible precision and delicacy in order to produce the image that would appear in reverse when pressed. The bold lines as well as the softest cross-hatching gives each image amazing detail and depth.

Pierre and Genevieve Argillet spent years of their lives as admirers of Salvador Dali. They were friends, colleagues, and publishers for this visionary artist. They were fortunate enough to have brought their children along for the ride. We are so fortunate that Jean Christophe Argillet continues to promote and educate on the amazing collection that his parents created. In an attempt to preserve these personal stories and insights into these works, Triad Art Group, in collaboration with Jean Christophe Argillet, has created the first complete catalogue raisonné of the Salvador Dali – Pierre Argillet Collection. This collection includes beautiful dry-point etchings, unique one of a kind studies of the collection, as well as stunning Aubusson tapestries of selected images from the collection.



In 1971, Pierre Argillet founded the Museum of Surrealism at the Chateau de Vaux-le-Penil in Melun, France. This collection along with the works of many other surrealist artists with whom Argillet had collaborated with, adorned the walls of this 73-room chateau, overlooking the Seine. Most striking was the presence of the impressive Aubusson tapestries dramatically hung over the walls. Along with Argillet's Museum of Surrealism the Argillet-Dali collection has also appeared in some of the best-known museums in the world: Musee Boymans, Rotterdam 1971;

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Musee Pushkin, Moscow, 1988; Reynolds-Morse Foundation, St. Petersburg, FL, now the SALVADOR DALI MUSEUM; Kunsthaus, Zurich and Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart 1989; Isetan Museum of Art in Tokyo; Daimaru Art Museum, Osaka and the Hiroshima Prefectural Museum of Art, Japan, 1990. This particular collection's permanent home was formerly at the Museum of Surrealism in Melun, France.

Hope Lloyd Brown
Curator, Author and Editor

About Triad Art Group



Greg Bloch - Owner

A career spanning 45 years in the art business, Greg Bloch brings a world-renowned reputation as an art dealer, publisher, collector and manager of artists from around the world. His deep knowledge of art history, as well as his expertise regarding the trends and movements of the art industry has navigated his illustrious career in several diverse and successful directions. Greg has worked as a curator of private art collections, in addition to his work as an art and art book publisher, and lecturer.

Along with his professional interests, Greg has amassed a significant and notable collection of 19th Century prints and drawings. This important collection has been on loan to several museums. He has represented and managed exhibitions for the Argillet Family's Salvador Dali collection in the United States, for more than nine years. For more information about Greg and Triad Art Group, visit their website: www.triadartgroup.com

Greg's global career has taken him from California, to Hawaii, South Africa, Connecticut, New York and most recently Chicago. Upon completion of his undergraduate degree and masters work at Whittier College in Whittier, CA, Greg started his first significant business ventures over the course of ten years in Hawaii as the Founder and President of Images International of Hawaii and The Island Gallery, a group of companies that focused on artist representation and publishing. The Island Gallery also had a retail gallery space at the world-famous and legendary Halekulani Hotel.



Hope Lloyd Brown - Curator

Over the past ten years, Hope Lloyd Brown has been building a strong reputation as an art consultant and advisor for private clients, as well as working with design professionals both nationally and internationally. In recent years, she has also taken on the role of primary curator for Triad Art Group. Triad, artist representatives and a fine art brokerage firm, works to wholesale art to galleries and museums around North America.

Triad Art Group
6 East 8th Street
Hinsdale, Illinois 60521
847.590.9081
info@triadartgroup.com