1895 - 1903 GENESIS

In 1895 and barely fourteen, Pablo Picasso painted some of his first important oil paintings: La Fillette aux pieds nus (The barefoot girl) and L'homme à la casquette (Man with a cap). Picasso was a student at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Corùna. His father, José Ruiz Blasco, taught there and was himself a painter, restorer of works of art, teacher and occasional museum curator

Picasso kept these two paintings throughout his life as testimony of his apprenticeship years. The young artist was at the time under



the sway of the great Spanish masters such as Murillo, Velasquez or Goya but also of the small masters of the regional schools who decorated churches and monuments, and were reproduced in illustrated magazines. As he liked to recall, Picasso never painted as a child. Trained to draw and paint like Raphael, he had to begin by

unlearning the automatic reflexes which were the result of his academic training.

Much later, the Portrait d'homme (Portrait of a man) (1902-1903), an emblematic figure of aloneness, seems to transport the stiff figure of L'homme à la casquette (Man with a cap) (1895)



Portrait of a man, 1902-1903

to the monochromatic universe of the blue period. The similarities are indeed striking between these bearded faces, these fixed stares, these constrained head-andshoulder portraits painted on the same scale. Yet the tension between these two canvases measures the transformation that was taking place in the early work of Picasso. The monochrome, far from being a mere colour artifice, constituted for Picasso both the rallying colour he shared with proponents of the Impressionist revolution and the plastic means of a spatial unification of subject and base content that announced and prefigured the synthesis that would soon be carried out by Cubism.

1906 - 1915 FROM PRIMITIVISM TO CUBISM

Starting from the spring of 1906, the pink period turned toward ochre while Picasso borrowed from Gauguin

themes, Iberian art or Catalan romanesque sculpture, perceptual short-cuts and primitivist expressiveness. These influences led him to severe simplifications of form and space that prefigured the proto-Cubist revolution incarnated in Les demoiselles d'Avignon (The young ladies of Avignon). The bronze Tête de femme (Fernande) (Head of a woman (Fernande)) (1906) and the self-portraits and portraits such as Tête d'homme (Head of a man)(1908) offered a measure in the years 1906-1909 of the importance of the experimental relationship Picasso established between painting and sculpture and which from this time played a determining role of "laboratory" in his works.



Head of a woman (Fernande), 1904

These sculpted or painted figures integrated Cezanne's rule of geometric volumes - "Treat nature by the cylinder, sphere, cone, everything in perspective" - and freed themselves from the illusionist procedures of the restitution of the real. Starting from 1910-1912, this radicalization found with synthetic cubism and the invention of pasted paper the means for his project of revolution of the plastic arts.

Picasso "presents" rather than "represents" figures or objects as montages of signs, of material facts and specific perceptions: simplified volumes, cutting up of the surface by successive layers, openings of volumes to the bone, transparency of layers, revelation and mapping of internal structures, decomposition of volumes into facets. Graphics, monochromaticity, greyness, washes of Indian ink, pasted paper or cloth, industrial print, play an educational role to affirm the new principles of cubism.



From 1914, references to popular iconography multiplied in Picasso's paintings. Homme à la moustache (Man with a moustache) (1914) shows the return of the image in the Cubist idiom in which the figure of the artist is reduced to the characteristic "attributes" that are the Bohemian cap and moustache. In this cryptic self-portrait, Picasso embedded realistic details in the crystal of geometric deconstruction. The still life Verre et pipe (Glass and pipe) (1918), illustrates this back and forth between the two worlds that are a priori antagonistic of illusionist representation and semantic analysis.

1915 - 1925 CLASSICAL PERIOD

Throughout his life, Picasso refused to confine himself to a style or a movement. During the elaboration of cubism, he used and diverted references to modes of illusionist, naturalist representations and integrated real objects to his artworks. Image, imagery, pastiche, trompe-l'œil, as well as photography, in which Picasso had been interested since the start of the century, imposed during this period their principle of modelization. Already presented in the cubist work since 1912, they were going to colonize Picasso's pictorial work. The style of the years 1918-1924, called "classical", "photographic" or even "Ingresque", shows as much Picasso's admiration for Ingres' artwork, as his borrowing from studio photographic portraiture, the influence



Rinascimento. The classicizing influences of the Pompei fresco painting represented by Tête de femme (Head of a woman) (1921), as well as the painting of masters such as Le Nain reinterpreted in Le retour du baptême d'après Le Nain (The return from Christenning, after Le Nain) (1917), Ingres parodied in Portrait de Madame Rosenberg et sa fille (Portrait of Mrs Rosenberg and her daughter) (1918), or even Velasquez, Manet or Renoir with the portrait Paul en pierrot (Paul as pierrot) (1925), enrich a work nourished by clichés and poorquality colour

of Greco-Roman antiquity or the re-reading by the artists of the

prints. Accused of "returning to order", these scholarly and ironical works develop "on different levels" the consequences of the "analysis-synthesis" advocated by

This complex period of Picasso's work was populated with melancholic characters in colossal forms frozen in the stillness of a statue, and superbly expressed in the large painting of 1921. La lecture de la lettre (Reading the letter) which celebrated the friendship between Picasso and the poet Guillaume Apollinaire, who died in 1918.



1924 - 1932 SURREALISM

The ballet Mercure (Mercury) for which Picasso created in 1924 the scenery, theatre curtain and costumes, initiated his Surrealist period. The composition Mandoline sur une table (Mandolin on a table) (1924), which distorts the Cubist grid by introducing a dynamic curve, constitutes one of the first works to demonstrate his new plasticity. More calligraphic, his work transposing on the canvas the principle of automatic writing advocated by the surrealist poet André Breton, ventures into the search of unconscious images. Dormeuse (Sleeping woman) (1927), La femme au stylet (The woman

with a stylus) (1931), or Femme assise dans un fauteuil rouge (Woman sitting in a red armchair) (1932), embody these "uncanny" dreamlike figures.

The "Workshops" series with Nu sur fond blanc (Nude on white background) (1927), Femme dans un fauteuil (Woman in an armchair) (1927), Figure et profil (Figure and profile) (1928), or Le sculpteur (The sculptor) (1931), depicts in a didactic way the triangle of relations established between the artist, the model and the work in progress. Thus, one can observe in a single canvas, the "metamorphoses" that are the foundation of Picasso's



Head of a man, 1930

These metamorphoses

surrealist work.

also address the sculpture of this period. One can see in Tête d'homme (Head of a man) (1930) or Buste d'homme barbu (Bust of a bearded man) (1933), how Picasso uses plaster imprints of objects or materials from the everyday world (waffle irons, wire netting, etc..) in these sculptural montages. Again the principle of Cubist collage joins with poetic automatism to generate unexpected encounters.

1935 - 1943 WAR PAINTINGS

In 1936, Picasso joined the side of the Spanish republicans as well as involving himself in projects for the development of art and culture of the Front populaire government in France. He wanted his art to be "committed" in the contemporary political struggle and contribute to history in the making. The series of Portrait de Marie-Thérèse (Portrait of Marie-Thérèse) and Portrait de Dora Maar (Portrait of Dora Maar)(1937), both pay tribute to Van Gogh. That latter's work, together with Renoir's, Matisse's and Picasso's, was described by the Nazis as "degenerate art". Borrowing from the Arles painter's colours and shrill expressionism, Picasso applied to the angelic faces of his friends and lovers the deconstruction of analytical cubism. Retreating to Royan at the time of the declaration of war in September 1939, Picasso painted during the summer of 1940 a last Café à Royan (Café at Royan), which set in memory a place soon to be destroyed by bombardments.

Since 1927, the mask of the Minotaur had been haunting Picasso's work. Springing from Greek mythology, this half-man half-beast character embodied for Picasso, as for the surrealists, the same figure of an

ambiguous humanity subjected to unconscious impulses, to the pleasure principle and death instinct. During these dark years of the rise of fascism, Minotaure au javelot (Minotaur with javelin) (1934), or Tête d'homme barbu (Head of a bearded man) (1938), like the sculpture *Tête de taureau* (Head of a bull) (1931-1932), gave form to this internal struggle.



Picasso returned to Paris in late August 1940. He moved into his studio in the rue des Grands-Augustins, and spent the entire duration of the German army's occupation in France. As Christian Zervos, editor of Cahiers d'Art and friend of the painter, wrote: "Picasso simply kept his dignity during the Occupation as millions of people did here. Understand that his work itself is the greatest form of resistance." Forbidden from exhibiting or publishing, watched over by the Gestapo, and facing extradition to Spain where he might be killed, Picasso withdrew into his studio with its windows draped black, to once again reinvent his work. Faced with the cult of brute force advocated by the Nazis, Picasso endeavoured in the works assembled here to celebrate the domestic world. Jeune garçon à la langouste (Boy with a crayfish) (1941), L'enfant aux colombes (The child with doves) (1943), Chat (Cat) (1943), lay out the inventory of an intimate universe taking their power from the poetic and dreamlike fantasy of the painter Douanier-Rousseau. These priestly figures of children and animals form the emblems and coats of arms of a visceral and native resistance to all forms of domination and indoctrination.

1946 - 1972 THE POP YEARS **PICASSO AND THE OLD MASTERS**

In the 1946-1960's, working in his studio of Fournas at Vallauris, a potter's village in the South of France, Picasso achieved new metamorphoses from found objects. Every morning, on the way leading from his home La Galloise to his studio, he picked up in ditches, fields and wastelands materials with which to compose his sculptures. He took surrealist procedures to the universe of poverty and inventive economics of the post-war period, assembling his "discoveries" in composite montages balanced between the two worlds. Baskets, lead pipes, tree branches, cake moulds, industrial waste are the favourite materials that constituted his work. The bronze Tête (Head) (1958), thus transformed a mere wooden crate into a hieratic male nortrait. Picasso also wanted to be a "worker nainter" a "militant artist". He then attempted through the techniques of duplication inherent to ceramics or engraving, to democratize art. His posters, including Toros (Bulls), linocuts created for a corrida (bullfight), fed on popular iconography.

The 1950-60's marked the time of personal assessments for Picasso. Through the series of variations devoted to the Femmes d'Alger (Women of Algiers) by Delacroix, or Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe d'après Manet (Luncheon on the grass after Manet). Picasso gave a radical interpretation of the great masterpieces of the history of painting. From one variation to another, in what established itself as a plastic system of its own, he staged the links, transpositions, ruptures which unite these works to each other, and questioned his own place in the spiral of the pictorial revolutions led by modern art. The bullfighters with swords, musicians with instruments, men in hats and ruffles, nudes lying and draped, hieratic portraits, were as many creatures arising from the great paintings of Velasguez, Rembrandt, Goya or Titian. Their postures, dialogues, embraces, disputes, were drawn from the wealth of an iconographic tradition whose attitudes and forms Picasso disguised and subverted.

This epic re-reading of the history of painting finds an intimate echo in his painted work. In his paintings, flat forms, sharp outlines and scissoring draw allegoric silhouettes. Describing the painting of history in the simple present, from painting to sculpture, until the end, Picasso's work develops its playful, critical interrogation so as to continue to learn from art. The artist showed an incessant, eminently lyrical, renewal of his visual language. The shrill colours, the vehemence of the brush, which draws figures in large drips, splashes and



impasto, are witness to his vitality. Painted in the last years of his life, the self-portrait as Spanish Grandee, with ruff and wig, Dimanche (Sunday) (1971), sketched in a few raw lines of colour around blazing orbits, shows the freedom he acquired and conquered, during this long struggle. Picasso so noted in his notehooks "nainting makes me do what it wants"





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1895-1903年 源起

1895年,年僅十四歲的畢加索便繪畫了 《赤足的少女》及《戴帽的男子》兩幅重 要的油畫。當時他就讀於其父任教的科魯 尼亞美術學院。畢加索父親荷西·魯伊茲-布拉斯科是位畫家、藝術品修復員、教 師,並曾擔任美術館館長。

他在生時,一直保留這兩幅見證他年少學 習階段的畫作。年青的畢加索深受西班牙 大師如穆里歐、委拉斯蓋茲、哥雅等影 響,同時也欣賞為教堂和古建築繪畫裝飾 畫的地方小畫家。他們的作品亦有刊登於 雜誌上。畢加索常道,自己從沒像小孩一



《赤足的少女》,1895年

般繪畫。他受過的繪畫訓練,是要畫得像拉斐爾一樣。所以,他必須先 學會如何擺脫學院訓練的規範。

後來的《男子肖像》(1902-1903年),畫中那孤獨無依的人物,好像是把



《戴帽的男子》(1895年)中繃緊的主角, 帶到了藍色時期單色的天地。兩幅畫作極 之相似,如同樣是有鬍子的臉、凝視的目 光和以同樣比例畫成的拘謹上半身等。這 兩幅畫作之間的張力,顯示了畢加索早期 作品的轉變。單色,不僅是簡單的色彩技 巧,更是畢加索為響應印象派畫家的革命 而使用的顏色,同時也是主題與背景在空 間統整的一種技法,亦預示了稍後立體派 所用的綜合方法。

《男子肖像》,1902-1903年

1915-1925年 古典時期

畢加索終其一生也不願把自己規限於某一風格或藝術運動。立體派建立 初期,他就廣泛運用各種幻像及自然表像,並把真實的物件融入其作品 中。他於二十世紀初已對形象、意象、仿作、幻景畫和攝影等感興趣。 在這期間更成為他主要的造型原則。早於1912年,這些特質經已出現於 他的立體派作品中,此後還經常再現於他的畫作。1918至1924年間,畢加 索的風格被稱為「古典」、「具有攝影特色」,甚或是「安格爾式」, 可見他對安格爾作品的推崇。他善於借鑒攝影肖像,亦受到古希臘羅馬



羅馬文化的重新解讀所致。受到龐貝古城壁 畫影響而創作的《女子頭像》(1921年); 受繪書大師所感染的作品,如仿勒南兄弟 《受洗禮後歸來》(1917年)對勒南兄弟的 作品給予新的詮釋;模仿安格爾的玩味風格 而繪畫的《羅森貝爾格夫人與女兒的肖像》 (1918年),甚至是委拉斯蓋茲、馬奈或雷 諾亞也啟發了畢加索創作《扮丑角的保羅》 (1925年)。畢加索加入了這些古典元素,

文物的影響,或是文藝復興藝術家對古希臘

豐富了那 陳腐及被多番複製的意象,使這些作 品份外生色。他這些引經據典、充滿 嘲諷玩味的作品,雖被指為「恢復古 典秩序」,卻「於不同層面」發展了

畢加索在這複雜的創作階段中,繪畫 了許多憂鬱的人物,特點均為大幅的 畫作,人物像石像般凝止不動,其中最 出色的就是1921年的大幅油畫《讀信》 ,作品歌頌了畢加索和詩人阿波里內 爾的友誼。阿波里內爾於1918年離世。

立體派提倡的「分析綜合」手法。



《扮开角的保羅》,1925年

1906-1915年 從原始主義到立體主義

自1906年春天起,粉紅色時期轉向土黃色,這時候畢加索吸取了高更的

主題、伊比利亞藝術或加泰隆尼亞古羅馬雕刻的簡 約和原始風格。把空間與造形盡量簡化,這手法 可見於早期立體派革命的代表作《亞維農的少 女》。而青銅製的《女子頭像(費南德)》(1906 年)、自畫像及《男子頭像》(1908年)等肖像畫, 可看到畢加索於1906至1909年間的畫作與雕塑之間 所建立的重要實驗關係,對他視作品為「實驗 室」的概念起了舉足輕重的地位。



《女子頭像(費南德)》,1906年

這些人像雕塑或畫作,結合了塞尚提出的幾何體積規則:「把自然視 為圓柱體、球體、圓錐體的物像。」同時擺脫了在重塑現實面貌所用 的一般視覺處理手法。從1910至1912年,這種極端的處理,加上立體派 的綜合手法及拼貼畫的出現,成為畢加索翻天覆地的藝術大改造。

畢加索不是要「再現」人物和物體,而是結集符號、物象和特殊觀 感,將之「表現」出來:簡化的體積、分割成一層層的表面、剖開至 骨、透明的圖層、揭露內在結構的圖示、把體積分解為多個小平面。 平面設計、單色、灰度和印度墨的運用、粘貼紙張或布料、採用工業 印刷等手法,成為鞏固立體派嶄新創作原則的一種教學途徑。



流行圖像。《有鬍子的男人》(1914年)「形 象」又回歸到立體派的意境,畫中的藝術家 被簡化,只剩下畫家愛戴的帽子和鬍子等特 徵。畢加索這幅似有隱喻的自畫像,把寫實 細節藏於幾何解構之內。靜物畫《玻璃和煙 斗》(1918年)説明了他常搖擺於兩個對立的 世界:一是富幻象的表像世界、一是充滿語 意分析的世界。

從1914年起,畢加索於畫作中引用越來越多

1924-1932年 超現實主義

畢加索於1924年為芭蕾舞劇《墨丘利》設計的佈景和服飾,為他揭開了 超現實主義時期的序幕。他在《桌上的曼陀鈴》(1924年)中加入富動 態的曲線,打破了立體派畫風的方格,成為他率先展現新造型手法的作 品。他將超現實主義詩人安德烈·布勒東提倡嘗試探求潛意識、讓其 自由引領書寫的提議用在畫布上,作品含有更多的書法元素。《沉睡的 女子》(1927年)、《手持尖刀的女子》(1931年)或《坐紅色扶手椅的女 子》(1932年)具體顯現這些「不安詭異」且像夢一般的人物形象。

「工作室」系列中的《白色背景前 的裸體》(1927年)、《坐扶手椅的女 子》(1927年)、《人物與側影》(1928 年)或《雕刻家》(1931年)以辯證的 方式展現藝術家、模特兒和未完成作 品之間的三角關係。因此,我們可以 = 在一張畫作中,看到作為畢加索超現 實創作基礎的「變奏過程」。



這些變奏亦見於這

時期的雕塑。從《 男子頭像》(1930 年)或《留鬍子 男人的半身像》

(1933年)中,畢加索把取自日常生活的物件或材 料如華夫餅模子和鐵網等,運用在這些拼合的雕塑 中。立體派的拼貼手法集合詩意與潛意識自主的創 作,締告嶄新的結連。

《男子頭像》,1930年

1935-1943年 戰爭時期的繪畫

1936年,畢加索支持西班牙共和黨,同時也參與流亡法國的人民陣線政 府的藝術文化發展計劃。他希望自己的藝術能「介入」當代的政治鬥 爭,為歷史作出貢獻。繪於1937年的《瑪莉-泰瑞莎肖像》和《朵拉·瑪 爾肖像》這系列畫作,明顯是向梵高致敬。梵高和雷諾亞、馬諦斯及 畢加索一樣,其作品都被納粹視為「墮落的藝術」。畢加索從這位活 躍於阿爾勒的畫家梵高身上,借用了強烈的色彩和表現主義畫風,在他 朋友及愛人純潔的面孔上,施以立體派分析解構的技法。1939年9月戰爭 爆發時,畢加索逃難至魯瓦揚。1940年夏天於魯瓦揚畫下最後一幅作品 《魯瓦揚的咖啡館》。為這不久便被炸彈摧毀的城市留下印記。

從1927年起,牛首人身怪多次出現在畢加索的作品中。對畢加索和超現 實主義者來說,這來自希臘神話的半人半獸怪物,代 表著潛意識的慾望、快樂與死亡本能,支配了人性。 在法西斯主義崛起的黑暗年代,《持標槍的牛首人身 怪》(1934年)、《有鬍子的男人頭像》(1938年)和雕塑 《公牛頭像》(1931-1932年)正鈎畫出這份內心的掙扎。 《公牛頭像》,1931-1932年



畢加索於1940年8月底返回巴黎,遷進大奧古斯丁路的畫室。在德國佔領法 國的整段日子中,他都在這兒度過。克里斯提安·澤爾沃是《藝術筆記》 的編輯,也是畢加索的朋友,他曾寫道:「畢加索在德軍佔領期間,跟這 兒千千萬萬的人一樣,只能維護自己的尊嚴。但他的作品本身就是最了不 起的抵抗。」這段期間,畢加索被禁止展出、出版,還受到納粹秘密警察 蓋世太保的監視,遭受被引渡返西班牙及被殺害的威脅。畢加索唯有潛居 畫室,用黑布遮蔽窗戶,埋首創作。面對納粹主義對暴力的推崇,畢加索 專注以溫馨家庭生活為主題的創作。《捉龍蝦的男孩》(1941年)、《小孩 與鴿子》(1943年)、青銅雕塑《貓》(1943年),當中建立了一個親密的 世界。他更從他推崇的畫家盧梭具詩意和夢幻的作品中得到靈感和能量。 這些純潔的兒童及動物,象徵著他內心深處,出於本能地對任何方式的統 治和洗腦行為作出的反抗。

1946-1972年 民間藝術年代 畢加索與大師前輩

1946至1960年代,畢加索在法國南部製陶的古城瓦洛希的富納斯工作室內專 心創作。他利用現成物品達至新的藝術變化。每天早上,他從加洛瓦別墅 家門到工作室的路上,隨手在溝渠、田野和荒地上撿拾材料,用以製作 雕塑。他將超現實主義手法轉移至戰後富於創意的貧窮和節儉的世界裡, 拼合不同的物料,在兩個世界之間取得平衡,組合出他的「發現物」。 他愛用的材料有籃子、鉛管、樹枝、蛋糕模子和工業廢料。青銅作品 《人頭像》(1958年)就是將一個木箱轉化為莊嚴的男性銅雕。畢加索自詡 為「工人畫家」及「激進藝術家」,所以嘗試利用陶瓷和版畫的複製技 術,把藝術普及予人民大眾。他的海報如《鬥牛》,是為鬥牛表演而做的 麻膠板畫,就是取材於普及的圖像。

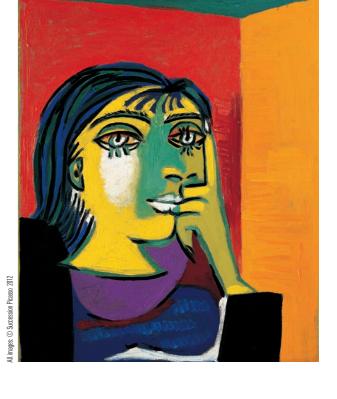
1950至1960年代是畢加索創作生涯的總結時期。他模仿德拉克洛瓦《阿爾 及爾的女人》及馬奈《草地上的午餐》而繪畫了一系列變奏的作品,以 激進的方式詮釋繪畫史上的經典名作。藉著一系列的變奏,他從獨立的 造型系統中,展現出這些作品彼此的關聯、傳承、斷裂,並質疑自身處 於現代藝術進行的繪畫革命漩渦中的位置。持劍的鬥牛勇士、攜樂器的 音樂家、戴帽子及穿有領飾衣服的男子、躺臥的裸女、披衣的女子、莊 重的人像,這些也來自委拉斯蓋茲、林布蘭、哥雅或提香的偉大畫作。 人物的姿勢、對話、擁抱、衝突,來自豐富的傳統圖像,只是被畢加索 巧妙地改動了主題,顛覆了原來的形式。

畢加索對繪畫史上經典作品作大規模重塑,充份表現出他對大師們的真摯 回應。平面的形狀、尖鋭的輪廓及剪出的側影皆充滿寓意。畢加索總是用 簡單而現代的方式來呈現歷史上的巨作,從繪畫到雕刻,從早期到晚期, 作品充滿玩味和貫徹了他的批判精神。畢加索永不言倦,不斷更新他的視 覺語言,對藝術充滿熱情。他的人物構圖用色對比強烈、筆觸剛勁,大筆一



仿馬奈的《草地上的午餐》,1960年

上,可見其精力旺盛。作於晚 年的自畫像《星期日》(1971年) 畢加索把自己裝扮成西班牙大 公,穿高領、頭戴假髮,幾行 粗線條顏色,圍繞著熾熱的目 光,表現了他在漫長掙扎中所 得到的自由。畢加索在筆記本 上寫道:「畫作引領我如何走。」



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