• **Rene Magritte** was one of the most well known and famous surrealist painters of all time, yet it was not until his 50s, when he was finally able to reach some form of fame and recognition for his work.

• He was extremely influential in the transformation of surrealism art, to the pop art movement, with the work he created, and the distinct style which he took with the creations that he made during the course of his career.
Much of the work created by Rene Magritte, takes everyday, normal objects, and he would simply rearrange the figures, and locations, forcing the viewer to take a deeper look at what was in front of them, and at what the image truly represented.
• Rene Magritte was born in 1898, to a wealthy manufacturer father.
• In 1912, his mother committed suicide, and at this time Rene decided to study at the Academia des Beaux-Art, which was located in Brussels.
• Many of the early works he did, were reminiscent of the style in which Pablo Picasso painted, where he followed a Cubo-Futurist style of art.
• One such example of this work, was a piece he created in 1919, **Three Nudes.**
THE THREE NUDES

• Unfortunately I could not find the painting of three nudes.
• In 1922 he married Georgette, and took a number of small jobs, including painting cabbage roses for a wallpaper company, in order to be able to pay the bills.

• During the early period of his career, shortly following his marriage, Rene Magritte would spend the free time that he had, creating art forms and worked on a number of pieces; it was during this time period that he realized surrealism was the art form which he most enjoyed.
RENE MAGRITTE

• The Threatened Assassin was one of his earliest pieces in 1926, which showcased the surrealist style which he had been working on; The Lost Jockey was another piece that he introduced in 1925, which also showcased this art form.

• Over the course of his career, he produced a number of variants on this piece, and changed the format to recreate what the viewer was experiencing.

• In 1927, Rene Magritte had his first one man show, which took place at the Galleries la Centauries, which was in Brussels.
During this period of his life, he was producing nearly one piece of art work each day, which made for an extensive showing, and a variety of unique styles for visitors of the exhibit to see. And, in 1927, he also made the move to Paris later on in the year, in order to join the surrealists. From 1927, through 1930, much of the work which Rene Magritte created, was described as cavernous, with many of his paintings showcasing bizarre scenes, with a hint of eroticism.
• After a fallout with fellow artist Andre Breton, Rene Magritte moved back to Brussels, where he stayed for the remainder of his life.

• During the majority of his career, his work followed a surrealist style, and he very rarely, if ever, strayed away from this form.

• On the right is the guardians.
• Much of the work he created depicted similar scenes, and recurring themes. Some of his favorites were floating rocks, or creating a painting within a painting, and he also used many inanimate objects, within a human figure, creating the distinct styles which other artists did not.

• During the course of his career, Rene Magritte would also use famous paintings, which were created by other artists, to put his own surrealist twist on it.

• One of the works he did, was recreate The Balcony (a piece that was designed by Manet), and in this piece he replaced the figures that were in the image, with coffins.
• This was one way for Magritte to showcase his style, and to create a unique design, forcing viewers of his pieces, to look outside of the norm, and focus on the distinctive features which were not originally present.

• Along the similar lines, and with a focus on the surrealist style which he stayed true to, during his career, Rene Magritte began to work on sculptures at a later part of his career as well.

• He had a playful and provocative sense of humor, which worked into many of the pieces which he created, and which became some of his most well-known pieces throughout the course of his career.
• One such example of this is the series of pipe paintings which he created.
• The fascination he had with a paradoxical world, is clearly seen when you view the entire series as a whole piece, rather than viewing the images on their own.

• In recent years many of the works created by Rene Magritte have been on exhibit, during the course of his career he also had certain features exhibited in Brussels, as well as around the world.

• In 1936, one exhibit was held in New York City, and following this, two retrospective exhibits were also held.

• One was in 1965, at the Museum of Modern Art, and a second was held in 1992, at the Metropolitan Museum of Art.
• Not only were a number of artists intrigued by, and influenced by the work he created, but popular culture, and the art world in general, were extremely influenced by his creative, and unique ability to take something so ordinary, yet make viewers of his pieces see something completely different.

• His ability to present figures in a suggestive, yet questioning manner, made his work extremely desirable, especially during the 1960s.

• In fact, much of his work has been plagiarized and used in books, print ads, and other manners, due to the distinct style, and the inability of artists to create in a similar manner.
Although he died in 1967, of pancreatic cancer, much of the work of Rene Magritte is still on display today, in his hometown, and around the world.

Not only did he introduce a new style, he was a leader in the surrealist style.

And, he brought an entirely new way of looking at art, with the paintings, as well as some of the sculptures which he created, during the course of his career.
INTERESTING THINGS ABOUT RENE MAGRITTE

• He served in WWII.
• After WWII, he painted fakes of Picasso, Braque and Chirico to provide for himself.
• He attempted to make all of his art poetic in a way, to make people ponder its meaning.
• He chose the titles of his works at random, often letting his friends title the paintings he created, which were usually crazy, weird, random titles.
• He sometimes painted objects in places that they didn't belong (like a train coming out of a fireplace)
• His first job was designing wallpapers and posters in order to make money to survive.

• Early on, critics did not like any of his artwork.

• He moved to Paris to paint with other surrealists, but hated them and ended up moving back to his old town, and burning everything that reminded him of the Paris surrealists.

• He strongly disliked the French and wanted to annoy them by making fun of their art.
• Often included men in bowler hats in his paintings, and often wore bowler hats too. Although you cannot see the men's faces in the paintings, they are thought of as self portraits.

• Created several paintings with an object, and a sentence included, stating that the picture is not what it seemed to be

• He was a Belgian surrealist artist whose work challenges observers' preconditioned perceptions of reality

• Some of his noted works are The Treachery of Images, On the Threshold of Liberty, The Son of Man, The Empty Mask and The Difficult Crossing
THE END 😊

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