

Artist Resources – Frida Kahlo (Mexican, 1907-1954)

[Kahlo at MoMA](#)

[Kahlo at the National Museum of Women in the Arts](#)

[Kahlo at SFMOMA](#)

The National Sound Library of Mexico has the only known [recording](#) of Frida Kahlo's voice, produced in 1953 or 1954.

In 2017, the Heard Museum in Phoenix, Arizona installed [Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera](#) featuring 33 works by both famous Mexican artists.

[Frida Kahlo: Making Her Self Up](#) was on display at the Victoria & Albert Museum in 2018. The exhibition featured a collection of the artist's personal artifacts and clothing that had not been on view outside of Mexico.

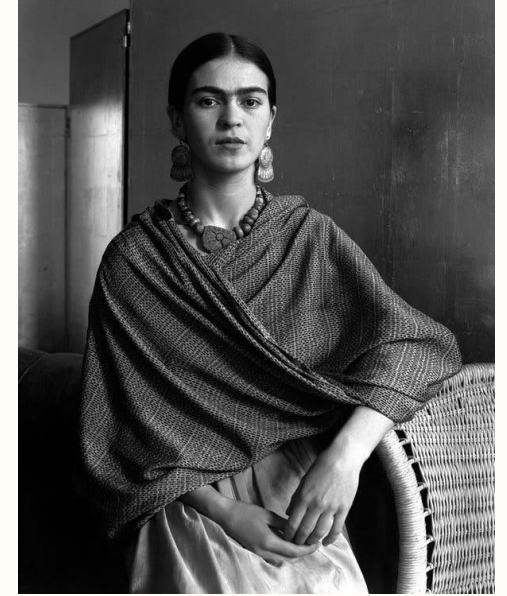
The Brooklyn Museum launched the largest exhibition of Kahlo's work in the United States in 10 years devoted to the painter, [Frida Kahlo: Appearances Can Be Deceiving](#), in 2019.

In 2022, the Auckland Art Gallery in New Zealand installed [Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera: Art and Life in Modern Mexico](#), which also featured the works of contemporaneous muralists David Siqueiros, Rufino Tamayo, and María Izquierdo.

Frida Kahlo, Diego Rivera, and Mexican Modernism from the Jacques and Natasha Gelman Collection was on display at the [Portland Art Museum](#) in 2022, featuring 150 works from the Mexican avant-garde. The exhibition also traveled to the [Norton Museum of Art](#).



Kahlo painting a portrait, 1931
Photograph: Bettman via Getty Images



Frida Kahlo portrait by photographer
Imogen Cunningham, 1931
Photograph: Imogen Cunningham Trust

The Hudson River Museum developed [The World of Frida](#) in 2022. The exhibition included 75 international artists who feature Kahlo as a subject or are inspired by her life, art, garden, Mexican culture and fashion, and surrealism.

The 2022 exhibition [Frida Kahlo: Through the Lens of Nikolas Muray](#) was on display at the Rockwell Museum, featuring photographs of Kahlo taken over a 10 year period of her friendship and romantic affair with the photographer Nikolas Muray.

"Immersive Frida" experiences are opening around the world. Read an [Afar Magazine](#) article about the installations and an article in [Artnet](#) about her family's reaction to the phenomenon.

A 2022-2023 exhibition at the Parrish Art Museum, [Kahlo: An Expanded Body](#), features 100 objects investigating the artist "through the lens of her dramatic medical history and its sustained impact on her life and work."

Frida Kahlo (Mexican, 1907-1954)

Sketch for Pancho Villa and Adelita, c. 1927

Pencil on paper

Private Collection; L2026:41.3

Frida Kahlo spent much of her life at La Casa Azul, her family's home in Coyoacán, Mexico City. She contracted polio at a young age and was injured in a bus accident at 18, which left her disabled with chronic pain. She turned to art while recovering, and quickly developed her style inspired by Mexican folk culture. **Sketch for Pancho Villa and Adelita** is an early drawing by the artist. It depicts an evening with her friends, members of "Los Cachuchas" (or "the Berets"), a political group that rebelled against the period's dress code. Kahlo draws herself in the center, below a portrait of the revolutionary Pancho Villa and in front of a backdrop that references a popular song from the Mexican Revolution: "Si Adelita se fuera con otro" ("If Adelita would leave me for another").

On view September 30, 2026 - January 25, 2027





Frida Kahlo (Mexican, 1907-1954)
Self-Portrait (Very Ugly), 1933
Fresco on Celotex board

Private Collection; L2022:136.1

“When later we came to see her at her apartment a block from the [New Workers’] School, she was quite disgusted with her work. The background of her portrait was still barren, except for the writing she had scribbled all around the beautiful face: ‘No *sirve*—absolutely rotten—terrible—very ugly—Frieda’ and there was a sad looking bird and an apple and an expression she used to enjoy ‘oh boy!’ It was on the floor with a corner chipped off. We loved it so she gave it to us.” – Lucienne Bloch, 1933.

Frida Kahlo is one of the most celebrated artists of the twentieth century. She is best known for her portraits and self-portraits that draw from folk traditions and explore themes of identity, race, gender, and class in Mexican society. Kahlo spent 1933 in New York with her husband, Diego Rivera (1886-1957), while he completed two mural commissions in the city. During this year, Kahlo suffered chronic pain and struggled with her mental health. **Self-Portrait (Very Ugly)** was painted when friends brought her fresh fresco panels in an effort to boost her spirits. With her characteristic self-deprecating humor, Kahlo reveals the loneliness and anxiety that permeated this season of her life.

On view February 15 – May 21, 2023