Quick Facts about the Artist

Born May 15, 1936 in Wallasey, Cheshire, UK, and raised first in Liverpool, then northern Wales

Artist, Illustrator, Writer, Composer, Social and Political Critic

Learned Technical Drawing in the Royal Air Force (1954-6)

Studied at the London School of Printing and Graphic Arts (1960s)

Illustrated articles and books for Hunter S. Thompson after they met in 1970, including *Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas*

Won a First Amendment case with the ACLU over the “Raging Bitch” beer label, commissioned by Flying Dog Brewery

Artist’s Historical Content

**Dadaism** – an artistic movement in modern art that started around World War I with the purpose of highlighting the meaninglessness of the modern world and influenced surrealism, pop art, and punk rock.

**“The Satire Boom”** – A community of satirists, including writers and performers, who emerged in England in the 1960s, including Peter Cook and David Frost.

**The “Sixties”** – started in London with mini skirts, the Beatles, and the Rolling Stones, and became a world-wide anti-establishment youth movement. Protests against the Vietnam War and Nixon, and the Watergate break in and hearings were part of this in the U.S.

**Gonzo Journalism** - Founded by Hunter S. Thompson in 1970 consisting of energetic, first-person, drug-fueled steam of consciousness writing, made visual by Ralph Steadman.

Suggested Guiding Questions

How does political cartooning fit into the concept of art and aesthetics?

What is satire and why do you think Ralph Steadman uses satire?

What is the difference between reporting and Gonzo journalism?

What is your favorite piece and why?

What is something you still don’t know about the artist that you want to?

Vocabulary

- Satire
- Gonzo Journalism
- Dadaism
- 1st Amendment
- ACLU
- Surrealism

For more information about the exhibition and associated programs: [https://jsma.uoregon.edu/Steadman](https://jsma.uoregon.edu/Steadman)
Additional Resources


Links

https://jsma.uoregon.edu/SteadmanPrograms
https://www.ralphsteadman.com
https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1358516/