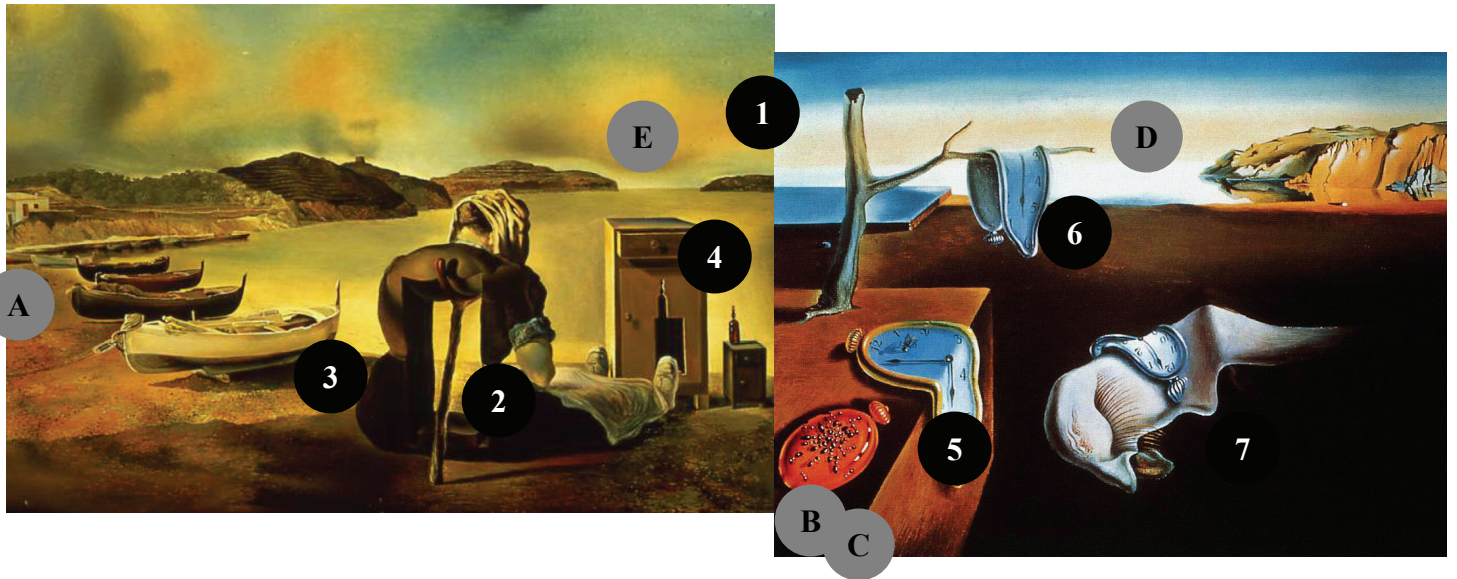


Surrealism & Salvador Dali: Techniques Handout (in class reference)



“What Makes it Surreal” Terminology

1. Precise Realism -- almost photo-realistic painting of objects and landscape.
2. Laws Of Nature Reversed -- objects as living & living as objects.
3. Juxtaposition -- two different objects side by side for striking comparison or contrast.
4. Dislocation -- objects are placed where they aren't usually placed.
5. Transformation -- objects become unusual or strange.
6. Symbolism – recurring objects represent something important for the artist (from memories, ideas, dreams)
7. Influence Of Dreams + Daydreaming

Techniques for Creating a Sense of Space

When placing objects in a painting, Dalí used several classic techniques to give his landscapes or settings depth.

- A. SIZE -- Larger sized objects in front, middle sized objects in the mid-ground, and smaller sized objects in the far distance (see the large, medium and small boats).
- B. COLOR -- Brighter purer colors in the foreground, more neutral, faded colors in the far ground (the orange of the clock is the brightest object in the painting on the right).
- C. TEXTURES -- Textures in the foreground, few or no details in the background areas (you can see the ants on the orange clock and little detail in the upper right part of the painting).
- D. EDGE QUALITY -- Hard edges in front, softer edges in the distance.
- E. PERSPECTIVE -- Lines that recede to the vanishing point (where there is nothing left to see). Also - use of a horizon line to show where the earth and sky meet.