

# Frida Kahlo



Frida Kahlo was a Mexican artist who was famous for her self-portraits and use of bold, vibrant colours.

## Early Life

Frida was born in Mexico in 1907. Her full name was Magdalena Carmen Frida Kahlo y Calderón. As a child, Frida enjoyed drawing and she would spend hours being creative on her own, rather than playing with her siblings. When she was six years old, Frida contracted a disease called polio. This damaged her right leg and meant that she walked with a limp.

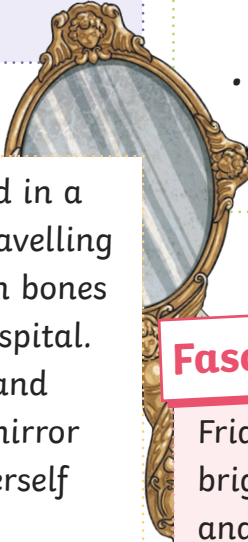
## A Bus Accident

At eighteen years old, Frida was involved in a serious traffic accident while she was travelling on a bus. This left her with many broken bones and she had to spend many weeks in hospital. During her recovery, Frida would draw and paint to pass the time. She even had a mirror placed above her bed so she could see herself while she painted her self-portraits.

## Artistic Style

Frida was very proud of her Mexican heritage and this was reflected through her work. She is famous for including:

- bright colours;
- tropical flowers;
- animals, such as birds, monkeys and dogs;
- elements of Mexican culture, such as traditional clothing and buildings.

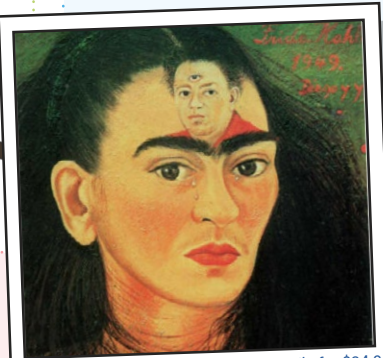


## Fascinating Fact

Frida was well-known for wearing bright colours, flowers in her hair and jewellery.

## Achievements

- She was the first 20th century Mexican artist to have art bought by a major museum. The Louvre, in Paris, bought 'The Frame', one of her self-portraits, in 1939.
- In 2021, her self-portrait 'Diego y yo' was sold for \$34.9 million (around £26.6 million) at auction. This was the highest price ever paid for work by a Latin American artist.



'Diego y yo' 1949

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