



Camilla Skovbjerg Paldam:

Surrealistiske Collager. Underfulde billeder i kunst og litteratur, Aarhus University Press, 2011.

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Surrealistiske Collager. Underfulde billeder i kunst og litteratur (Surrealist collages. Marvellous images in art and literature)

provides a substantial introduction to 1920s and 1930s surrealism focusing on surrealist collage in literature and visual art. As opposed to for instance Dadaist or Cubist collage of the 1910s Surrealist

collage generally consists of surprising semantic compositions rather than of formal aesthetic ruptures. Surrealist collage does not display each separate element, but lets the elements merge and connect. By emphasising this aspect of surrealist collage the book challenges a common notion of collage that focuses solely on fragmentation, and proposes a more organic notion of avant-garde. The book demonstrates that there are (at least) two kinds of collage that act rather differently: The fragmented collage works primarily as a critic of the institution of art by pointing out the tension between art and reality. The seamless collage subverts the order of the accepted reality by establishing alternative realities. The book also investigates the relationship between surrealist collage and the surrealist's endemic interest in myth and mysticism. Here collage is seen as an important strategy in the surrealist endeavour to find and create the marvellous in the modern.

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