

she saw life differently...

Frida Kahlo

Mexican artist Frida Kahlo's life wasn't always easy, but she turned her experiences into **unique** and **wonderful** works of art.

In 1925, aged eighteen, Frida was training to be a doctor when she was in a serious traffic accident. Her injuries meant that she would never be well enough to finish medical school.

While recovering in hospital, Frida began painting pictures of herself, and her life changed forever. Painting helped Frida to feel better. She decided that she wouldn't waste another moment of life. She would paint it instead!

FRIDA'S FEELINGS: Frida laughed a lot but she always painted herself looking very serious. This was because she wanted to find more unusual ways to show what she was feeling, so instead she painted curious images as clues ...



I was very interested in the ancient people who lived in Mexico - the **AZTECS**. They thought dogs acted as guides, so I painted dogs when I was thinking about making **BIG** decisions.

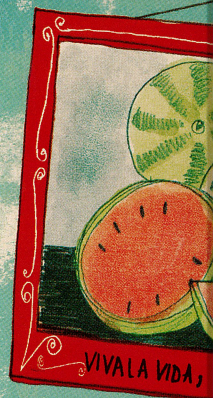


FASCINATING FRIDA: People were very interested in Frida because she used her art to say exactly what she thought. She didn't want to hide anything about herself - something unusual for a woman at the time. This is why Frida exaggerated her eyebrows and facial hair in her paintings. Frida was very proud of being a Mexican woman and always wore colourful traditional clothing, jewellery and elaborate hairstyles.



In this painting my hair is tied up with ribbons. I wanted to show how it feels to piece things back together after an argument.

Frida loved animals and had **LOTS** of pets.



VIVA LA VIDA! Frida had 200 artworks which were famous all over the world. Even when her health got worse, she still wanted to live life. In her last painting, a still life, she wrote the words 'VIVA LA VIDA'. This means: 'LONG LIFE'. Frida had a truly unique way of seeing the world. It was this that made her the most important artist of her time.