

Step into the Bazaar gallery of art's most brilliant and enigmatic women. In a series of exclusive interviews, we enter the inner worlds of Gillian Wearing, Barbara Kruger, Sheikha Al-Mayassa, Miuccia Prada and many more - to discover how they have channelled their ideas and emotions into bold artworks or remarkable museum collections WHITE SHEET STATES Salma Hayek photographed at the VSA with Frida Kahlo's 'Diego On My Mind (Self Portrait as a Tchuana)



Frames of reference

Outstanding women from the worlds of film, fashion and art reveal the works that have sparked their own creative expression

PHOTOGRAPHS BY PHILIP SINDEN



SALMA HAYEK ACTRESS AND PRODUCER

Photographed at the V&A with Frida Kahlo's Diego On My Mind (Self Portrait as a Tehuana) (1943)

'I first discovered Frida Kahlo when I was 14 years old. At the time, I thought her paintings were scary and disgusting, but they haunted me. I wanted to go back and look again and again. Over the years I learnt to love them, and they have become incredibly important to me, all the more so when I had the opportunity to play Frida on screen in 2002. She began this painting after her divorce from Diego Rivera. For me, it represents how her ex-husband is preventing her from accessing her third eye that connection with her instincts that allowed her to see beyond what is in front of her. Many people have portrayed this artist as a victim because of her physical disabilities and the way Diego treated her. But Frida Kahlo was not a victim. She had the most beautiful affair with life. She would wake up every morning and say, "I am my own inspiration." Let this Mexican woman inspire us all and remind us to have the courage to be unique.