Almost four decades after the artist's death, Man Ray's work has found its way to India, for the first time. Often credited for changing the face of fashion photography, and sculpting the Surrealist and Dada movements, the legendary 20thcentury American photographer's art is being displayed at Mumbai's TARQ gallery in an exhibition, titled *Views Of The Spirit*, in collaboration with gallerist Matthieu Foss and Madrid's Mondo Galeria. TARQ's gallery director Hena Kapadia takes us into his world:

SURREAL DEAL

Legendary artist Man Ray's first exhibition in India is now open in Mumbai

The show has a total of 45 photographs on display, taken between 1920 and 1940, including two of his most iconic images: *Glass Tears* and *Le Violon d'Ingres*. These are silver gelatin prints, produced by his estate. And their 'open edition' status means that they can be reprinted numerous times (though legitimately only by the estate), making them affordable. So young collectors can own an original reprint of an iconic artwork, without breaking the bank.





Man Ray is among the leading names of the avant garde movement in 20th century Europe; and people often only have a vague notion of who he was. Ray's work was radical and had a tremendous impact on the language of film, fashion and advertising—fields that drive the creative impetus of Mumbai. It's quite fitting that the first exhibition of his work should take place in an art deco building.





One of the points we're trying to communicate through this exhibition is the vital role that Man Ray played in the narratives of Surrealism and Dadaism—both as a documenter and creator. His still lifes are a perfect example of his mastery over these movements. His work, more than anyone else's, transformed 20thcentury photography from a documentary tool to an art form-one that brought alive the space between the real and the fantastical.

Views Of The Spirit is the perfect introductory exhibition to Ray's work as the curated photographs cut across his thematic engagements and technical experiments. The most notable of which are solarisation, a method that uses overexposure of the film negative, and rayography, a process that creates images without a camera by placing objects on a photosensitive paper exposed to light.

> *Views Of The Spirit* is on till July 1 at TARQ, Mumbai *Tarq.in*



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