

# Diego Rivera

Born 1886, Guanajuato, Mexico; died Mexico City, Mexico, 1957





**Diego Rivera** began his artistic training at the age of six in Mexico City. At twenty-one, he left for Europe. He lived in Spain, France, and Italy, studying both classical painting styles and the contemporary painting style of his day. Rivera returned to Mexico in 1921, after the Mexican Revolution, to take part in a new national mural program. He created murals, drawings, and paintings about Mexican history, culture, and traditions, and about the daily life of common people.

### Fun Fact!

Diego Rivera returned to the subject of Mexico's many flower markets and vendors again and again. He created more than 24 pictures of flower vendors during his lifetime.



Diego Rivera, *The Flower Carrier*, 1935

This artwork is a good example of the everyday moments and people Rivera was interested in portraying. In this artwork, two figures work together to lift a gigantic basket full of flowers. We don't see much of the setting for these figures, and we must imagine where they are and where they might be going.

## Explore

Use all of your senses to describe the scene that is shown in this artwork. What sounds and smells do you imagine? How would you describe the colors and textures that you see? How would you describe the mood of this picture—happy, sad, calm, excited? What do you see that makes you say that?

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Does anything you see happening here remind you of another story you know? If yes, what is the story, and what in the artwork reminds you of it?

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If these two figures began to speak, what do you think they would say? What do you see that makes you say that?

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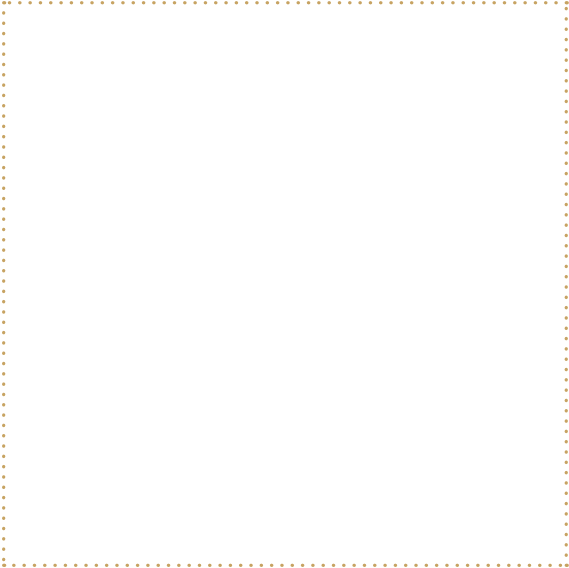
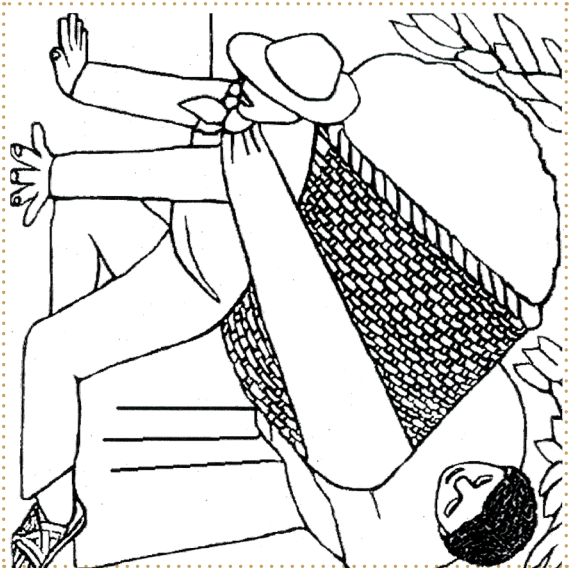
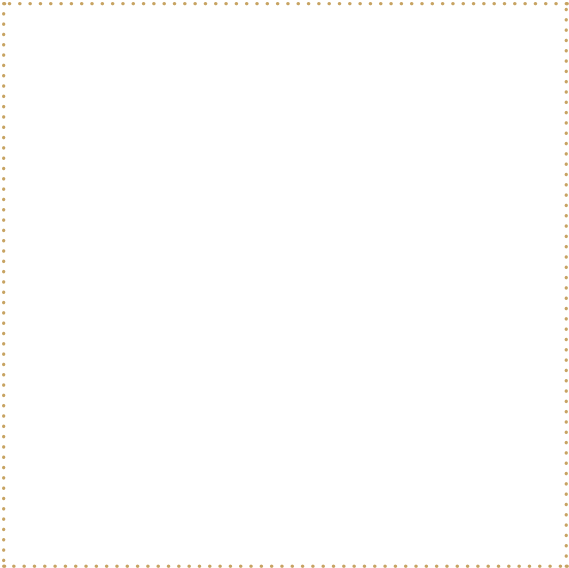
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# Create

Using the boxes and lines below, draw and write what you think might have happened in the moment before and after the scene in *The Flower Carrier*—and be sure to color in your scenes.



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Cover: Diego Rivera, *The Flower Carrier*, 1935; San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, Albert M. Bender Collection, gift of Albert M. Bender; © 2021 Banco de México Diego Rivera & Frida Kahlo Museums Trust, Mexico, D.F. / Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York

For more information about this work, watch *The Country Dog Gentlemen Travel to Extraordinary Worlds* at [sfmoma.org/countrydog](https://sfmoma.org/countrydog).

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