One Hundred Years of Oblivion: Women in Spanish and Latin American Modernism and Surrealism

Galina Bakhtiarova
Western Connecticut State University, Danbury, Connecticut

Abstract

This presentation will explore the contribution of women artists from the Spanish-speaking world to the most celebrated and misunderstood art movements of the twentieth century, such as European Modernism and Surrealism. Leonora Carrington, Sonia Delauney, Leonor Fini and Remedios Varo, among others, transgressed the norms, broke through barriers, challenged conventions and asserted their identities through their art. In their lifetime and for decades later, their contribution to world culture was overshadowed, underestimated, misunderstood, and misplaced by their male colleagues, sentimental partners and art critics. In my research and forthcoming monograph, I focus on women artists whose works of art, many of which only recently became available to the public, captivate audiences, and remain relevant to new generations.