

# The Collages of Max Ernst

By The Paris Review

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*Few bodies of work represent the splintering of the 20<sup>th</sup>-century Western psyche like the collages of Max Ernst. Striking and playful, the German surrealist's clipped-together creations, produced throughout his life, attest to a roving eye for materials and a deep curiosity about harmony and dissonance. The art historian Werner Spies has said that "collage is the thread that runs through all of his works; it is the foundation on which his lifework is built."*

*A new exhibition of Ernst's collages (on view at Paul Kasmin's 297 Tenth Avenue location through **February 29, 2020**) presents approximately forty of them, some of which are being displayed for the first time. A selection of images from the show appears below.*



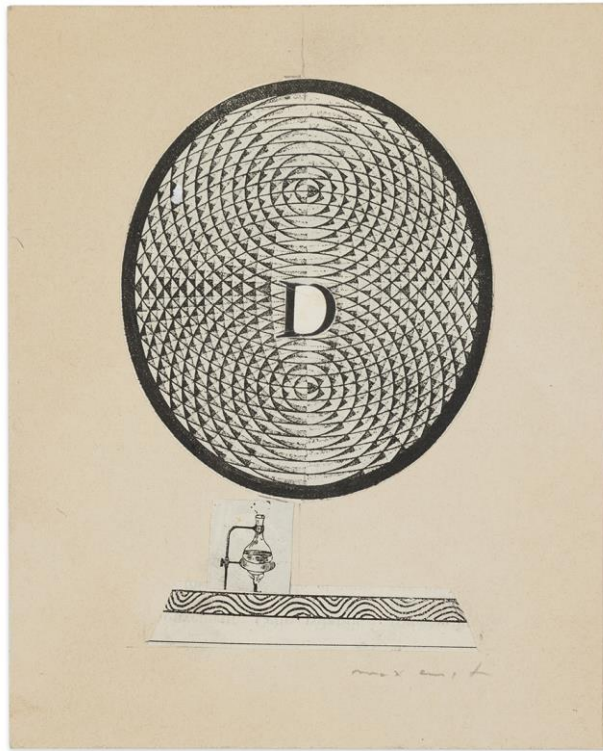
**MAX ERNST, *DEUX JEUNES DAMES*, 1972, GOUACHE, PENCIL, INK, AND COLLAGE ON PAPERBOARD, 9" X 11 <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>" X 1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>", FRAMED.**



**MAX ERNST, *LETTRINE A*, 1958, PEN, INK, AND COLLAGE ON PAPER, 10" X 11 1/8" X 1 1/4", FRAMED.**



**MAX ERNST, *CLOTURE*, 1967/1975, COLLAGE AND GOUACHE ON PAPER, MOUNTED ON PAPERBOARD, 10 1/4" X 6 3/4"**



**MAX ERNST, *LETTRINE D*, 1974, COLLAGE ON PAPER, 5 ¾" X 4 3/8"**



**MAX ERNST, *... OU EN BAS, CETTE INDÉCENTE AMAZONE DANS SON PETIT DÉSERT PRIVÉ...*, 1929/30, COLLAGE ON PAPER, 8 7/8" X 8 ½".PRIVATE COLLECTION.**



**MAX ERNST, *LETTRINE D*, 1948, INK AND COLLAGE ON PAPER, 10 3/8" X 8 7/8" X 1 1/4", FRAMED.**

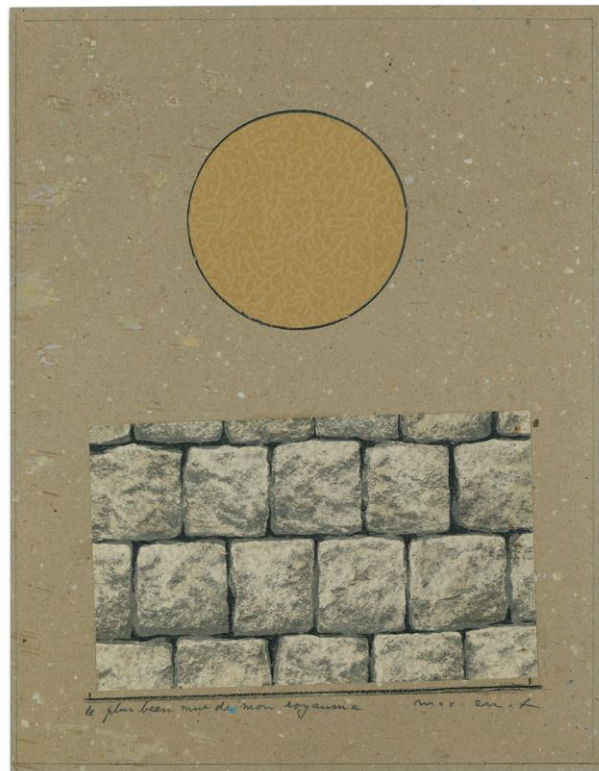


**MAX ERNST, *LES FILLES, LA MORT, LE DIABLE*, 1970, GOUACHE, WATERCOLOR, PENCIL, AND PAPER COLLAGE ON PAPER, 12 1/2" X 9 1/4"**





**MAX ERNST, *LETTRINE U*, 1958, PEN, INK, AND COLLAGE ON PAPER, 9½" X 9 ½" X 1 ¼", FRAMED.**



**MAX ERNST, *LE PLUS BEAU MUR DE MON ROYAUME*, 1968, COLLAGE, GOUACHE, AND PENCIL ON CARDBOARD, 17" X 13 ¼"**



**MAX ERNST, *Singe*, 1970**  
**GOUACHE, INK, AND COLLAGE ON PAPER, 7 ¼" X 6".**