# Glass

# Dali discovers magic art material

Glass has held a fascination all its

Glass has held a fascination all its own over the centuries.
Until the birth of Christ, it could be made only in a complicated process that was reserved for kings. Glass was considered rarer and more precious than gems.

A company in France experimented with a glass easting process until it was mastered in the 1960s, and artist Salvador Dall, known primarily for his paintings, created 18 works in glass using this technique.

TODAY, VISITORS from around the country stop at the University of Michigan-Dearborn library to see Michigan's largest public contemporary glass collection. During April, which is Michigan Glass Month, thousands of visitors from San Francisco, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Minnaepoli, St. Louis, Boston and other cities are attracted to the Dearborn campus, according to C. Edward Wall, head librarian.

"Glass is a magical material," he aild. "Some say it's a dangerous material." Some say it's a dangerous material. The said. "Some say it's a dangerous material." The said. "Some say it's a dangerous materi

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WORKS BY Dali and other artists on display were made in a glass casting technique called pate de verre, which dates back 3,500 years. Examples of glass works made this way were found in a pharoah's tomb from the year 1550

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DALI RECEIVED inspiration for another work on display, "Importance

One is captured by the color and depth of the glass.

But if an artist is able to use glass successfully, the work becomes even more important. You've got dimensionality: depth, height, with it is not just an opaque object.

Nine of Dali's original sculptural works in glass will be on display at the library from Friday through Monday, April 30. The work of other artists, dating from 1969, also will be featured in the exhibition.

"Many of the images that you find in Dali's paintings and prints, such as a clock, are interpreted in the glass, was stall." If they were done in steel or plaster or proreclain, it wouldn't have had the impact of that transparent and the impact of that transparent and the impact of that transparent and the impact of that transparent of the continue contains 30 percent lead, ac-

GLASS USED in the pate de verre technique contains 30 percent load, ac-cording to Wall.

"Much of the contemporary glass uses high-qualify light bulb glass, which is very strong," he said. "It can be very light and very fragile and still has considerable strength."

has considerable strength."
Included in the exhibit is Dall's "Soft Clock," a sculpture of a clock dripping from a hanger. The image representate sadness of wasted time, Wall said.
Dall always felt time was so critical in his life, "Wall explained. He regreted growing old and not able to produce. This shows a clock dripping time away."

(KX)(KX)



Librarian C. Edward Wall displays two Dall works, "Green Vase" and "This is Not a Plate."

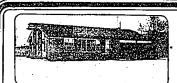


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