



PAULA REGO

Maria Paula Figueiroa Rêgo

is a famous portuguese painter, illustrator and printmaker. She was born in Lisbon to a rich family, during Salazar's regime, which would be a later influenced in her work. Paula and her husband, Victor Willing, divided their time between Portugal and England until 1975, when they moved to England permanently.



Rêgo started painting at the age of four. She attended the English-language Saint Julian's School, Carcavelos, Portugal before studying at the Slade School of Art, London where she met Victor Willing, whom she eventually married.





Triptych, Paula Rêgo, 1888.

Her work often gives a sinister edge to storybook imagery, emphasizing malicious domination or the subversion of natural order. She deals with social realities that are polemic, an example being her important *Triptych* (1998) on the subject of abortion, now in the collection of Abbot Hall Art Gallery in Kendal.

Rêgo's style is often compared to cartoon illustration. As in cartoons, animals are often depicted in human roles and situations. Her later work adopts a more realistic style, but sometimes keeps the animal references — the *Dog Woman* series of the 1990s, for example, is a set of pastel pictures depicting women in a variety of dog-like poses (on all fours, baying at the moon, and so on).



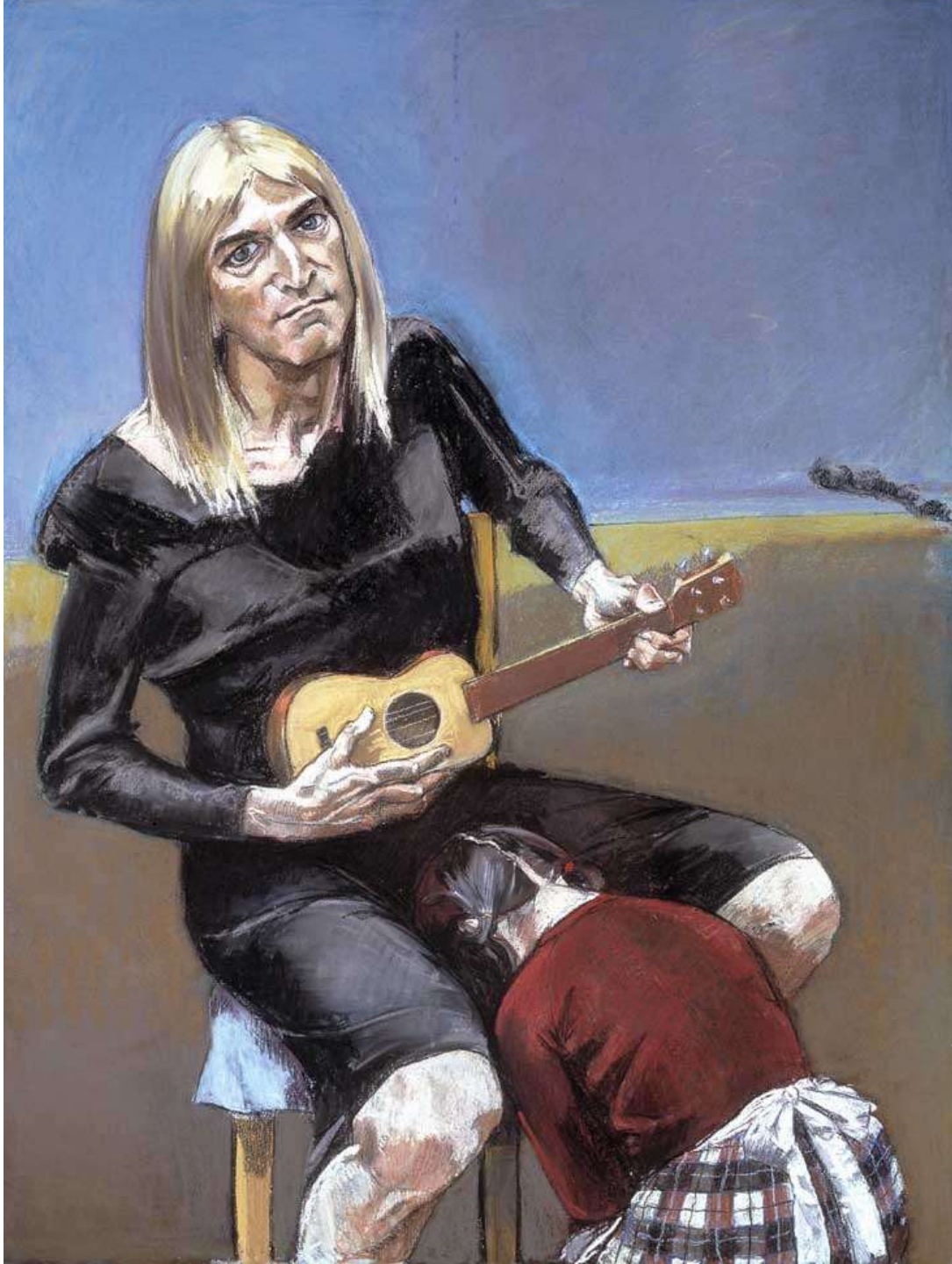
Dog Woman, Paula Rêgo, 1994.



Swallows the Poisoned Apple, Paula Régó, 1995.



Dancing Ostriches, Paula Rêgo, 1995.



Olga, Paula Rêgo, 2003.



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Front page: *Dancing Ostriches (triptych)*, Paula Rêgo, 1995

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