

Fenómeno de ingravidez (Phenomenon of Weightlessness)



Fenómeno de ingravidez (Phenomenon of Weightlessness), 1963

The Gravity of the Situation

Interested in science and metaphysics, **Remedios Varo (1908–1963)** often merged the two in her work. Varo reflects her concerns regarding humankind meddling with nature as well as her excitement about the potential for science to unify us.

Take a closer look

This work illuminates Varo's fascination with relativity and the fourth dimension. It depicts an astronomer reacting to a sudden shift in his tidy observatory. Contrast the neatly ordered orreries (models of the solar system) with the disconnected, floating earth and its moon.

Something to talk about

The figure struggles to stay balanced in a topsy-turvy space. He reaches for the hovering globe as his feet seem to rest in two different dimensions. Recall a time when you felt your world was being turned upside down. How did you persevere?

Who knew?

Varo depicts a spatial shift that references special relativity. It describes Lorentz Equations, which starts with a graph with an X- and Y-axis. Rotating this graph 30 degrees demonstrates the shift in space-time for different states of motion.

Remedios Varo, *Fenómeno de ingravidez (Phenomenon of Weightlessness)*, 1963; Oil on canvas, 29½ x 19¾ inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts. Gift from a private collection; © 2025 Remedios Varo, Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York/VEGAP, Madrid

