



Pet owners hold their dogs which they dressed up in carnival costumes for a pet parade. — AP photos

# Brazilian pets parade in their own 4-footed Carnival

**B**razilian canines allowed their people to dress them in masks and costumes for a four-legged Carnival just days before the humans will hold their own party. A white-haired lap dog was dressed as a court jester for the gathering of dozens of pets in Rio de Janeiro. A medium-sized pooch was the superhero Flash with yellow wings on the side of its head. A tiny black dog wore insect-like antennas. Two beauties with long white hair sported the Olympic rings on their heads.

The celebration started with the Banda Vira-lata, which means "Street Dog Band" in Portuguese, announcing the beginning of the festivities. People gathered with their dressed-up dogs at the edge of Copacabana beach for the annual "blocao," or block party, for pets. While the band played a samba, the four-legged carnival celebrants paraded under Rio's blazing sun. "Always by their owner's side, always a loyal friend ... arf, arf, arf," a band member sang. "The 'blocao' is animal!" the singer added in the song describing how great the party was. People strutted with dogs costumed as heroes such as Zorro as well as wizards and bees. During the two-hour pet parade, the pooches had the chance to play with their canine friends while the samba band members sang: "It's carnival and the party is animal!" — AP



A dog named Caique attends a carnival pet parade, wearing a feathered hat.



Dogs wearing Olympics ring headbands ride in a stroller.



A dog wearing a jester costume attends a carnival pet parade in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.



A dog wears "The Flash" costume for a carnival pet parade.



A dog in costume attends the carnival.



A dog in costume attends the carnival.



Dogs in costume interact during a carnival pet parade.



A dog in costume attends the carnival.



A dog in costume attends the carnival pet parade.

## New Bosch painting unveiled on eve of 500th celebrations

**A**rt historians on Monday revealed that a painting stored for decades at an American museum was in fact a work by Dutch master Hieronymus Bosch. The surprise discovery comes as 's-Hertogenbosch, the hometown of the artist whose nightmarish visions on canvas earned him the moniker of "the devil's painter", marks the 500th anniversary of his death. The newly-uncovered painting has been lying forgotten for years in storage at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri, which acquired it in the 1930s.

Entitled "The Temptation of Saint Anthony", it shows the saint gathering water in a jug as he leans on a staff in what was probably part of a larger panel, possibly a triptych. Initially it had been believed to be the work of one of the many students who flocked to Bosch's workshop in 's-Hertogenbosch. But a team of international researchers who carried out a five-year research project using sophisticated infra-red technology determined that the painting was in fact by the master himself. The canvas, which was likely painted between 1500 to 1510, "is a significant addition to the small body of existent work produced by Hieronymus Bosch," the researchers said in a statement. "Although the image was heavily retouched and over painted during a 20th century restoration, Bosch's hand is still clearly recognizable in the original brushwork," they said.

The painting was unveiled on Monday at the Noordbrabants Museum in Bosch's hometown which has succeeded in bringing together over 20 of his 25 or so surviving works for an unpre-



This undated image provided by the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri, shows "The Temptation of St Anthony." — AP

cedented retrospective which opens on February 13. "The little monsters in the panel are typically 'Boschian', the researchers said, highlighting a monster with a fox's head, and a toad clambering out of the water. Even a floating sausage can be found in other artworks by Bosch.

**'Visions of Genius'**

It is the second work that the Bosch Research and Conservation Project (BRCP) has recently determined was by the Dutch master. Late last year, the team also revealed that a drawing called "The Infernal Landscape" was drawn by him. The exhibition marks the culmination of a nine-year quest by museum director Charles de Mooij to reunite Bosch's unique artistic legacy in the place where he worked, lived and died.

It kicks off a year of events in the medieval town in southern Holland to honor its most famous son who was born Hieronymus van Aken in around 1450. The newly-discovered work will join 20 paintings and 18 other drawings among about 100 works on display in the exhibit "Hieronymus Bosch-Visions of Genius" which runs until May 8. But Bosch's most famous work, a triptych called "The Garden of Earthly Delights" which journeys from Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden to a terrifying vision of hell, will not be on display.

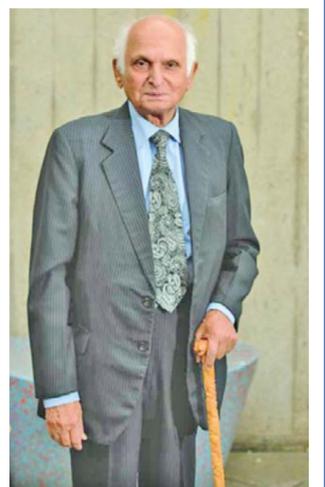
It hangs in the Museo Nacional del Prado in Madrid, and has never travelled abroad. But in a remarkable coup, the Prado has agreed to allow Bosch's "The Haywain" to leave Spain for the first time in 450 years. — AFP

## Pakistan's 'greatest fiction writer' dies at 92

**P**akistani author Intizar Hussain, widely recognized as one of the greatest Urdu writers in history, died yesterday aged 92 in the eastern city of Lahore, according to his doctor, following a period of illness. The prolific author was known for his novels, short stories, columns and poetry and belatedly saw worldwide recognition when he was shortlisted for the Man Booker International Prize in 2013 and was awarded France's "Ordre des Arts et des Lettres" a year later.

Born on December 7, 1923 in Dibrui, India, he migrated to the newly formed Pakistan in 1947 — an experience he wrote about 50 years later in "The First Morning". The short story captured the horror and optimism that accompanied the Partition of India where an estimated 14 million people were displaced, the largest mass migration in human history. The history of Pakistan and the subcontinent was also the setting for his acclaimed novel "Basti", published in 1979 and later translated into English.

He was also a regular literary columnist for Pakistan's leading English-language daily Dawn, and in later years became known as a voice of moderation and advocate of what he saw as the subcontinent's ancient traditions of pluralism and tolerance. Fellow Urdu writer Munnu Bhai told AFP: "Intizar Hussain was a man of letters. His death has left a huge gap in the literary circle of the subcontinent that would be felt of the centuries to come." Hussain's wife, Aliya Begum, died in 2004 and the couple had no children. — AFP



Intizar Hussain