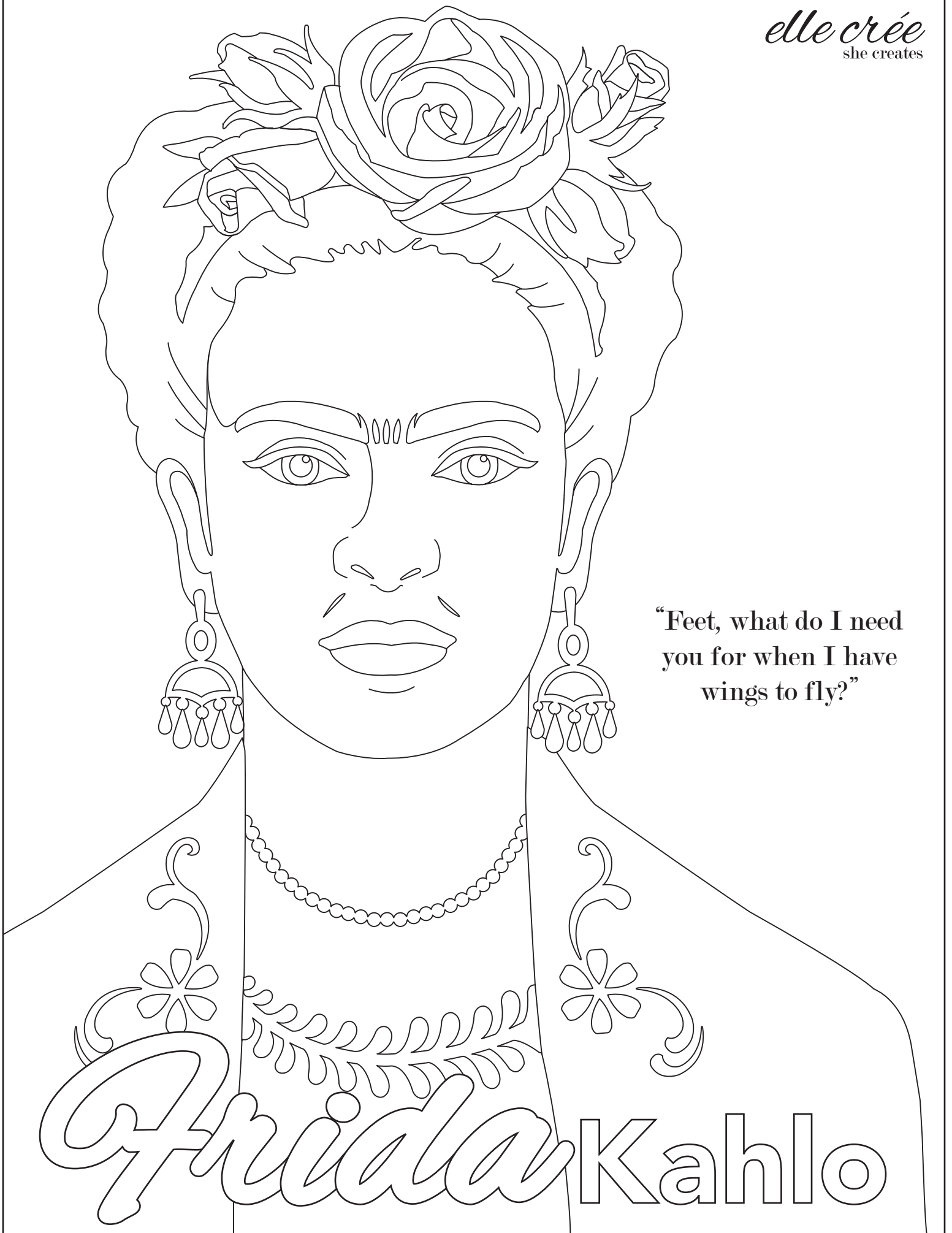


elle crée
she creates



“Feet, what do I need
you for when I have
wings to fly?”

Frida Kahlo

About Frida Kahlo (1907 – 1954)

Mexican Artist

“Feet, what do I need you for when I have wings to fly?”

Born in Mexico City, Frida’s dream of becoming a doctor came to an end when she was severely injured in a bus accident at the age of 18. It was while she was bedridden during her initial recovery that she began to paint.

She married prominent Mexican painter Diego Rivera who was 20 years older than her and initially her art was overshadowed by his. When they traveled to America in 1930 for Diego’s work, Frida participated in an art exhibition for the first time. They lived in the US for several years, but Frida was plagued with health problems and homesickness.

After returning to Mexico, Frida traveled to Paris and New York for exhibitions of her work. Her paintings became known for their magical realism. She also began to be known for her long, full skirts, elaborate headdresses and jewelry inspired by Mexican folk culture.

Her life could be described as tumultuous. Having grown up during the Mexican Revolution (1910-1920), Frida had always been politically active and was a supporter of the Mexican Communist Party. Her activism played a large role in her life. She was even briefly suspected of being involved in a political assassination in 1940. Her personal life was turbulent as well. Her marriage to Diego was strained by multiple affairs by both parties which eventually led to divorce. Although they reconciled, they both continued to have other relationships.

She never completely recovered from the bus accident that had left her in chronic pain and necessitated many additional surgeries later in life, including the amputation of a leg. But in spite of her suffering, her art flourished. The year before she died, she had her first solo exhibition in Mexico. Although she was bedridden, she attended the opening by having her bed transported to the gallery.

By the end of her life her art had become known throughout Mexico. She painted pictures that told incredible stories about the world around her and developed a signature style that became celebrated across the globe.