

Art I

Elements and Principles of Art

Name _____

Date _____

Composition: The composition is the plan, placement or arrangement of elements or ingredients in an artwork.

Elements

Elements of Art: The elements of art are the basic parts of any composition. They are the objects to be arranged, composed or captured to create the composition itself. Parts or ingredients that make up your artwork

Point: specific location or dot. Multiple points in space make a line

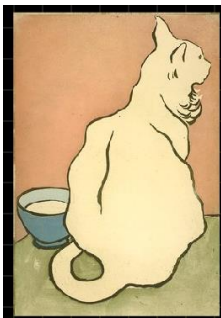


Georges Seurat *Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grande Jatte*, 1884-1886



Line

An element of art which refers to the continuous mark made on some surface by a moving point. It may be two dimensional, like a pencil mark on a paper or it may be three dimensional (wire) or implied (the edge of a shape or form) often it is an outline, contour or silhouette.



Francios Jourdain, *The White Cat*, 19th century



Ewe, *Panel*, 20th century



Adolph Gottlieb, *Blue at Noon*, 1955



Artist Unknown, *Eating Pot*, About 1980



Bernice Abbot, *El, Second and Third Avenue Lines*, 1982



Ellsworth Kelly, *Double Curve*, 1988

Shape

An enclosed two-dimensional space defined by other elements of art (like line). Shapes may take on the appearance of two-d or three- objects.



Monks of the Gyuto Tantric University, *Yamantaka Mandala*, 1991



Texture

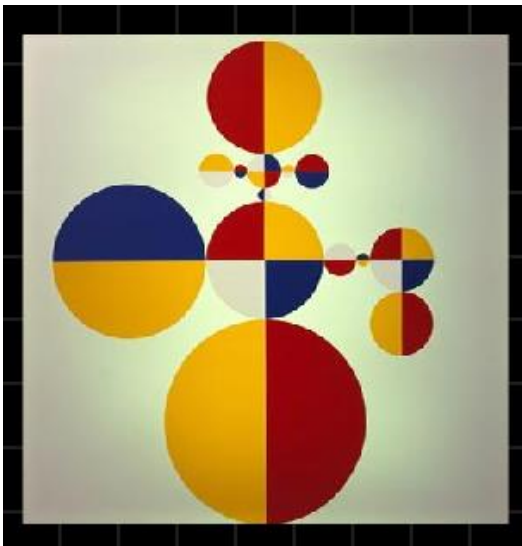
Refers to the surface quality or "feel" of an object, such as roughness, smoothness, or softness. Real texture can be felt while implied textures are implied by the way the object looks



Albrecht Durer, *The Rhinoceros*

Color

The light reflected off an object. It has three properties 1) Hue, the name of the color, e.g. red, yellow, etc. 2) Intensity or the purity and strength of the color such as brightness or dullness. And 3) value, or the lightness or darkness of the color. Color can reflect particular moods or feelings, and also can have symbolic meanings that vary in different cultures



Gabriel Orozco, *Light Signs #3*, 1995



Franz Marc, *The Large Blue Horses*, 1911



Grace Hartigan, *Billboard*, 1957



Ed Paschke, *Painted Lady*, 1995

Value

Describes the lightness or darkness of a color. Value is needed to express Volume.



Joan Mitchell, *Posted*, 1977

Space

refers to the distance or area between, around, above or within things. It can be a description for both 2 and 3 dimensional portrayals. It can be shown in positive/negative space or perspective.



David Nash, *Standing Frame*, 1967



Canaletto, *Grand Canal...*, 1740

Form

Three dimensionality of an object. Form encloses volume. Cubes, spheres, and cylinders are examples of various forms.



Tony Cragg, *Stack*



MC Escher, *Balcony*



Principles

Principles of Art: The principles of art are the ways that you can arrange the elements of art in a composition. They are the rules or guidelines of how you use the elements.

If you imagine the elements of art as the ingredients in your recipe, the principles are your instructions (mixing, blending, simmering, sautéing, etc). Using principles correctly allow you to direct the viewer's eye throughout the photograph. The principles of design help you to carefully plan and organize the elements of art so that you will hold interest and command attention. This is sometimes referred to as visual impact.

Emphasis

Also known as focal point, in a composition refers to developing points of interest to pull the viewer's eye to important parts of the body of the work.



Gustav Klimt, *Serena Lederer (died 1943)*



Charles Demuth, *The Figure 5 in Gold*

Balance

A sense of stability in the body of work. Balance is arranging elements so that no one part of a work overpowers, or seems heavier than any other part. Balance can be created by repeating same shapes and by creating a feeling of equal weight. Can be symmetrical or asymmetrical



John Sloan, *South Beach Bathers*, 1907-1908



Richard Hunt, *Transformation Mask*, 1993

Movement

Adds excitement to your work by showing action and/or directing the viewer's eye throughout the picture.



Sybil Andrews, *Speedway*

Proportion

Also known as scale. Refers to the relationships of the size of objects in a body of work. Proportion gives a sense of size seen as a relationship of objects, such as smallness or largeness.



Unity

The effect that everything belongs together created in a photograph. Everything seems purposeful. Nothing distracts from the whole.



Contrast

Used to show difference. You can achieve contrast by using difference shapes, textures, colors and values in your work.



Wheatfield with Crows, Vincent Van Gogh, 1890



Claude Monet

(no contrast)

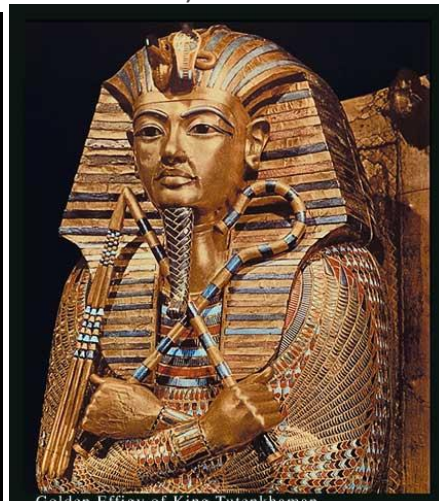


Repetition

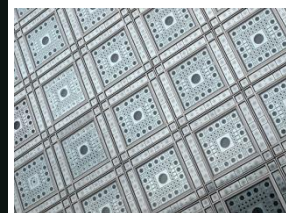
repeating of elements (images, ideas, visual elements).



Water Lilies, Claude Monet, 1906

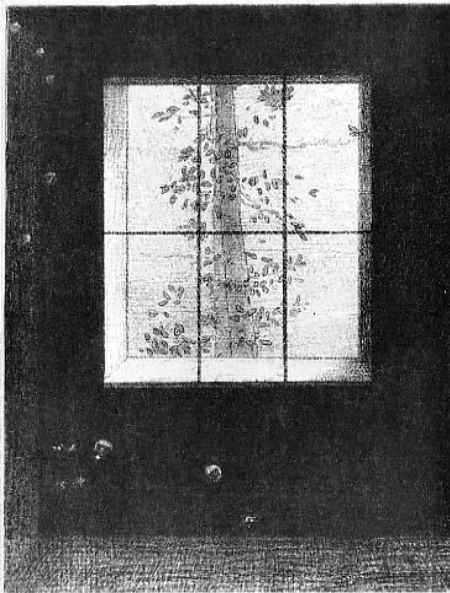


Golden Effigy of King Tutankhamun



Symbolism

Using a specific image or element choice to represent an idea or thought. Color, lines, shapes and other things can all contain symbolic meaning, represent additional ideas than just the element or image that they are (red can represent pain or love, a wavy line can represent water or calmness, etc.)



Dillon Radon (French, 1840-1916),
The Light of Day (Le Jour)



Appropriation

Taking someone's idea/images and changing it to make it your own



Campbell's Soup, Andy Warhol



Juxtaposition

putting two things together that don't normally belong together to create new meaning



Banksy



Recontextualization

To place something into a new context



Duchamp, *Fountain*



Doris Salcedo, *Istanbul*