The Art and Science of Depiction

Limitations of the Medium, compensation or accentuation: The Image is Static

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Icons

• Role of pictures/artists
• Iconoclasts
**Icons: canon**

- Millet-Van Gogh

Limitations: static
Icons: canon

• Millet-Van Gogh

Icons: canon

• Hokusai – Jeff Wall
**Icon: canon**

- Scorcese
- La femme Nikita/Point of No Return
- White House

**Movie anyone?**

- A Personal Journey through American Cinema with Martin Scorcese
- Le Mystère Picasso
- Making of Toy Story
**Talk**

- Who will talk after Spring Break?

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**Assignments**

- Readings
  - Different choices
  - Summarize to others the next week (send me the summary)
  - Prepare questions for the text you have not read
- Solso *Cognition and the Visual Arts*
- Essay
  - Exploratory or Picture comment
Personal Meeting II

• Class
• Essay
• Project

Plan

• The picture is flat
• The viewpoint is unique
• The image is finite, it has a frame
• The picture is static
• The contrast is limited
• The gamut (palette) is limited
**The picture is static**

- Single snapshot
  - Content
  - Time & Pose (not at rest)
  - Viewpoint
  - Blur, Action lines, path
- Multiple snapshot
- Metaphor
- Pictorial
- Op’ Art

**Content**
Content

- Constable, View on Stour

- George de la Tour, Penitent
Content

- M.C. Escher, *Waterfall*
The picture is static

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Pose
Deviation from the resting position

- Andrew Wyeth, *Wind from the Sea*, 1968

Pose

- Guericault
Pose accentuated

- Lartigues (effect of curtain shutter)

Egyptian vs. Greek
Pose Effectiveness

- Effective for 3 year old, no for 2 year old
  [Amen 1941]

Limitations: static

Pose Effectiveness

- Effective for 3 year old, no for 2 year old
- Then decline with age
**Pose Effectiveness**

- Effective for 3 year old, no for 2 year old
- Then decline with age
- The more dramatic, the better

Limitations: static
Pose Effectiveness

• Philippe Halsman, *Dali Anatomicus*, 1977

Orientation

• Left to right in Western culture
• Chinese calligraphy…
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Viewpoint

- + lines +pose
**Viewpoint**

- +pose

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Path of Movement – Motion Blur

Limitations: static

Path of Movement

Limitations: static
Trails

• Feininger, *US Navy Helicopter Taking Off At Night*, 1949

Motion Blur

• Star Wars, Lucas Film
Motion Blur

- Luxo Jr., Pixar

Motion Blur

- Velasquez
Motion Blur, Trail

- *Child Attendant Flying down from Heaven on a Cloud*, 1952

Motion blur – Figure
**Motion Blur – Ground**

Limitations: static

**Motion Blur - Both**

- +Viewpoint, content
Motion Blur

Limitations: static

Cartoon – lines of movement

- Keith Haring
  Untitled, 1982
**Path of movements**

- More effective for older groups (>8 year old)

**Path of movements**

- More effective for older groups (>8 year old)
- Importance of exposure to pictures
**Sculpture**

- Umberto Boccioni, *Unique Form Of Continuity In Space*, 1913

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Multiple snapshots

Limitations: static

Multiple snapshots

Limitations: static
Multiple snapshots – multiple images

- Gary Heery
  *Lion, Panthera Persica X Leo*
  (Fro Zoo)

Limitations: static

Multiple Snapshots – one image

- *The Dance of Salome*, Benozzo Gozzoli

Limitations: static
Multiple snapshots – superimposed

Limitations: static

Multiple snapshot – multiple gaze

- David Hockney
**Multiple snapshot: nature vs. nurture**

- Head motion perception:
  - 3% rural Zulu, 86% White South African
- Cultural nurture

**Multiple snapshots**

- Masaccio and Masolino
Multiple snapshots

- Sassetta, *The Meeting of St Anthony and Saint Paul*, 1440

Multiple Snapshots

- *Murder at the Pentagon*, Tobi Indyke, 1993
Multiple snapshots

- Etienne-Jules Marey, Chronophotograph

Multiple Snapshots

- Marcel Duchamp, *Nude Descending a Staircase*, 1912
Multiple Snapshots

- Giacomo Balla, *Dynamism Of A Dog On A Leash*
  1912
Multiple Snapshots

• Magritte, *Le Sorcier*

Limitations: static

Multiple Snapshots

• *A Dancer,* Pavel Tchelitchew

Limitations: static
**Multiple Snapshots**

- Ingres, *Female Nude*, 1826-1834
The picture is static

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Metaphor
Metaphor

• Racing Automobiles, Balla

Metaphor

• Mondrian
  *Broadway Boogie-Woogie*, 1942-43
**Metaphor**

- Morris Louis, *Saraband*, 1959

**Metaphor – dynamic form**

- Weston, *Artichoke Halved*, 1930
Metaphor – dynamic form

• Sidney Opera

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**Composition - balance**

- Degas, *L’Etoile*
- Off-center, tension

**Composition - lines**

- + Balance
Composition - gaze

- Turner

Composition - lines

- Van Gogh, Starry Night, 1889
**Composition - lines**

- Barbieri, *Sybil Holding a Scroll*, 1590-1666

- Tak Kwong Chan  
  *The Horse – Away He Goes*, 1980
Composition - grouping

• Arthus Bertrand

Abstract

• Claude Melin, *Chanson De Geste*, 1990
Calligraphy

- Hassan Massoudy

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**Op’ Art**

- Bridget Riley, *Current*, 1964

**Illusion**

*Florida Election Recount*

Count and total black dots for Al Gore and white dots for George Bush. Recount to confirm.
**Motion without Movement**

- [Freeman, Adelson and Heeger, 1991]
- Time sequence of images
- No movement but Sensation of motion

![Images of Motion without Movement](image1)

**La Gioconda**

- Sfumato

![La Gioconda](image2)
La Gioconda

- Sfumato
- [Dr. Livingstone]
- Multiresolution vision

A Paradigm...
After Spring Break...

- Representation system
  - Drawing & perspective
  - Denotation
  - Tone & color

The picture is static

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultural period</th>
<th>Number of pictures viewed to find 25 pictures of movement</th>
<th>Pictorial movement indicators</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Posture</td>
<td>Content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ancient cave paintings</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egyptian tomb paintings</td>
<td>66</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greek vase paintings</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medieval (Giotto; Martin)</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renaissance (da Vinci; Michelangelo)</td>
<td>58</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baroque (Rubens; Fragonard)</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Realism (Goya; Delacroix)</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oriental (Kokosai)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American (Marin)</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Fauvism</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>(Matisse; Marquet; Derain)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>German Blue Reiter</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Macle; Kandinsky)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary children’s books</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contemporary newspaper comics</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>25</td>
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NOTE: The sources for the pictures are in Appendix 2.
The contrast is limited

The gamut (palette) is limited

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