The Art and Science of Depiction

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

Fredo Durand
MIT- Lab for Computer Science

Icons

- Role of pictures/artists
- Iconoclasts

Icons: canon

- Millet-Van Gogh

Icons: canon

- Millet-Van Gogh

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?

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

- Constable, View on Stour

Content

- George de la Tour Penitent

Content

- M.C. Escher, Waterfall
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Pose

Deviation from the resting position

- Andrew Wyeth, Wind from the Sea, 1968

Pose

Pose accentuated

- Lartigues (effect of curtain shutter)

Egyptian vs. Greek
**Pose Effectiveness**

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

**Pose Effectiveness**

- The more dramatic, the better

**Orientation**

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

- + lines +pose

Path of Movement – Motion Blur

Path of Movement

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Trails

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

Motion Blur

- *Star Wars*, Lucas Film

- Luxo Jr., Pixar

- Velasquez
**Motion Blur, Trail**

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

**Motion Blur – Figure**

**Motion Blur – Ground**

**Motion Blur - Both**

- +Viewpoint, content

**Motion Blur**

**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

Limitations: static

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Limitations: static

Sculpture

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

Limitations: static

Multiple snapshots

Limitations: static
**Multiple snapshots – multiple images**
- Gary Heery
  *Lion, Panthera Persica X Leo (Fro Zoo)*

**Multiple Snapshots – one image**
- *The Dance of Salome, Benozzo Gozzoli*

**Multiple snapshots – superimposed**

**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

Hockney
Limitations: static 67

Multiple Snapshots

• Magritte, *Le Sorcier*

Limitations: static 68

Multiple Snapshots

• A Dancer,
  Pavel Tchelitchew

Limitations: static 69

Multiple Snapshots

• Ingres,
  *Female Nude*,
  1826-1834

Limitations: static 70

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Limitations: static 71

Limitations: static 72

Metaphor
**Metaphor**
- *Racing Automobiles, Balla*

**Limitations: static**

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

**Limitations: static**

**Metaphor**
- *Morris Louis, Saraband, 1959*

**Limitations: static – dynamic form**

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

**Limitations: static**

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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

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

- Arthus Bertrand

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**Abstract**

- Claude Melin, *Chanson De Geste*, 1990

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**Calligraphy**

- Hassan Massoudy

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**Op’ Art**

- Bridget Riley, *Current*, 1964

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**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

La Gioconda

- Sfumato
- [Dr. Livingstone]
- Multiresolution vision

A Paradigm...

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

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The contrast is limited

The gamut (palette) is limited