


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



Limitations: static 2

Icons: canon


- Millet-Van Gogh



Limitations: static 3

Icons: canon

- Millet-Van Gogh



Limitations: static 4

Icons: canon


- Millet-Van Gogh



Limitations: static 5

Icons: canon

- Hokusai – Jeff Wall



Limitations: static 6

Icon: canon

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

Limitations: static

7

Movie anyone?

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

Limitations: static

8

Talk

- Who will talk after Spring Break?

Limitations: static

9

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

Limitations: static

10

Personal Meeting II

- Class
- Essay
- Project

Limitations: static

11

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

Limitations: static

12

The picture is static

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

Limitations: static

13

Content



Limitations: static

14

Content

- *Constable, View on Stour*



Limitations: static

15

Content

- *George de la Tour, Penitent*



Limitations: static

16

Content



Limitations: static

17

Content

- M.C. Escher, *Waterfall*



Limitations: static

18

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Limitations: static

19

Pose



Limitations: static

20

Deviation from the resting position

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



Limitations: static

21

Pose

- Guericault



Limitations: static

22

Pose accentuated

- Lartigues (effect of curtain shutter)



Limitations: static

23

Egyptian vs. Greek



Limitations: static

24

Pose Effectiveness

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



Limitations: static

25

Pose Effectiveness

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

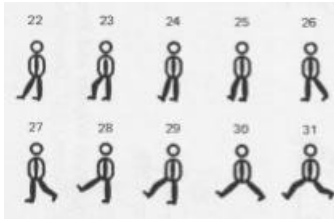


Limitations: static

26

Pose Effectiveness

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



Limitations: static

27

Pose Effectiveness

- The more dramatic, the better



Limitations: static

28

Pose Effectiveness

- Philippe Halsman, *Dali Anatomicus*, 1977

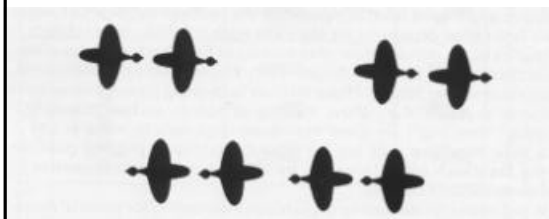


Limitations: static

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Orientation

- Left to right in Western culture
- Chinese calligraphy...



Limitations: static

30

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Limitations: static

31

Viewpoint

- + lines +pose



Limitations: static

32

Viewpoint

- +pose



Limitations: static

33

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Limitations: static

34

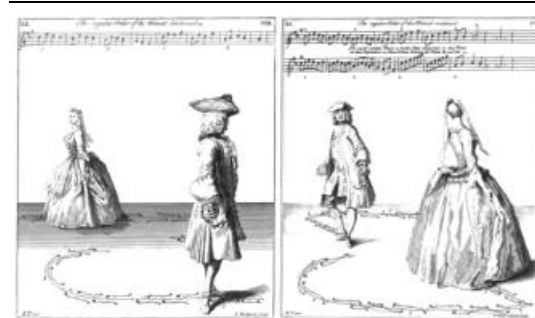
Path of Movement – Motion Blur



Limitations: static

35

Path of Movement



Limitations: static

36

Trails



Limitations: static

37

Trails

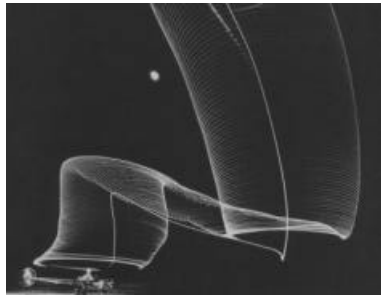


Limitations: static

38

Trails

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



Limitations: static

39

Motion Blur

- Star Wars, Lucas Film



Limitations: static

40

Motion Blur

- Luxo Jr., Pixar



Limitations: static

41

Motion Blur

- Velasquez



Limitations: static

42

Motion Blur, Trail

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



Limitations: static

43

Motion blur – Figure



Limitations: static

44

Motion Blur – Ground



Limitations: static

45

Motion Blur - Both

- +Viewpoint, content



Limitations: static

46

Motion Blur



Limitations: static

47

Cartoon – lines of movement

- Keith Haring
Untitled, 1982

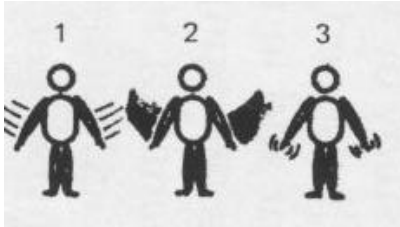


Limitations: static

48

Path of movements

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



Limitations: static

49

Path of movements

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



Limitations: static

50

Sculpture

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



Limitations: static

51

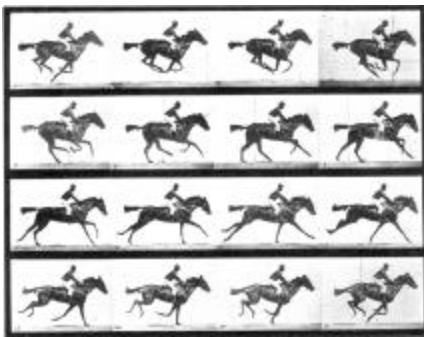
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Limitations: static

52

Multiple snapshots



Limitations: static

53

Multiple snapshots



Limitations: static

54

Multiple snapshots – multiple images

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



Limitations: static

55

Multiple Snapshots – one image

- *The Dance of Salome*, Benozzo Gozzoli



Limitations: static

56

Multiple snapshots – superimposed



Limitations: static

57

Multiple snapshot – multiple gaze

- David Hockney



Limitations: static

58

Multiple snapshot: nature vs. nurture

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



Limitations: static

59

Multiple snapshots

- Masaccio and Masolino



Limitations: static

60

Multiple snapshots

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



Limitations: static

61

Multiple Snapshots

- *Murder at the Pentagon*, TobiIndyke, 1993

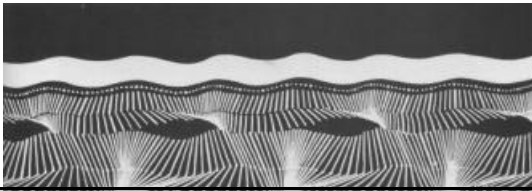


Limitations: static

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Multiple snapshots

- Etienne-Jules Marey, Chronophotograph



Limitations: static

65

Multiple Snapshots

- Marcel Duchamp *Nude Descending a Staircase* 1912



Limitations: static

64

Multiple Snapshots

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



Limitations: static

65

Hockney



Limitations: static

66

Multiple Snapshots

- Magritte, *Le Sorcier*



Limitations: static

67

Multiple Snapshots

- *A Dancer*,
Pavel Tchelitchew



Limitations: static

68

Multiple Snapshots

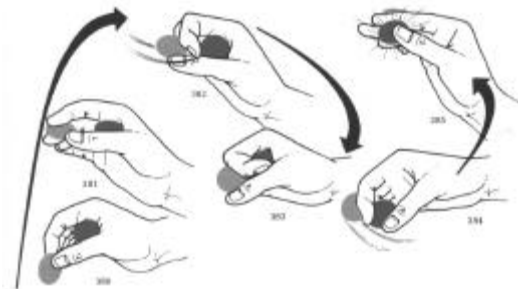
- Ingres,
Female Nude,
1826-1834



Limitations: static

69

Multiple Snapshots



Limitations: static

70

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Limitations: static

71

Metaphor



Limitations: static

72

Metaphor

- *Racing Automobiles*, Balla

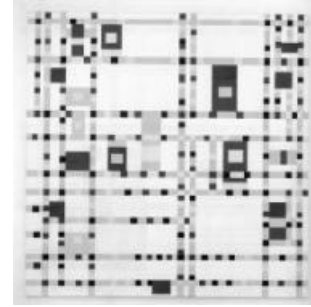


Limitations: static

73

Metaphor

- Mondrian
Broadway Boogie Woogie,
1942-43

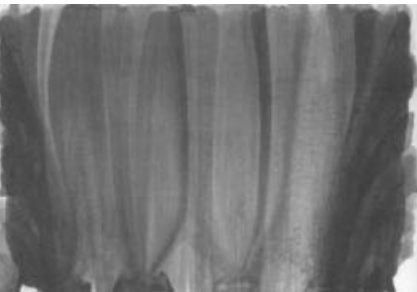


Limitations: static

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Metaphor

- Morris Louis, *Saraband*, 1959

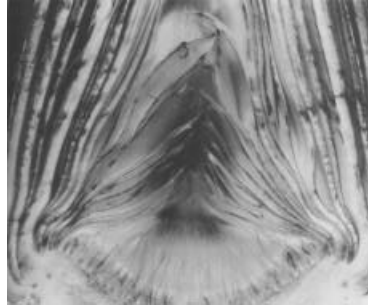


Limitations: static

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Metaphor – dynamic form

- Weston, *Artichoke Halved*, 1930



Limitations: static

76

Metaphor – dynamic form

- Sidney Opera



Limitations: static

77

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Limitations: static

78

Composition - balance

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



Limitations: static

79

Composition - lines

- + Balance



Limitations: static

80

Composition - gaze

- Turner



Limitations: static

81

Composition - lines

- Van Gogh, *Starry Night*, 1889



Limitations: static

82

Composition - lines

- Barbieri,
Sybil Holding a Scroll,
1590-1666



Limitations: static

83

Composition - lines

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



Limitations: static

84

Composition - grouping

- Arthus Bertrand



Limitations: static

85

Abstract

- Claude Melin,
Chanson De Geste,
1990



Limitations: static

86

Calligraphy

- Hassan Massoudy



Limitations: static

87

The picture is static

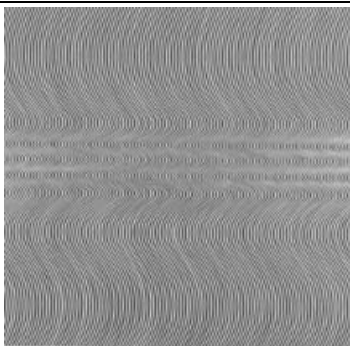
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Limitations: static

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Op' Art

- Bridget Riley,
Current,
1964

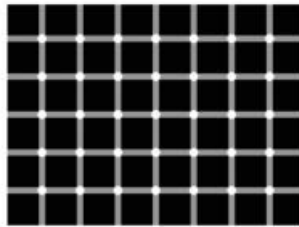


Limitations: static

89

Illusion

Florida Election Recount



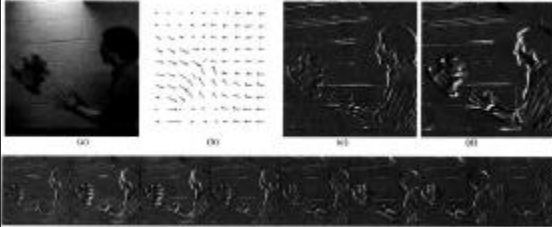
Count and total black dots for Al Gore and white dots for George Bush. Recount to confirm

Limitations: static

90

Motion without Movement

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



Limitations: static

91

La Gioconda

- Sfumato



Limitations: static

92

La Gioconda

- Sfumato
- [Dr. Livingstone]
- Multiresolution vision



Limitations: static

93

A Paradigm...



Limitations: static

94

After Spring Break...

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

Limitations: static

95

The picture is static

TABLE 7.1
Results of a Cross-Cultural Survey of Pictures Showing Movement

Cultural period	Number of pictures viewed by first 25 judges of movement	Perceived movement indication			
		Picture	Content	Nonverbalizing	Metaphor
Ancient cave paintings	79	25	9	—	—
Egyptian tomb paintings	46	24	17	1	—
Greek vase paintings	38	25	19	1	—
Medieval (Illuminated Manuscripts)	80	25	15	7	4
Renaissance (da Vinci's <i>Windsong</i>)	58	25	18	4	3
Baroque (Rubens's <i>Fragment</i>)	884	25	11	9	1
Modern (Cézanne's <i>Dejeuner</i>)	83	25	17	4	—
Abstract (Kandinsky's <i>Composition 8</i>)	50	22	20	9	—
American (Matisse's <i>Blue Nude</i>)	43	25	12	17	—
French Fauvism (Matisse's <i>Marquet</i>)	881	24	21	18	—
German Neue Sachlichkeit (Macke's <i>Kandinsky</i>)	107	25	11	5	—
Contemporary children's books	34	25	18	6	7
Contemporary newspaper comics	41	25	5	9	7

Note: The sources for the pictures are in Appendix 2.

Limitations: static

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The contrast is limited

Limitations: static

97

The gamut (palette) is limited

Limitations: static

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