

Content: Visual Metaphor and Symbolism



Visual metaphors are a creative technique used to convey a message through images.



We also show that people's ability to interpret a visual message is not simply a function of image content but also of message familiarity. This implies that efforts to automatically understand visual images should take into account message familiarity.

Metaphors are **tailored narrative-like representation**, replacing what we mean, while Symbols are added elements to give or offer another idea(s).





Symbolic Representation Examples





Metaphoric Representation Examples







Wendel Candawan,
Aman



Chaklunko, *Lord of the rings* original illustration with Gollum hand reaching for the ring under the water



Hunger, David Jackson

fine art
america

DJ



Rebecca Suzanne Magar, *Hunger*

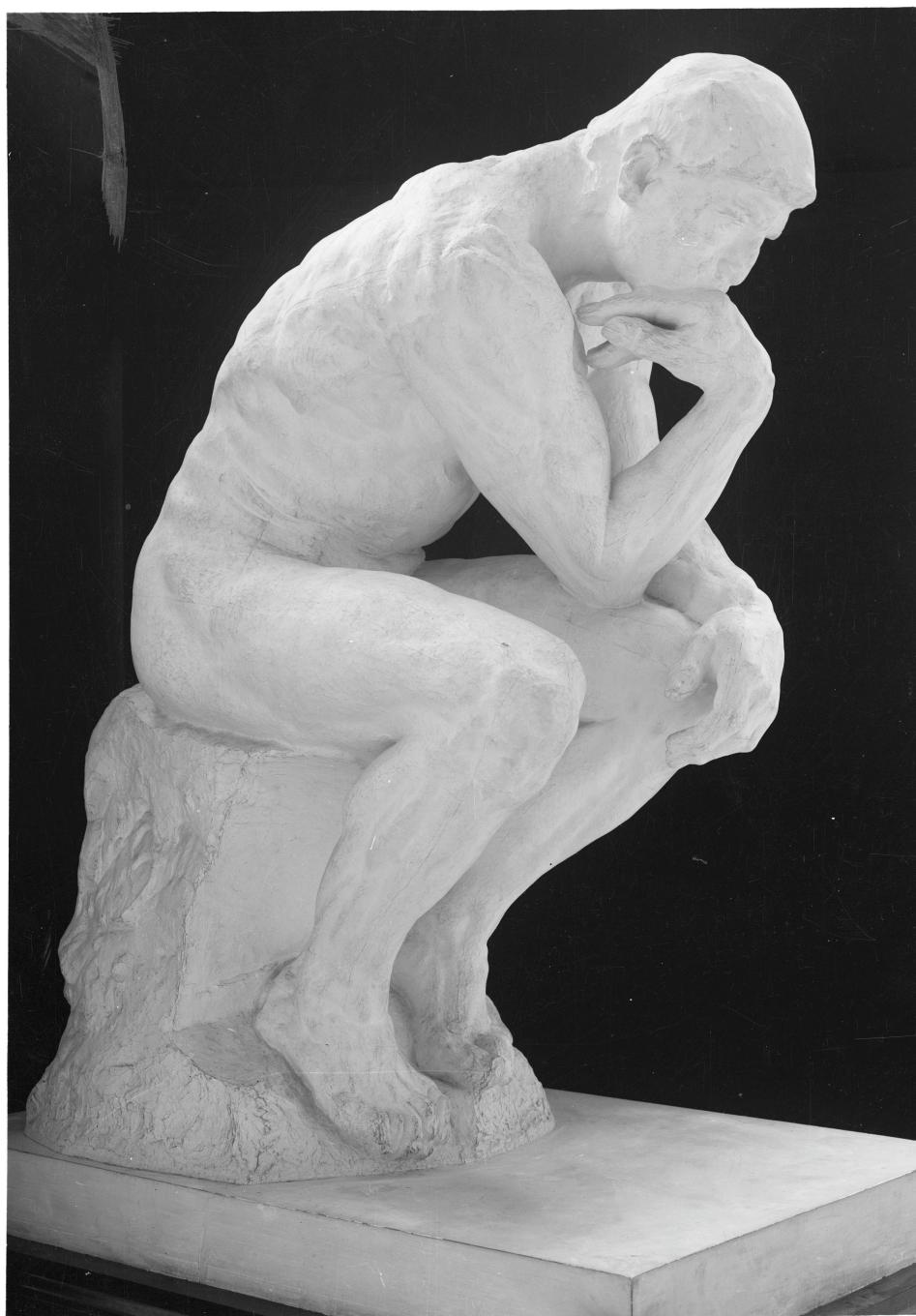


Hunger Painting
Kateryna Bortsova

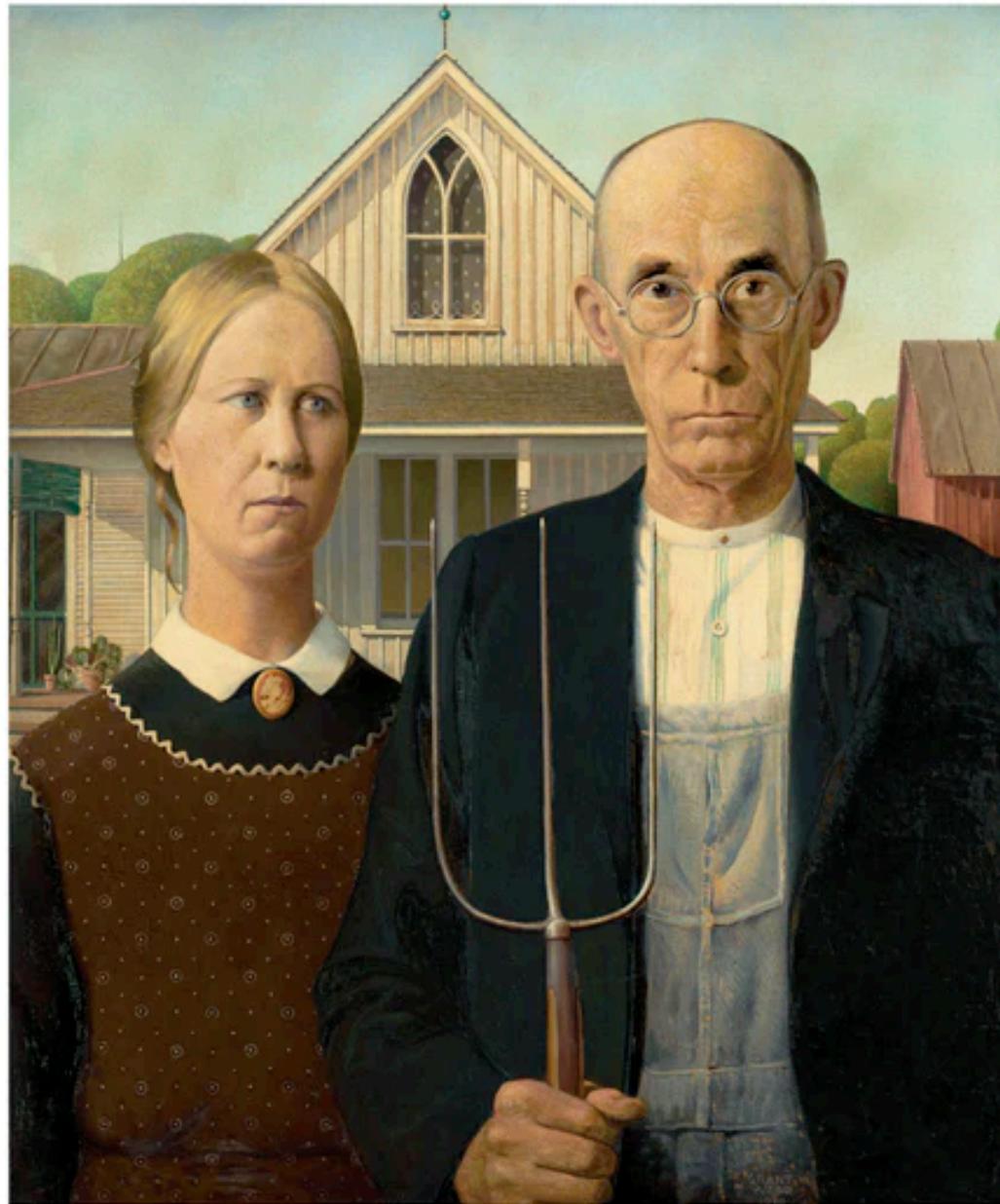




“The Thinker” (Le Penseur) by Auguste Rodin



THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM
OF ART



Grant Wood American Gothic, 1930



Summing up

- Symbols may be embedded in a metaphorical representation to add and reinforce
- Visual metaphors are not plain shortcuts but they make artworks more meaningful
- In content or meaning, symbols give familiarity, visual metaphors give us connection, narrative and flexibility.