

Artwork Line and Shape Analysis

Vocabulary:

Representational artwork: art that depicts figures and objects so that we recognize what is represented.

Abstract: an artwork, the form of which is simplified, distorted, or exaggerated in appearance.

Non-objective: art that does not depict a recognizable subject.

Medium (plural media): the material the artist chooses to make an artwork.

Visual elements: the basic vocabulary of art – line, shape, form, volume, mass, texture, value (lightness to darkness), space (depth), color, and motion/time

Design Principles: the principles or grammar of art describe how the elements function within artworks.

Principles include contrast, unity, variety, balance, scale, proportion, focal point, emphasis, pattern, and rhythm.

Steps:

- 1) Select an artwork from any chapter of our textbook except chapter 2.2. (whether representational or abstract) - I recommend selecting a painting or photographs containing a busy composition – a still-life or landscape. Stay away from a drawing made by one continuous line.
- 2) Take a screenshot and upload it twice to a Word document. Take note and add the following information:
 - a. Chapter and image numbers
 - b. Artist's name
 - c. Title of the work
 - d. Date
 - e. Media
 - f. Dimensions
- 3) In a Word Document, copy the screenshot twice. One should be left intact. In the second, using a drawing tool, draw the different directional lines and shapes – the basic structure of the selected artwork. The goal is to show how a few visual elements – lines and shapes - function within the composition and its underlying structure.
- 4) Describe the kinds of lines and shapes in the selected artwork and identify one more visual element and one design principle (how the elements function within the artwork's composition).
- 5) Alternatively, copy the screenshot twice and print the Word Document. Using a marker, draw the lines and shapes. Take a good photo of your work and upload it to the assignment. See example below.
- 6) Upload the document on the assignment link in our course.

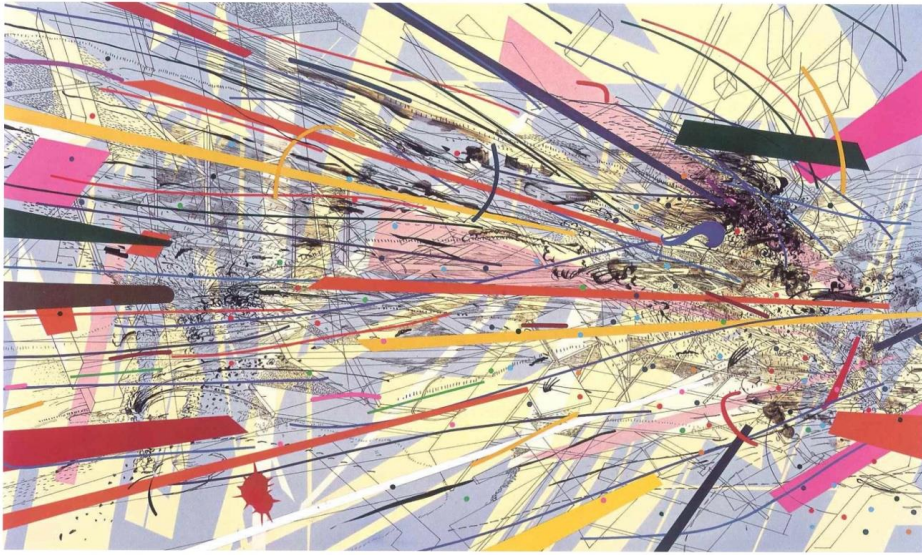
Example:

ARTS 1301-section here

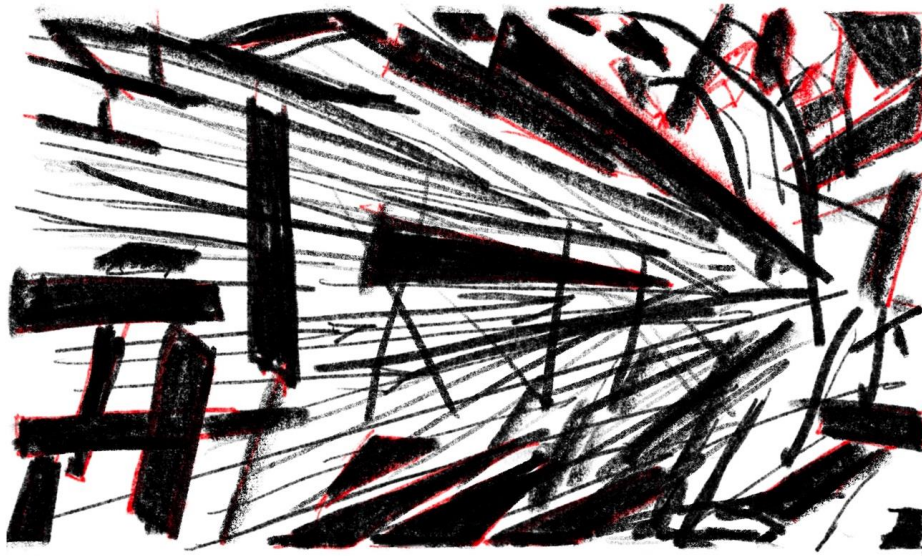
Prof. Lefeld

Artwork Analysis

Student name



2.2.22 Julie Mehretu. Excerpt (Suprematist Evasion), 2003. Ink and acrylic on canvas. 32x54"



Artwork's underlying structure analysis:

1. Julie Merehtu. Excerpt (Suprematist Evasion), 2003. Ink and acrylic on canvas. 32x54"
2. Merehtu's painting contains a series of diagonal lines converging on the right side of the composition. In addition, there are several geometric shapes – rectangles and triangles – in solid primary colors (yellow, red, pink), and neutral black and white that enforce the sense of direction.
3. The lines show great directional force onto the right-hand side of the composition, the focal point. The overlap of the lines and the figures suggest space and denote depth in the painting.