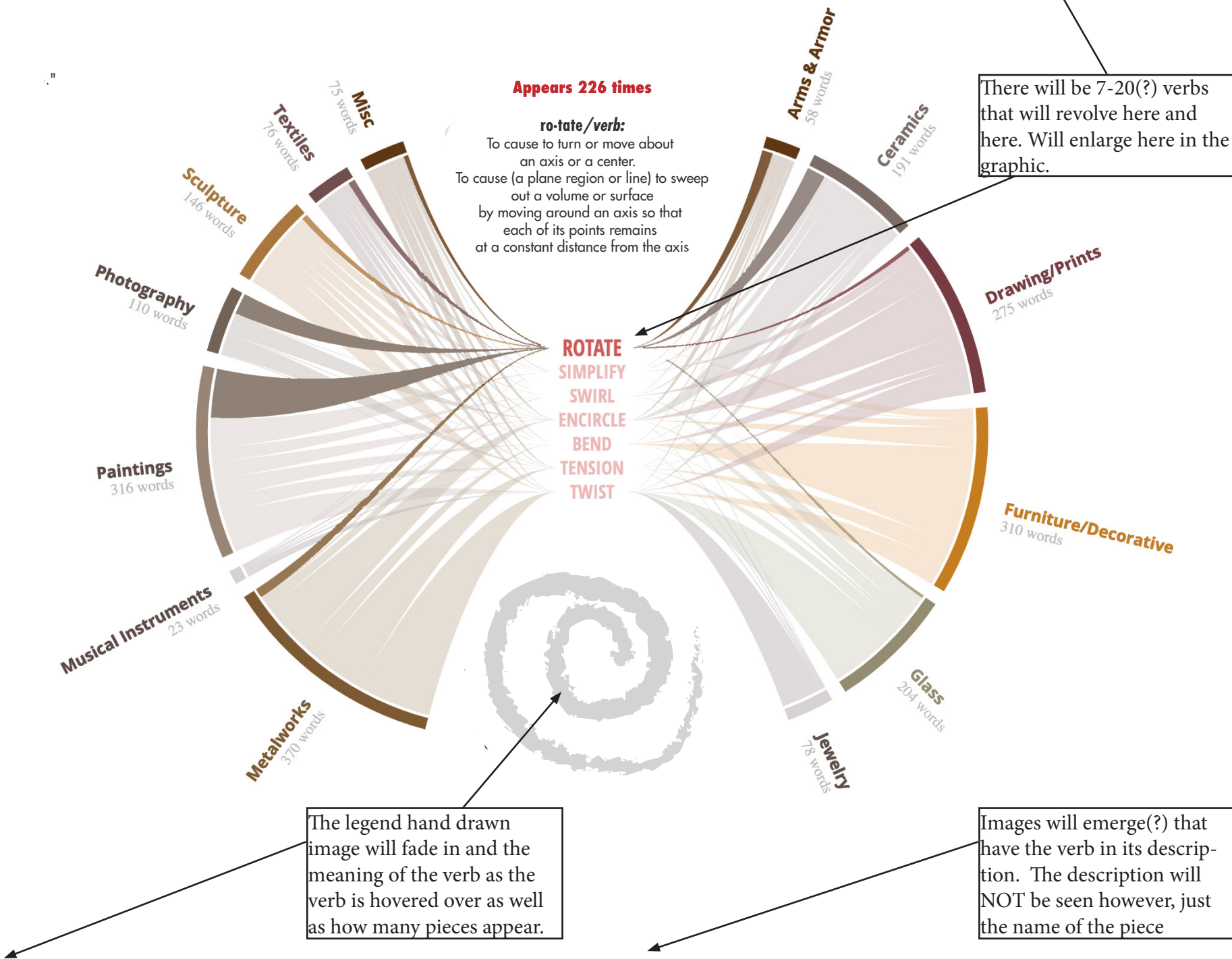


Chasing Verbs – What do Artists Rotate

Searching the MET’s collection through the eyes of an artist.
Richard Serra, the sculptor famously said “Drawing is a verb”. Can a search using a verb uncover the processes artists ‘do’ to make art?



LEGEND

- ROTATE
- TWIST
- BEND
- SWIRL
- ENCIRCLE
- SIMPLIFY
- TENSION



Alfred Dedreux (1810-1860) as a Child ca. 1819-20 Infrared reflectography shows a different composition beneath the portrait, and with the canvas **rotated** 90 degrees to the right. The infrared reflectogram (see fig. 1 above) shows a turbaned black groom leading a saddled, bridled horse in a desert landscape with, at left, a pyramid and a palm tree and, at right, a pyramid.



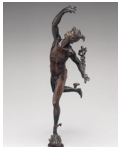
Bellarius and His Guide 1794 Bronze, mounted in a bronze circlet with floral ornament painted to resemble gilt bronze, into which is fitted the original **rotated** mechanism



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Mercury 18th century Dimensions: Overall (confirmed, width and depth subjective depending on **rotation**): 13 1/4 x 4 3/8 x 6 3/4 in. (33.7 x 11.1 x 17.1 cm)



Spiraling Vessel, Dizzy Shadings (Gauss)2005 - Ogata, a native of Hokkaido, is a self-taught potter who specializes in marbledized clay (neriage). This egg-shaped vessel with clay in hues of gray, teal, and buff appears to **rotate** like a small planet.



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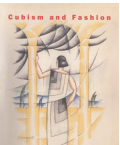
Plate with Wife Beating Husband ca. 1480 The object to the left in this plate represents the method of spinning wool by hand from a fixed distaff (which had the advantage of leaving both hands free, one to **rotate** the spindle and the other to draw out the fibers).



Cubism and Fashion Martin, Richard (1998) Cubism's essential role in the development of twentieth-century art, specifically through the innovative work of Pablo Picasso, Georges Braque, and others beginning about 1908, has been widely recognized for many years. The flat planes, indeterminate space, cylinders, cones, **rotation**, and use of collage in Cubist art revolutionized painting and sculpture, turning three-dimensional illusionism into abstract concept.



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Terracotta spindle whorl 6th-5th century B.C. Like the two onoi (06.1021.52, 10.210.13) displayed nearby, this spindle whorl is a specialized piece of equipment used in working wool into thread. Carefully shaped and painted, it would have been attached to one end of the spindle to make it easier to **rotate**. Such objects were appropriate indeed for the graves of women.



Vase with historical warriors On view during **rotation** 1 of exhibition from June 25, 2016 through January 13, 2017.



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Figure in rotation 1917; enlarged 1947-48; Max Weber American, born Russia



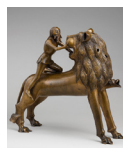
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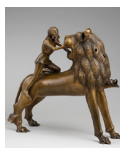
Bottle with Cut Design 7th-8th century The white lines on the surface of this small bottle were engraved with a **rotating** device. This decorative technique carries on the tradition of late Roman vessels engraved in a similar fashion.



Aquamanile in the Form of Samson and the Lion ca. 1380-1400 The large lion does not convey the struggle with Samson by the position of its torso or legs, but the beast **rotates**: its head nearly 180 degrees to confront his opponent. Like Samson's hair and beard, the lion's tufted mane is vigorously engraved. Somewhat later than the examples we have seen from the north German groups, this aquamanile is more difficult to localize with any precision.



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