

# Scene Composition

Topic:

1. What is composition?
2. Composition Elements
3. Composition Rules
4. Perspective

# Scene Composition

1. What is composition: for the arrangements of the elements or the subjects in a picture successfully draw viewer's attention across the picture to express feeling.

*\* Famous French Painter, draughtsman, printmaker and sculptor in late 19th century*

*"Composition is the art of arranging in a decorative manner the diverse elements at the painter's command to express his feelings."*

*- Henri Matisse*

# Scene Composition

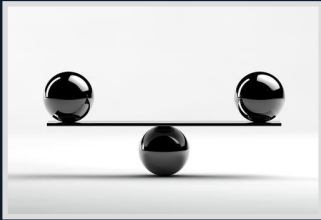
## 2. Composition Elements: also known as “Design Principles”

- A. Balance
- B. Rhythm / Movement
- C. Focus
- D. Contrast
- E. Unity

# Scene Composition

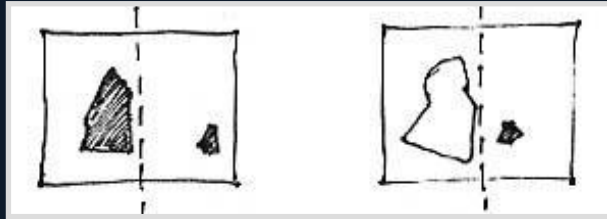
**A. Balance:** having a symmetrical elements in a picture, create sense of calm

*symmetrical*



*Mirror image balanced*

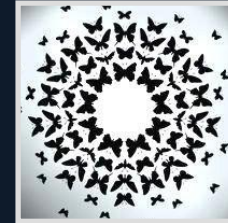
*asymmetrical*



*Large shape close to the center balanced by a small shape close to the edge*

*Large white shape balanced by a small dark shape*

*radial*

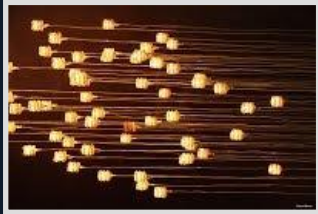


*All elements radiate out from center point*

# Scene Composition

## B. Rhythm/Movement: create a sense of movement

### *Linear Rhythm*



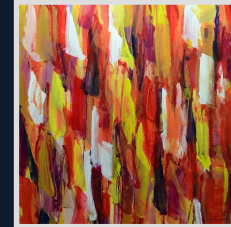
*Lead viewer's eye to left  
lights are spaced out in a  
rhythm*

### *Repetition*



*Lead viewer's eye move  
through the platters at  
"beats"*

### *Alternation*



*repeat two or more  
elements that  
interchange with  
each other*

# Scene Composition

**C. Focus:** guide the viewer's eye to the “most important” thing or focal point in the picture



*Viewer's eye immediately rest on the tiger (most important subject)*



*Attention on the chair, contrast of multi-coloured wall and single coloured object*



*No matter where you look, your eye will be lead back to the subject.*

# Scene Composition

**D. Contrast:** arrange opposite elements to create visual interest, drama, dynamic feeling

*\* There are much more elements can used in contrast.*



*contrast in warm & cool colour theme*



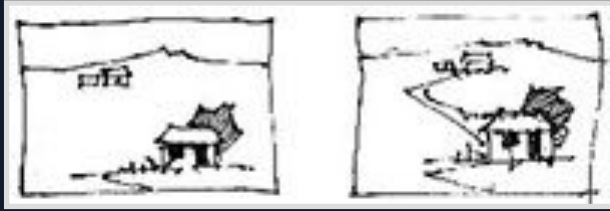
*contrast in lighting (light & dark)*



*contrast in shape (large & small)*

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E. Unity: prefers to the “coherence of the whole”. All the elements look as they belong together.



*Eye has to make an uncomfortable jump to link the 2 groups house*

*It's more comfortable after create a road to connect the 2 groups house*



*same swirling brush strokes unify the elements in the painting*



# Scene Composition

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## 3. Composition Rules

A. Rule of Thirds

B. Rule of Odd

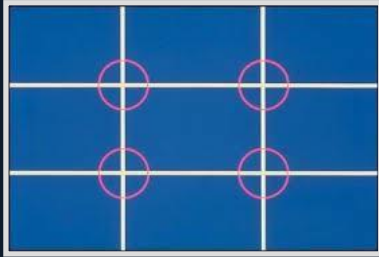
C. Golden Ratio



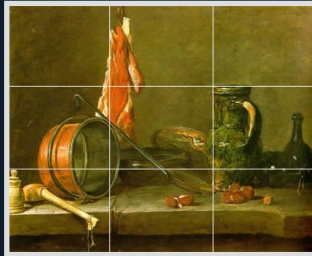
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# Scene Composition

**A. Rule of Thirds:** helps to add tension, balance and interest to the image.



*Split both horizontal and vertical into thirds.  
Align objects at the intersection between the lines to create more interesting composition*



*Align the main objects at the intersection between the lines.*



*Align the main character at the vertical divided line .*

# Scene Composition

**B. Rule of Odd:** odd number of subjects in a composition appears more pleasing to the viewer.



*Number of 3: more appearing to the viewer and also balanced the image*



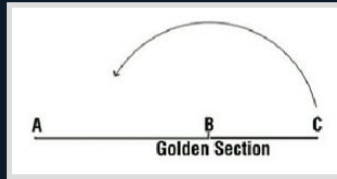
*the 3 human silhouettes create a triangle shape, which enhance the sense of dynamics. (also the shadow)*



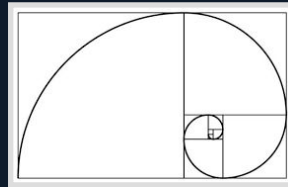
*A single subject surrounded by an even number creates same effect.*

# Scene Composition

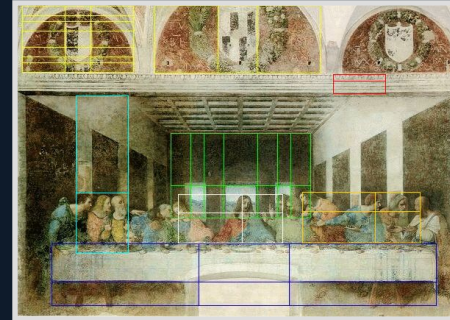
C. Golden Ratio: similar to rule of thirds, the golden section creates more pleasing composition.



*The width of rectangles of 1.61803 has been considered the most pleasing to the eye*



*Endless golden section*



*"The last supper" by Leonardo Da Vinci*

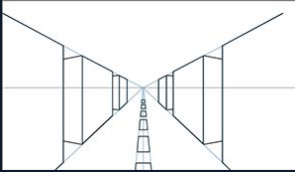
\* Golden Ratio was used extensively by Leonardo Da Vinci

\* More reading:  
<http://www.holdernumber.net/art-composition-design/>

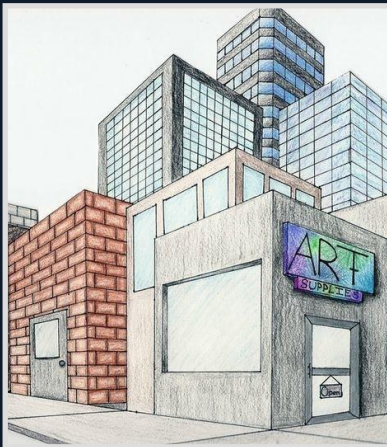
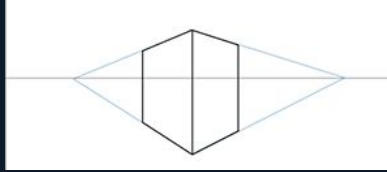
# Scene Composition

## 4. Perspective: 1, 2, 3 point perspective

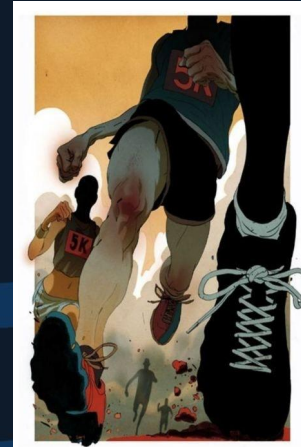
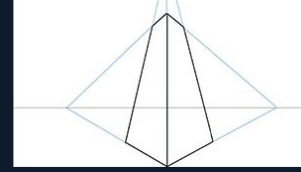
*1 point perspective*



*2 points perspective*



*3 points perspective*





# Scene Composition

## 4. Perspective: Aerial/Atmospheric perspective

As the distance between an object and a viewer increases, the contrast between the object and its background decreases

