

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

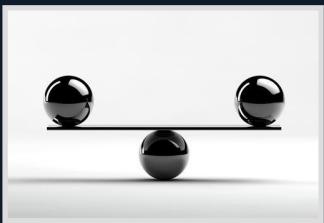
2. Composition Elements: also known as “Design Principles”

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

Scene Composition

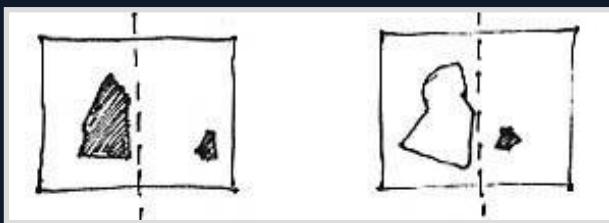
A. Balance: having a symmetrical elements in a picture, create sense of calm

symmetrical



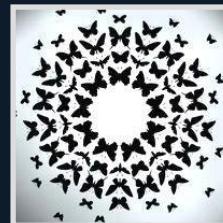
Mirror image balanced

asymmetrical



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

radial

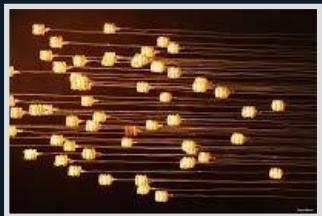


All elements radiate out from center point

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.*

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



contrast in warm & cool colour theme



contrast in lighting (light & dark)



contrast in shape (large & small)

* There are much more elements can used in contrast.

Scene Composition

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

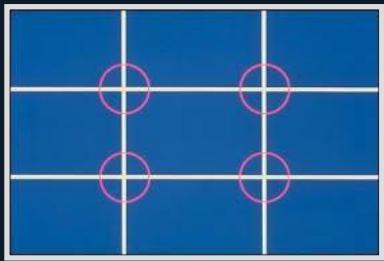
Scene Composition

3. Composition Rules

- A. Rule of Thirds
- B. Rule of Odd
- C. Golden Ratio

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



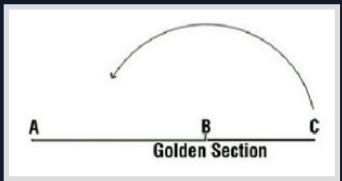
the 3 human silhouettes create a triangle shape, which enhance the sense of dynamics. (also the shadow)



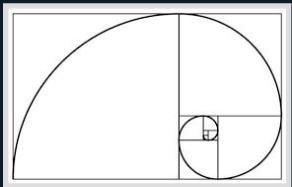
A single subject surrounded by an even number creates same effect.

Scene Composition

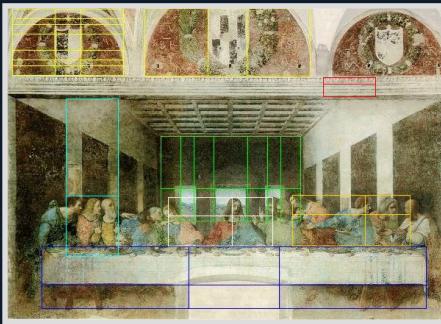
C. Golden Ratio: similar to rule of thirds, the golden section creates more pleasing composition.



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

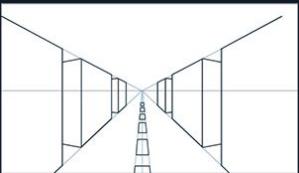
* More reading:

<http://www.goldennumber.net/art-composition-design/>

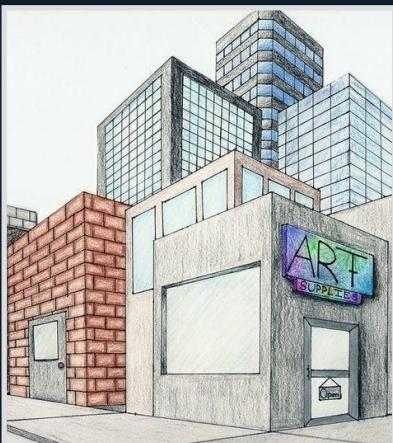
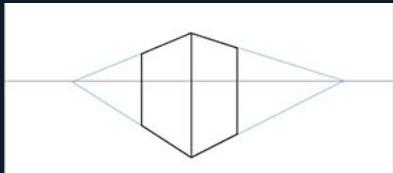
Scene Composition

4. Perspective: 1, 2, 3 point perspective

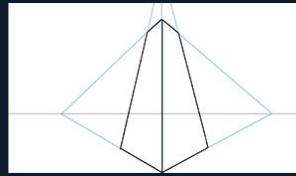
1 point perspective



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

