



Lianne Milton / Special to The Chronicle

# Elements and Principles of Art



# Elements and Principles of Art

- The tools used to create both two and three-dimensional art and design.
- The basic ingredients used separately or in combination to produce artistic imagery.



# ELEMENTS OF ART

Line

Shape

Form

Space

Color

Value

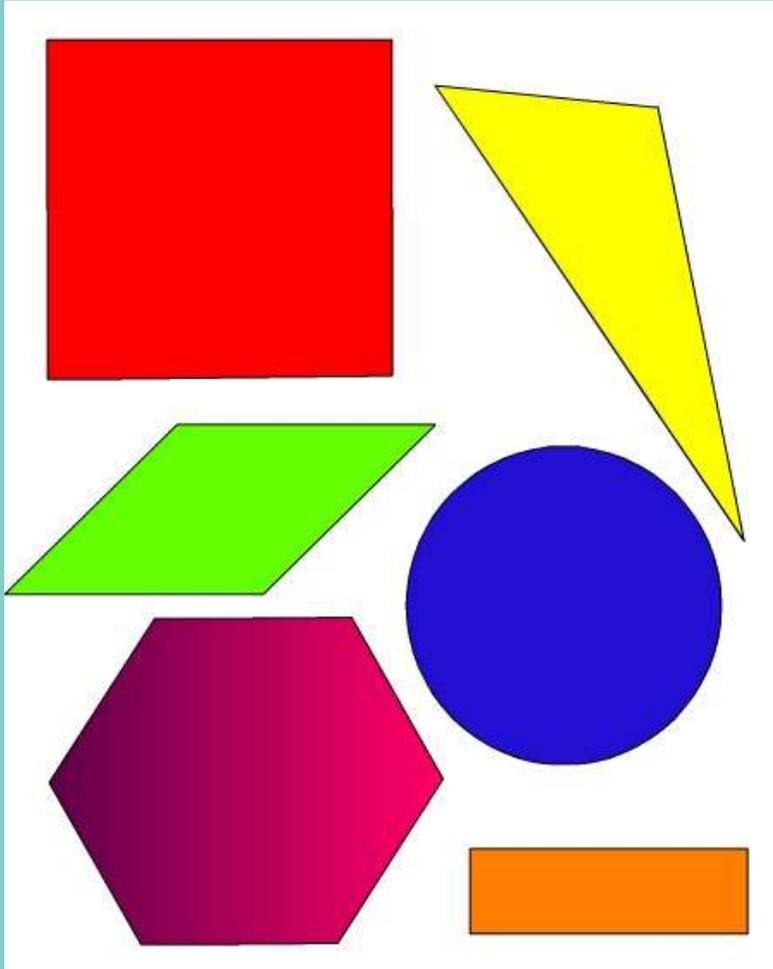
Texture

# Line

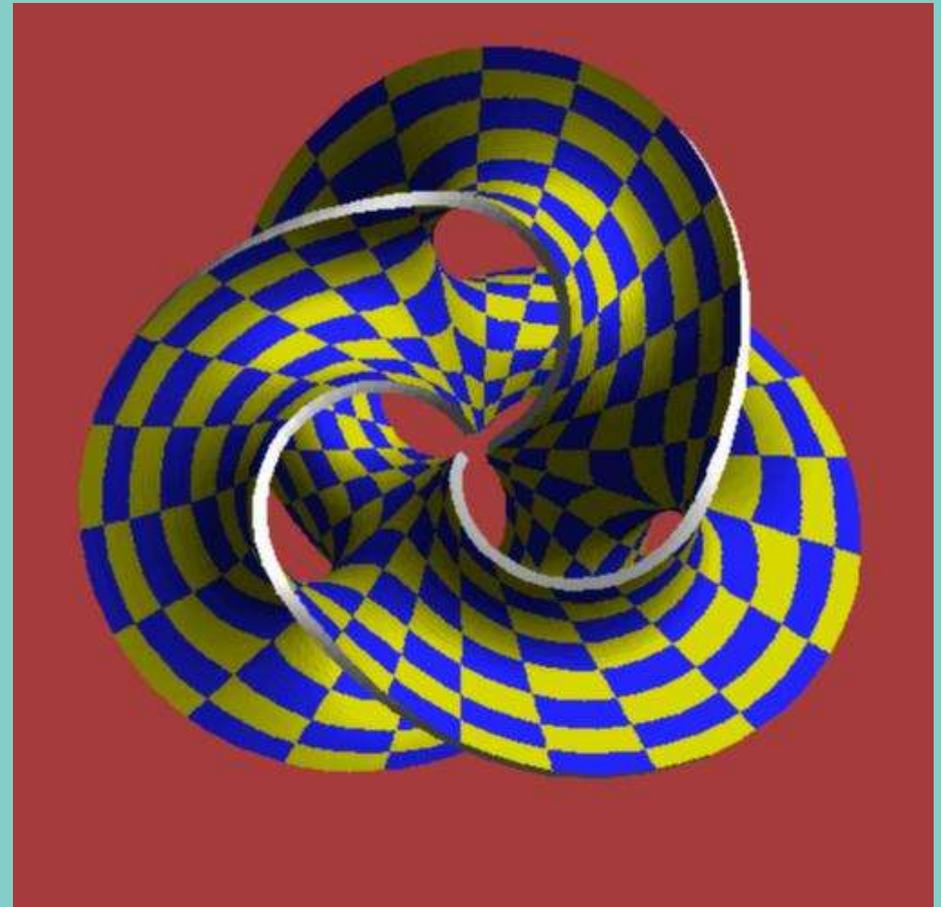
Artists use line to determine the edges of the images they're depicting. Lines can have different qualities.



# Shape



Shapes are two-dimensional. They can be geometric or organic.



# Form

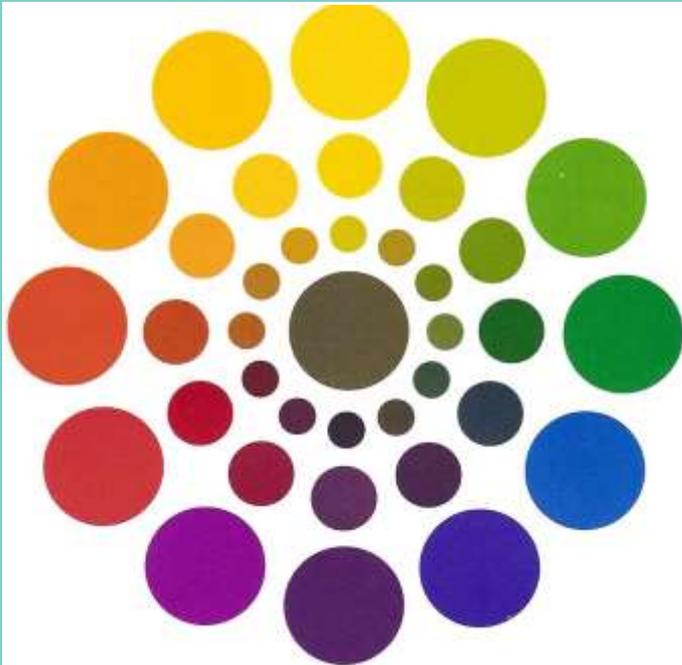


Form has depth, length, and width and resides in space. It is perceived as three-dimensional.



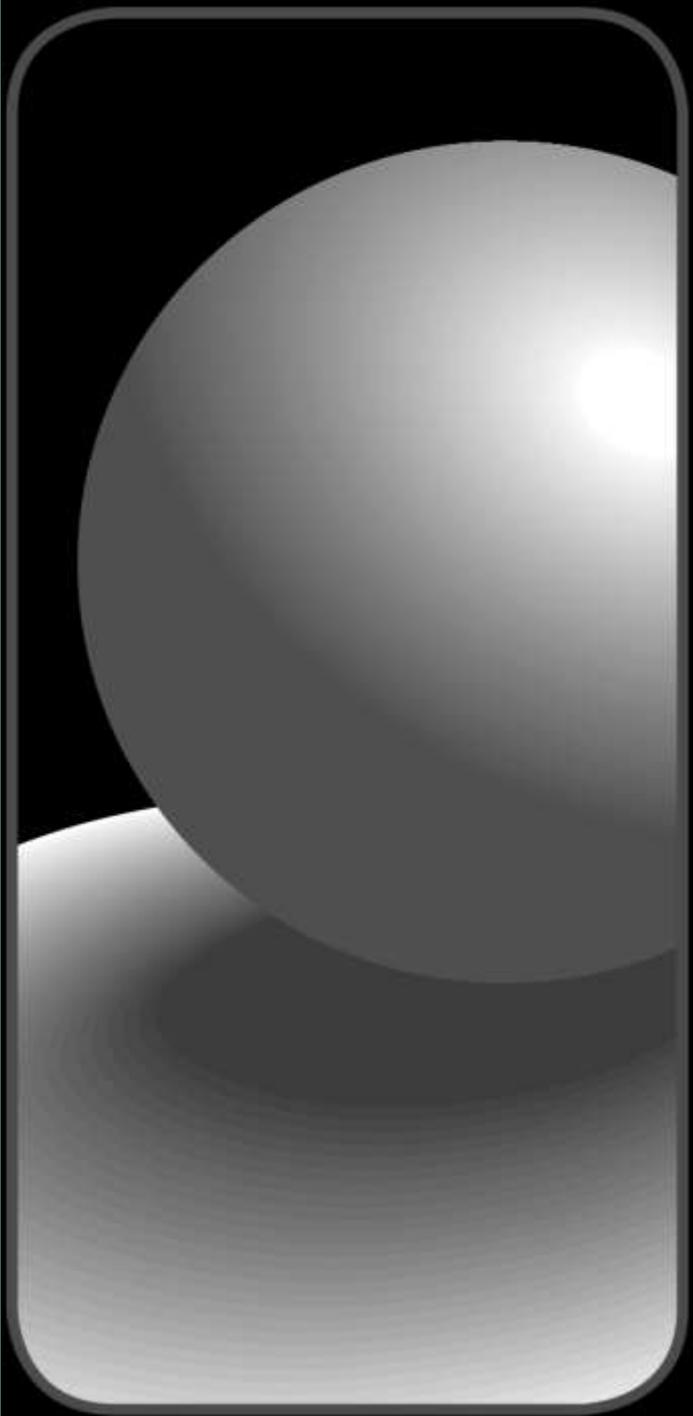
# Color

Color is light reflected off of objects. Color has three main characteristics: hue (the name of the color, such as red, green, blue, etc.), value (how light or dark it is), and intensity (how bright or dull it is).



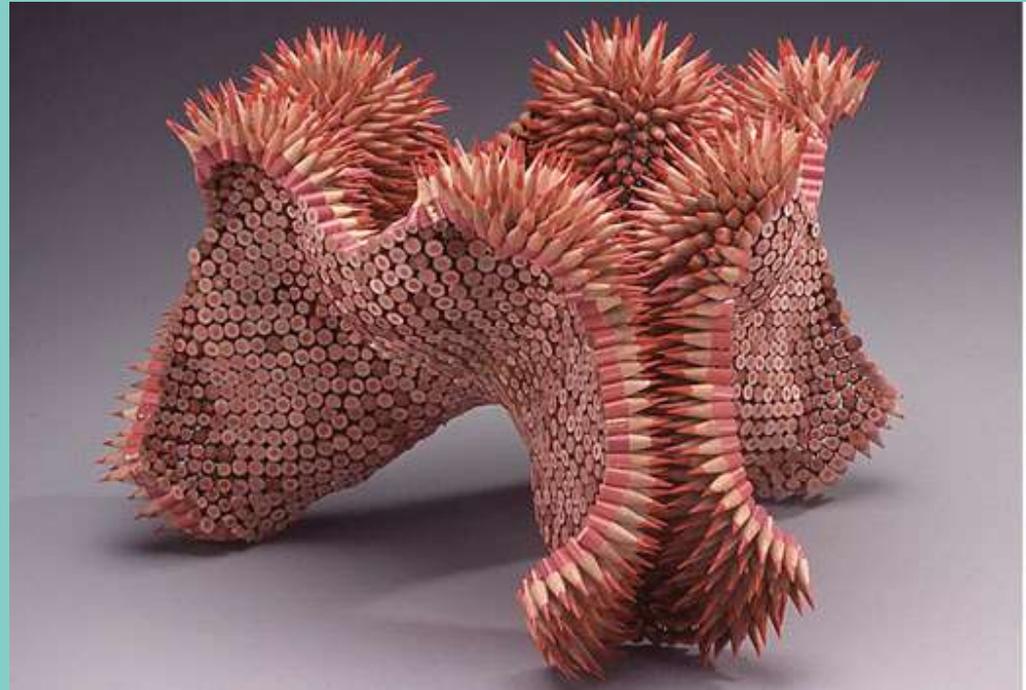
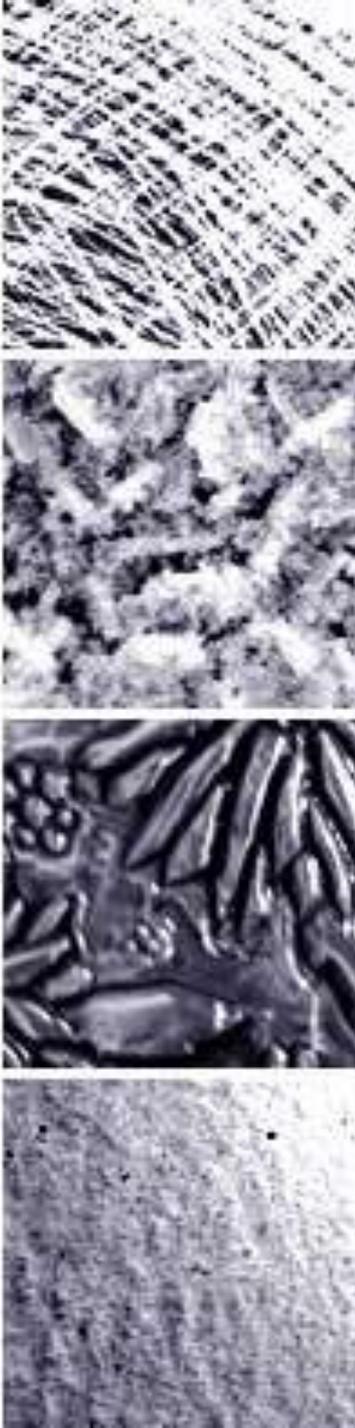
# Value

Value refers to the use of light and dark, shade and highlight, in an artwork.



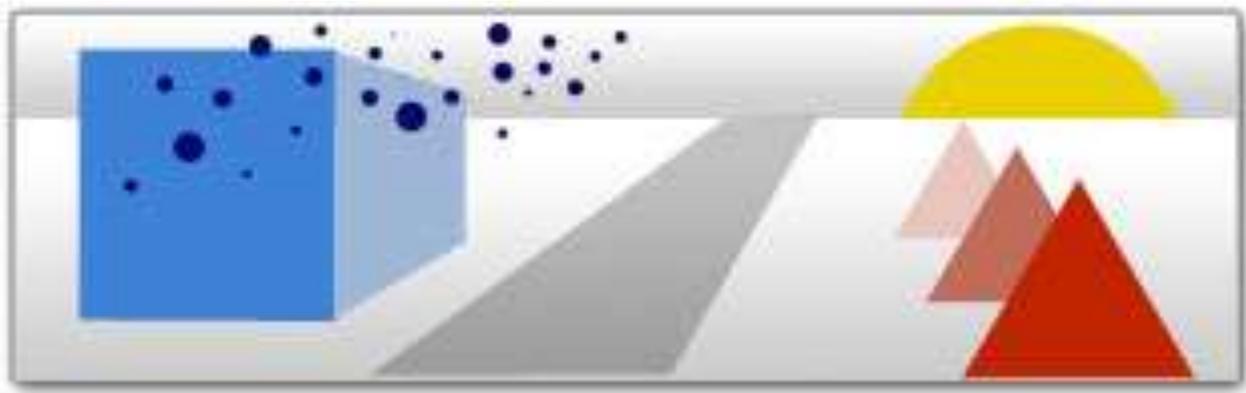
# Texture

Texture refers to the tactile qualities of a surface (how it feels)(actual) or to the visual representation of such surface qualities (implied).



# Space

Space refers to the area and way in which art is organized.



# PRINCIPLES OF ART

Pattern

Contrast

Emphasis

Balance

Rhythm

Movement

Unity

# Pattern

Pattern refers to the repetition or reoccurrence of a design element, exact or varied.



# Contrast

The arrangement of opposite elements (light vs. dark, rough vs. smooth, large vs. small, etc.).



# Emphasis

Emphasis refers to the created center of interest, the place in an artwork where your eye first lands.



# Balance

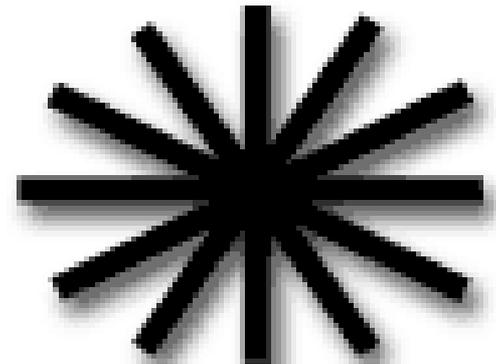
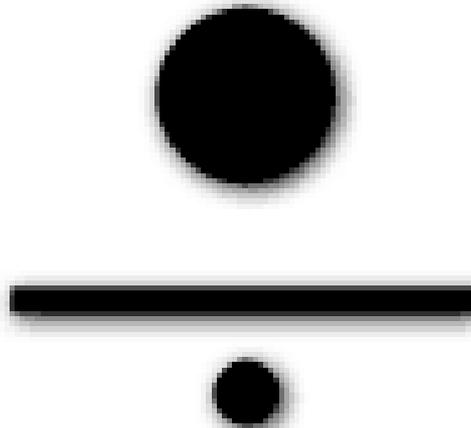
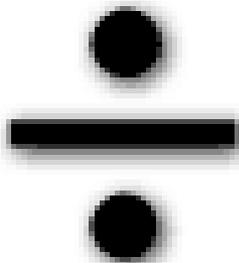
Balance is the impression of equilibrium in a composition.



**symmetrical**

**asymmetrical**

**radial**



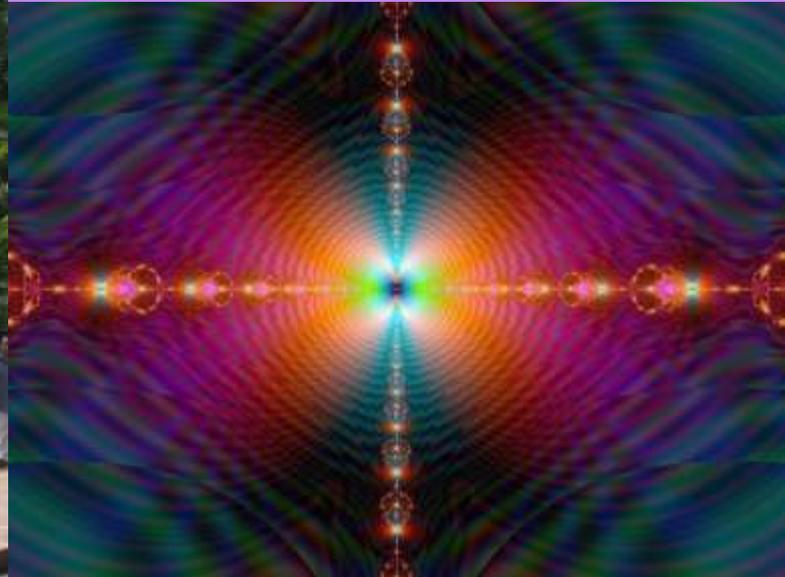
# Scale

**Not on the official list, but still a very important art word.**



# Harmony

**Not on the official list, but still  
a very important art word.**



# Rhythm

Rhythm refers to the suggestion of motion through the use of various elements, establishing a visual beat.



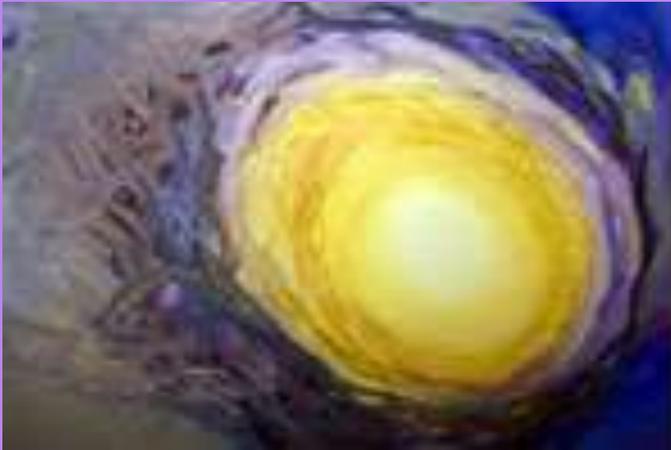
# Movement

Movement shows action. It often refers to the path the viewer's eye follows throughout the artwork. Indicating movement gives the artist the ability to control the viewer's eye.



# Unity

Unity is achieved when the components of a work of art are perceived as harmonious, giving the work a sense of completion.



# Variety

Not on the official list, but still  
a very important art word.

