

Lesson: Drawing using Composition

Workshop Name: *Beginning Drawing*

Teaching Artist: *Michael Leonard*



Brave Space/Lugar Seguro: How are you feeling today? (Circle or color one.)



Goal/Meta: How to Create a Drawing Composition



Art Terms/Términos de Arte

Composition

Composition is the term used for an artist designing on the two-dimensional paper using art elements and the principles of design. You place lines, values, shapes, and forms inside the four edges of the paper. Creating a balanced composition takes practice and study of the visual effects of placing objects, shapes and values in a drawing.



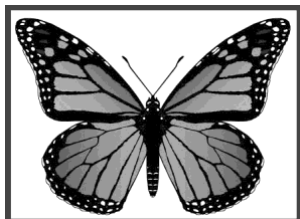
Creating a Drawing using Composition

Composition allows the artist to direct the viewer's eyes to different parts of a drawing. You can do this by using lines, dark shapes, or placement of the objects (see dog above).



Tip/Consejo

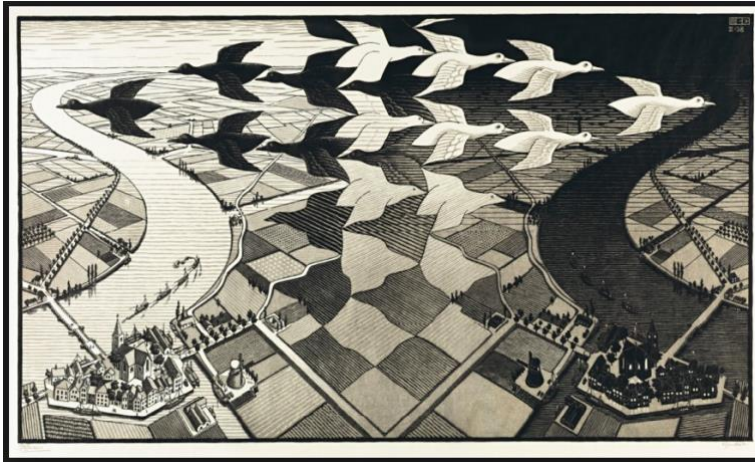
Artists try to create balanced compositions. There are two types of balance they use. One is Symmetrical Balance (butterfly) where both sides of the artwork are the same. The second is Asymmetrical Balance (photograph) which uses art elements to balance the artwork.





Example/Ejemplo

One artist who has a lot of fun using composition to create fantastic illusions is M.C. Escher. He plays with Positive and Negative Spaces in the drawing to fool your eyes. Positive Space is the subject (geese) and the Negative Space is the area outside the subject.



Activity/ Actividad de Dibujo

The drawing below on the left shows the Positive Space as leaves and the Negative Space as enclosed shapes with small dots called stipple. Fill in the Negative Spaces in the drawing to the right using pencil marks, stipple, or tone.



Reflection

How helpful is Drawing using Composition to you? (circle or color) And why?

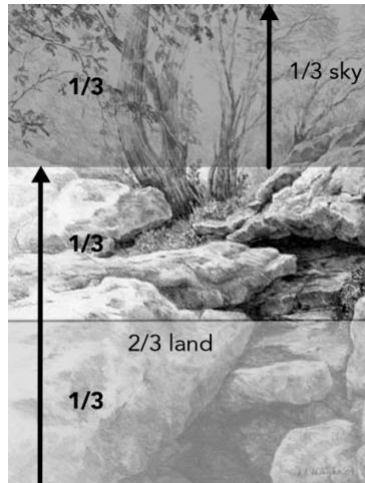
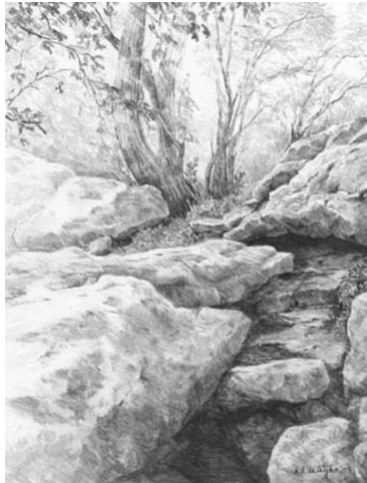
Fill in the stars (more stars = better)





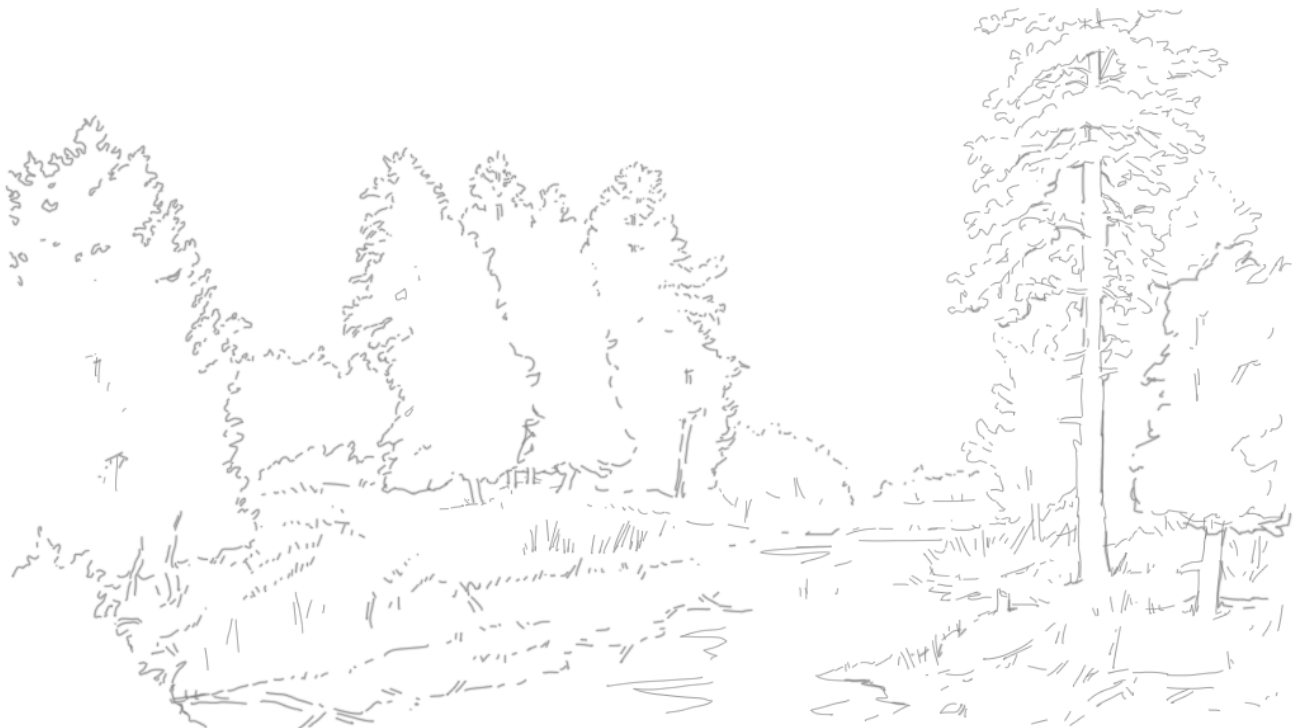
Example/Ejemplo

Dividing the paper into thirds helps create Asymmetrically Balanced drawings. This technique is often used for landscape compositions for drawing, painting, and photography.



Creating Drawing using Composition Activity/Actividad de Dibujo

Complete the landscape drawing below. Notice that the land is $\frac{1}{3}$ and the sky is $\frac{2}{3}$ of the composition. Use your pencil to create values making the closest objects darker. Use the other side of the paper as well.

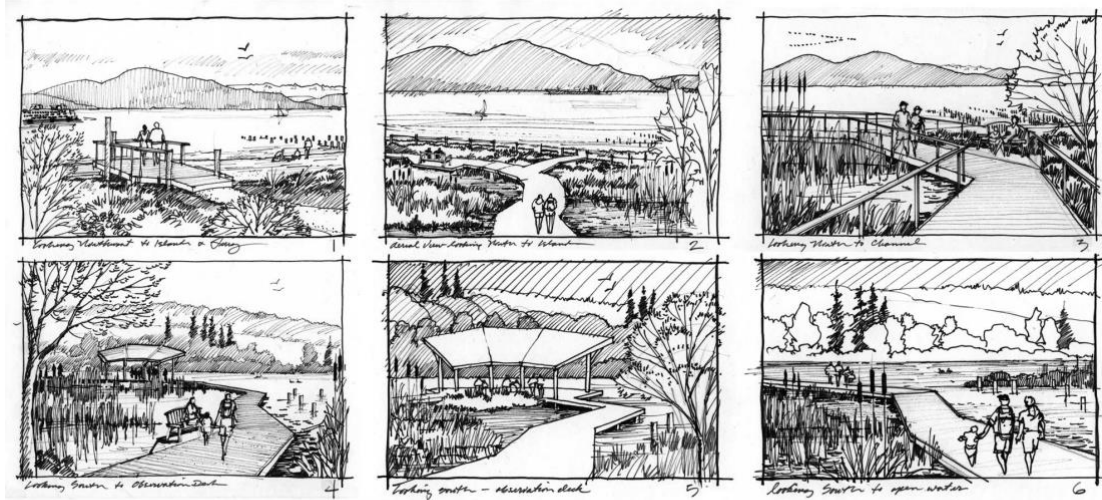


Name		
Institution:	Workshop Name: Beginning Drawing	Lesson Name: Drawing using Composition



Example/Ejemplo


The six drawings below are different compositions of the same subject. These visual concepts are called Thumbnail Sketches. Artists use these to quickly create a preliminary drawing.



PRELIMINARY CONCEPT SKETCHES FOR SHIP HARBOR INTERPRETIVE PRESERVE
DICK MUILEN 4/10



Creating Drawing using Composition Activity/Actividad de Dibujo

Using the six boxes below, draw six different compositions using the same three objects in each drawing. Arrange your three objects differently for each Thumbnail Sketch. Also draw six Thumbnail Sketches on the other side of the paper. Return/Regreso  this page in the manila envelope.





Reflection

	Self	Peer (if possible)	Teacher
Comments			