

POSITIVE & NEGATIVE SPACE

Beginning Drawing

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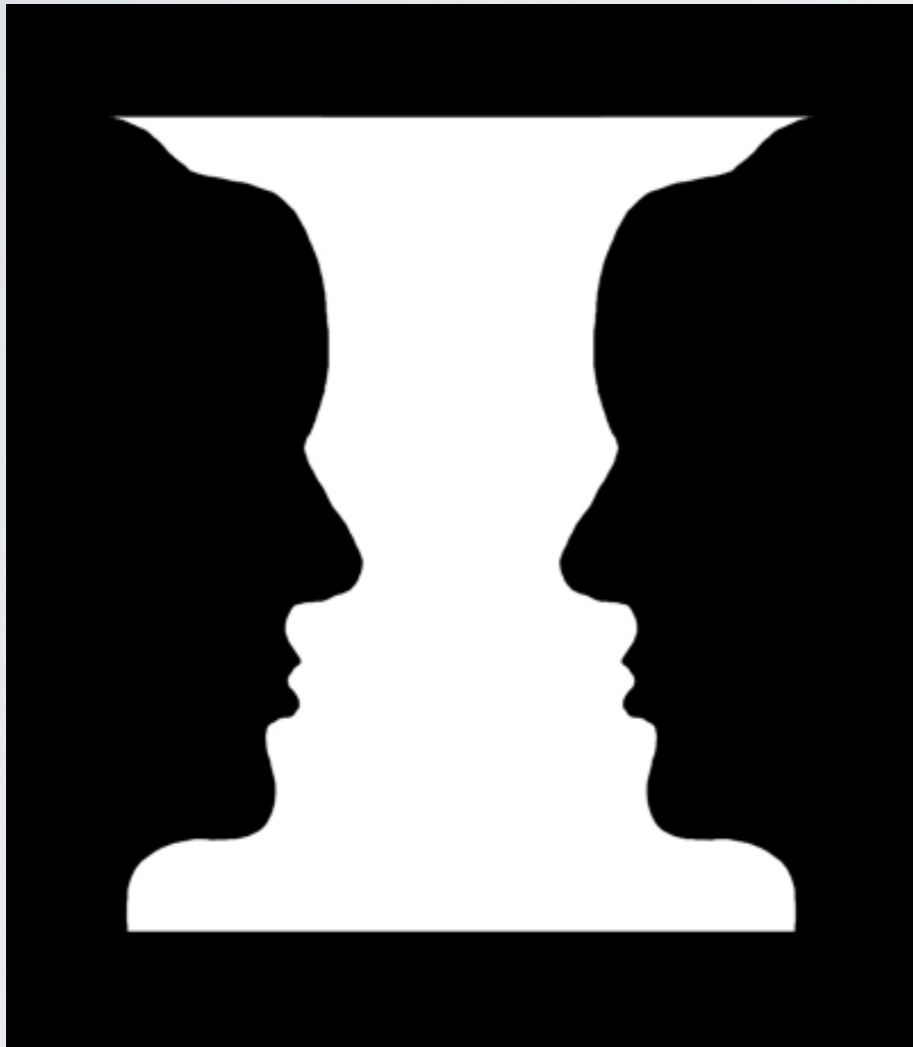
OVERVIEW

Positive and negative space play an important role in determining the overall composition in a work of art. By understanding positive and negative space and applying your knowledge, you can become more successful in designing your compositions.

WHAT IS POSITIVE & NEGATIVE SPACE?

Positive space is best described as the areas in a work of art that are the subjects, or areas of interest. Negative space is the area around the subjects, or areas of interest.

IMAGE EXAMPLE



Take a look at the image to the left. If you are seeing a vase, then you are seeing the white area as the positive space. The black areas become the negative space. If you are seeing faces, then you are seeing the black areas as the positive space, and the white area as the negative space.

BALANCE OF POSITIVE AND NEGATIVE SPACE



MOSTLY NEGATIVE SPACE



MOSTLY POSITIVE SPACE



EXAMPLES

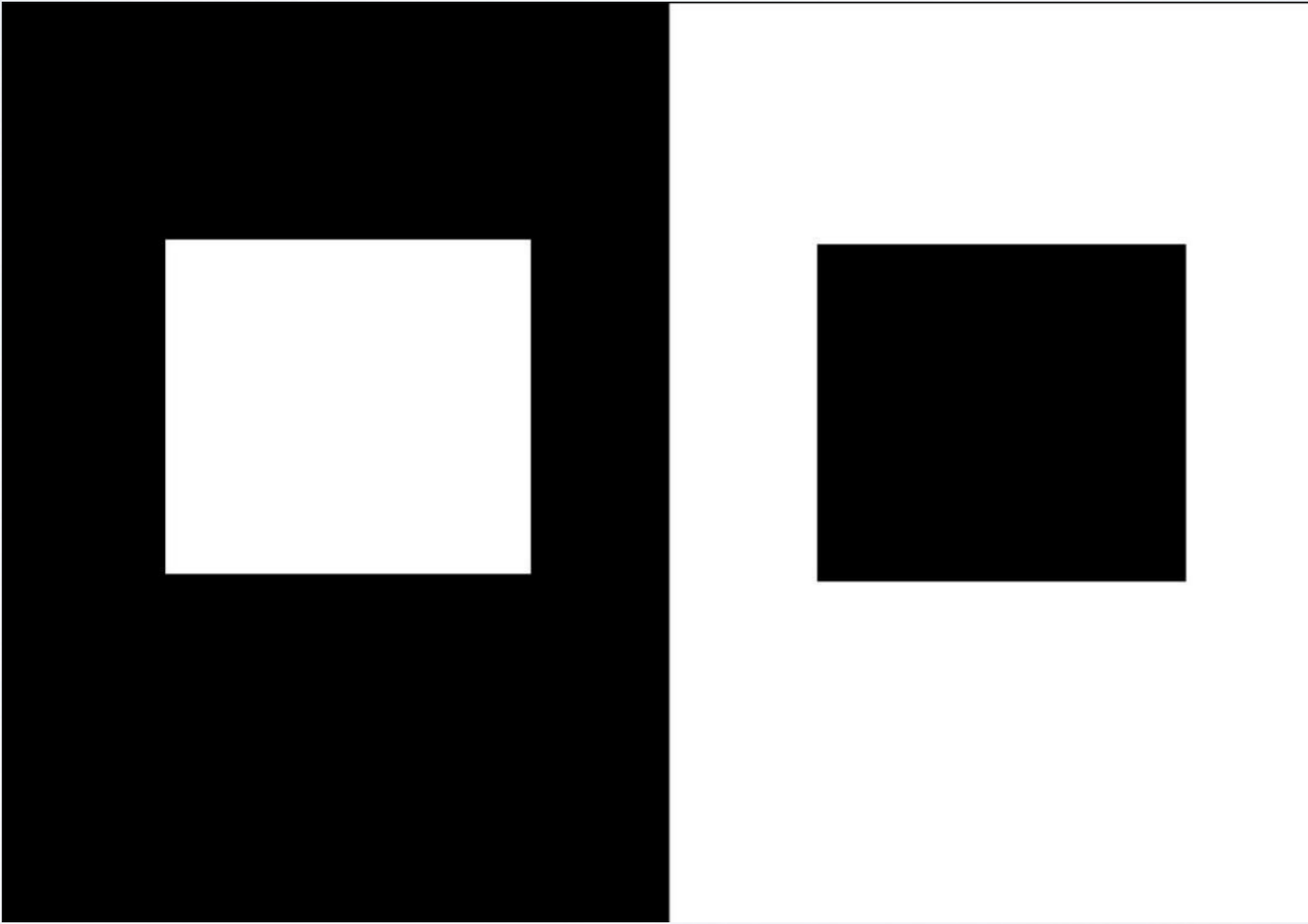


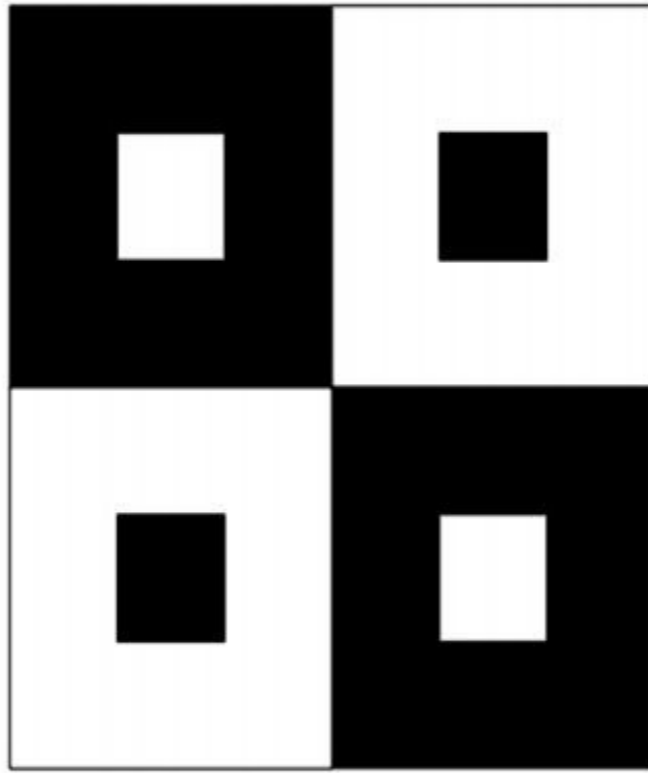


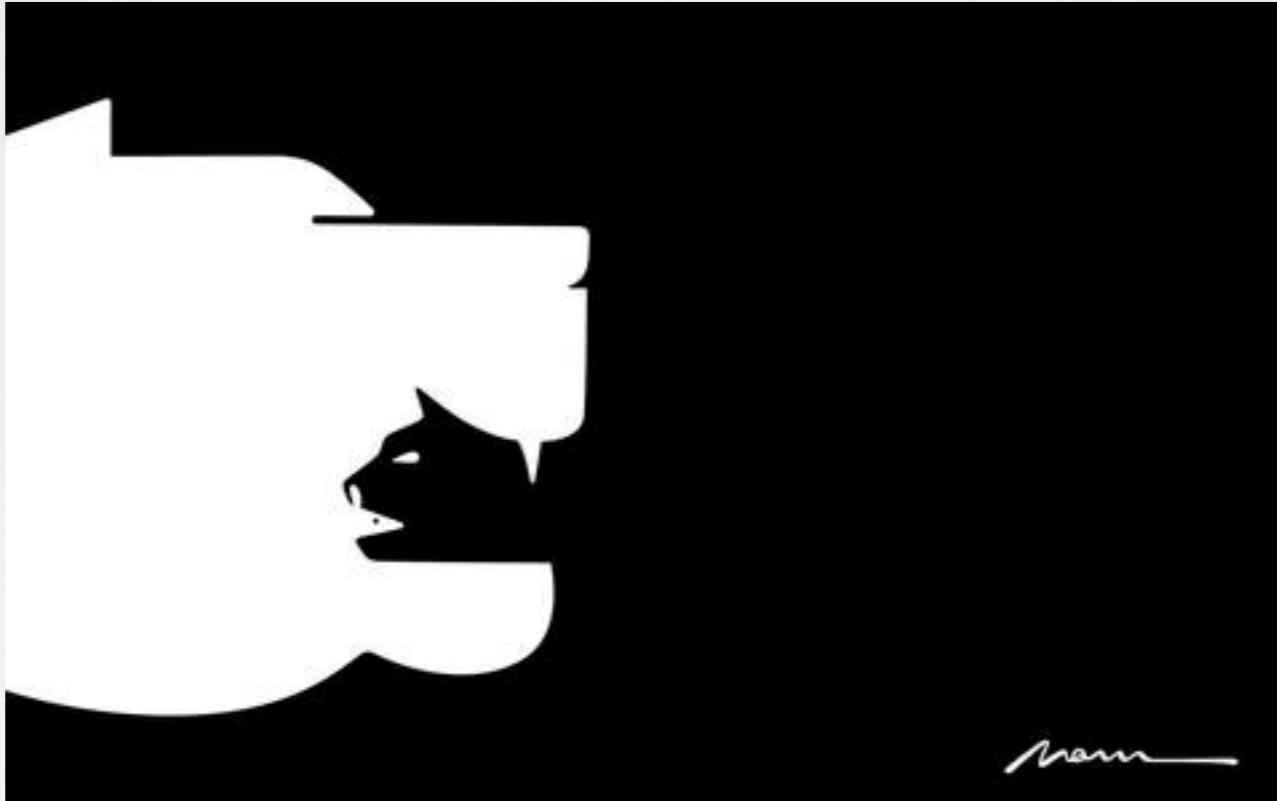












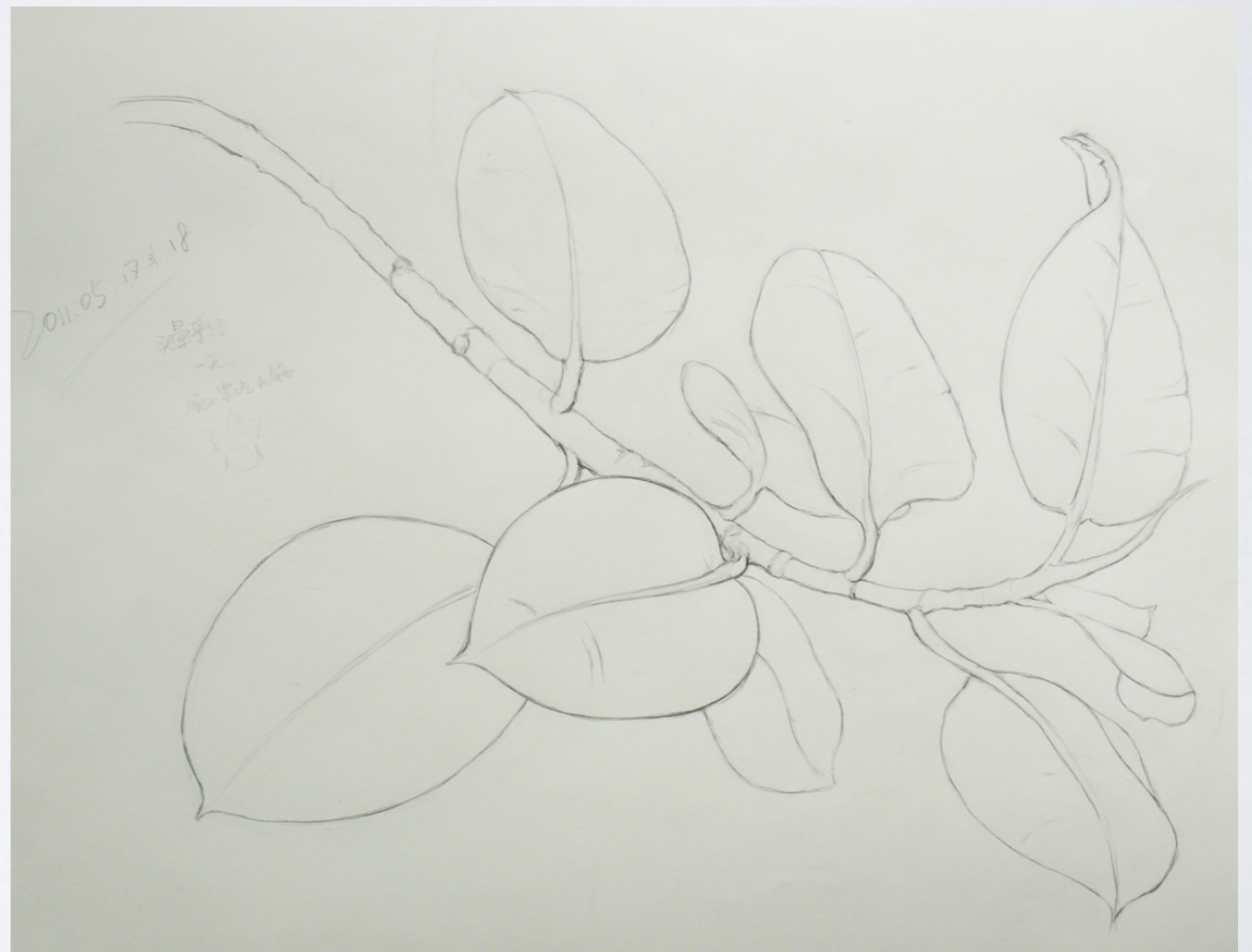




OUR DRAWING ASSIGNMENT

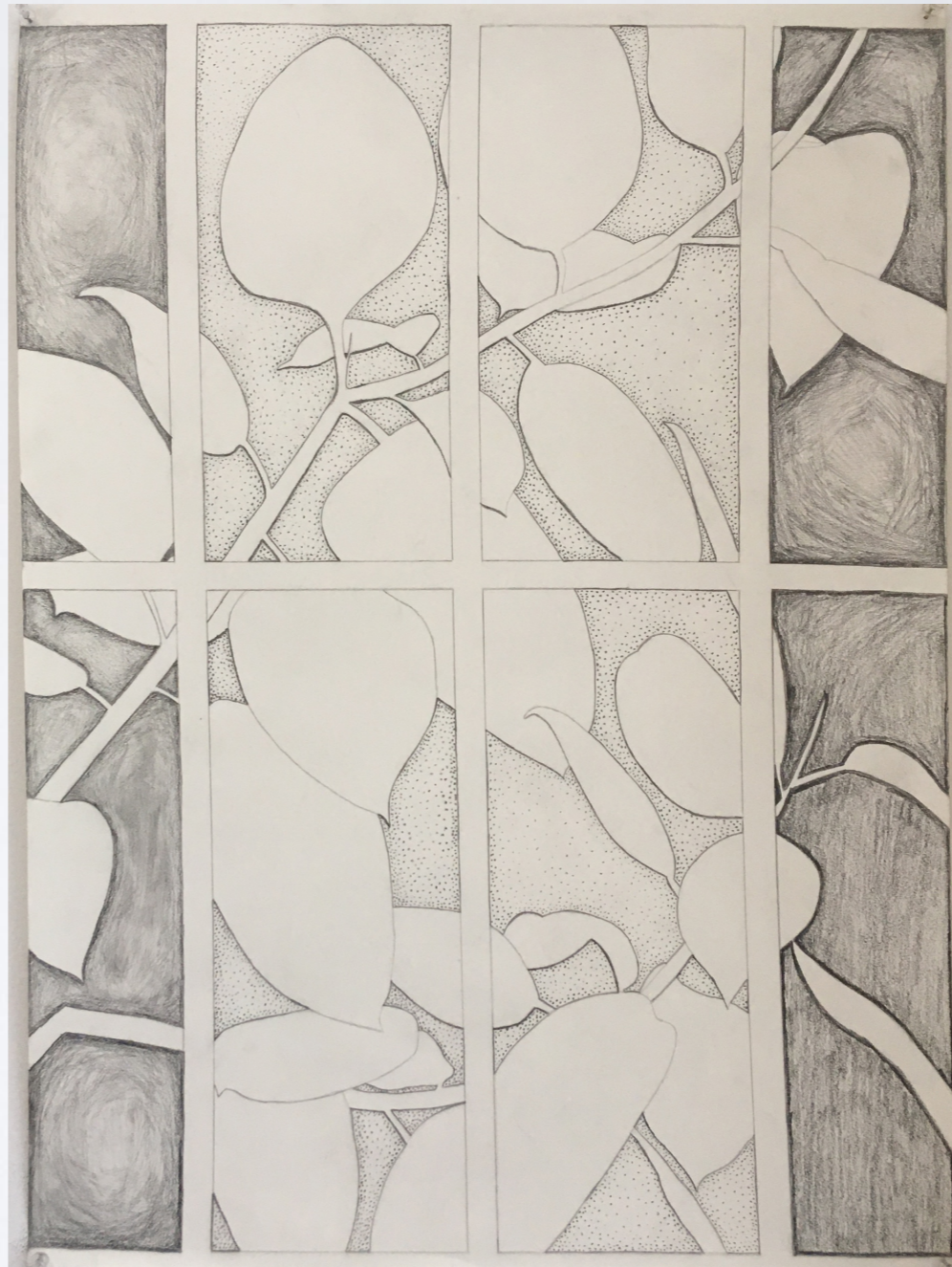
We have learned about the following concepts in contour line drawing:

- Sensual (organic line)
- Thick & thin
- Light & dark
- Loose and find

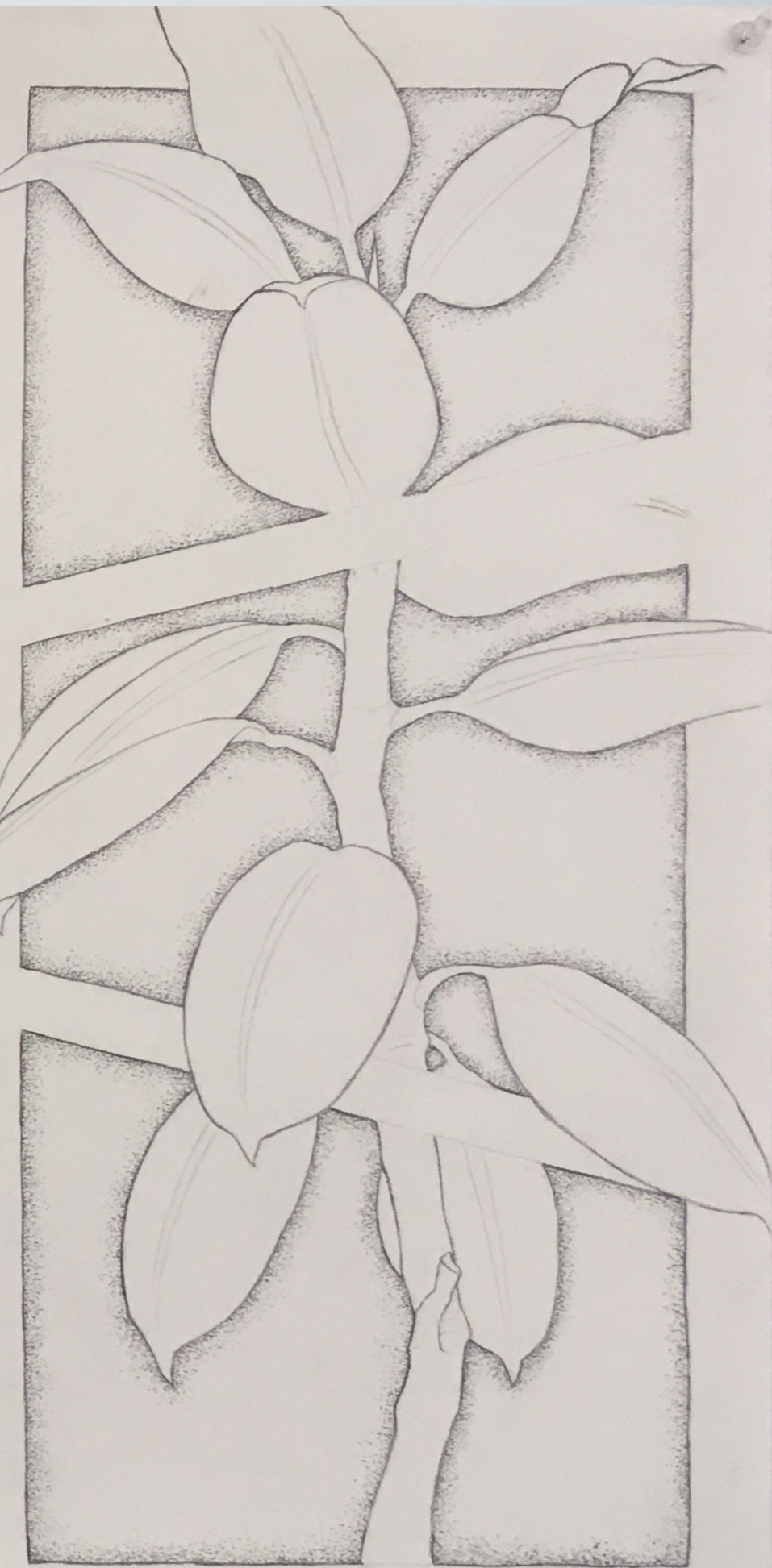
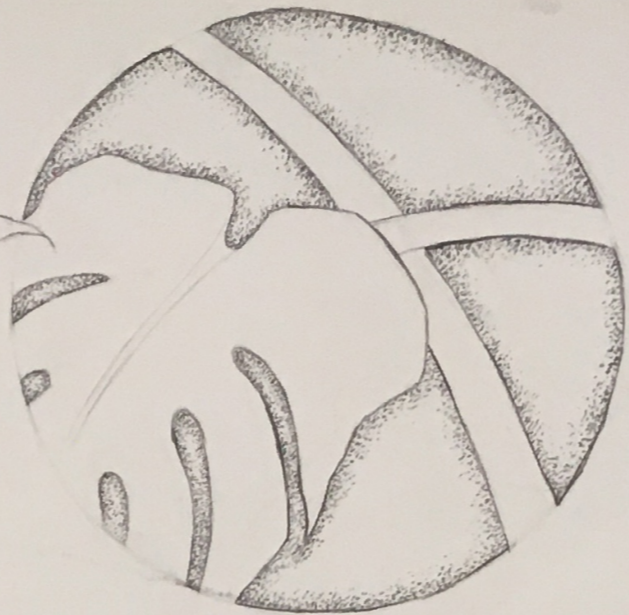
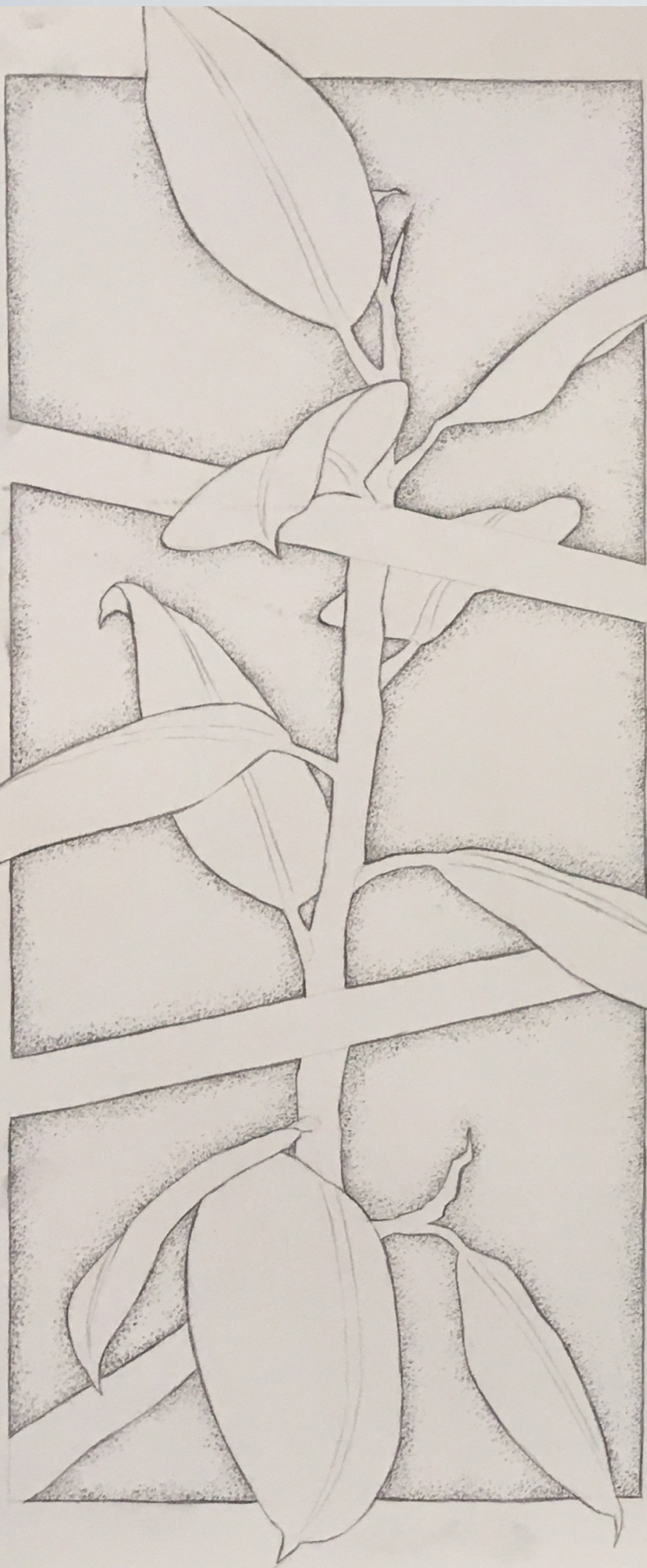


OUR DRAWING ASSIGNMENT

Now we want to combine a contour drawing of a plant and a formal geometric design (composition) emphasizing the negative space:







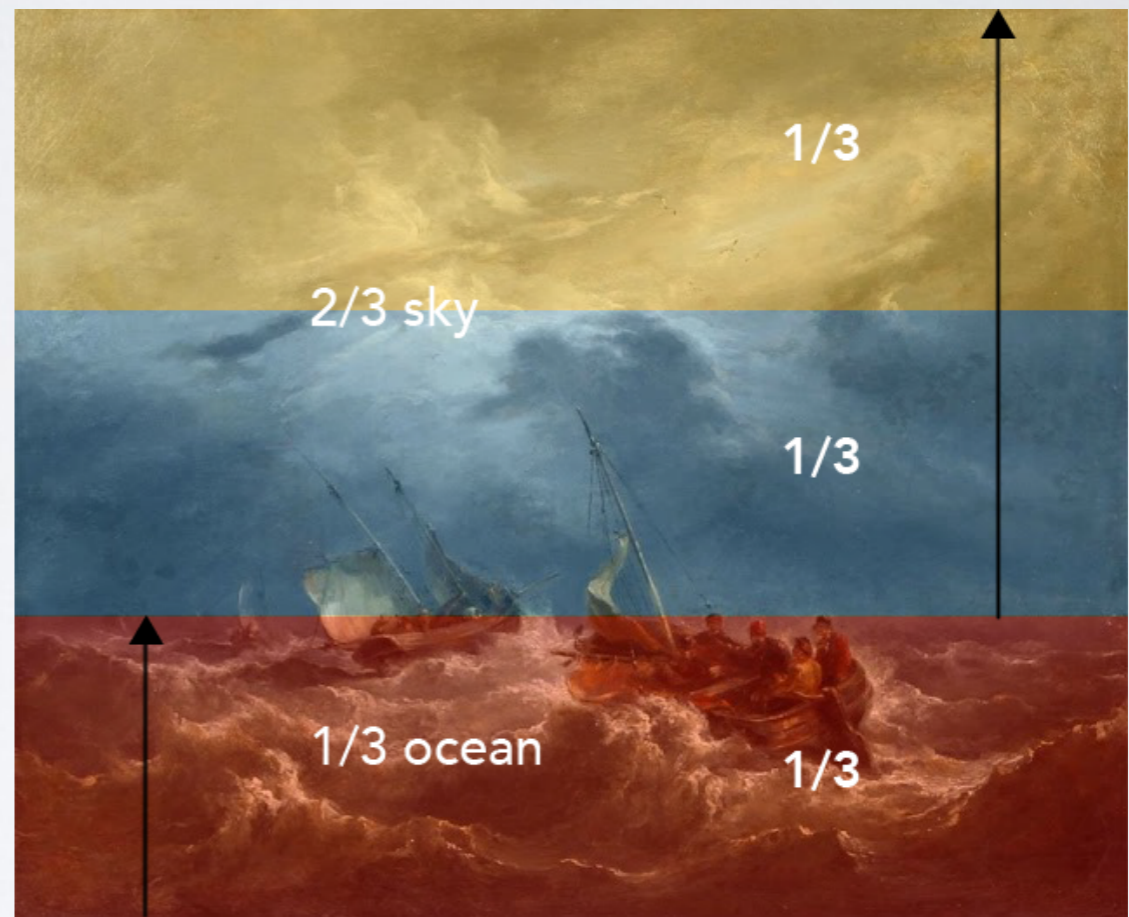
FOCUS ON COMPOSITION

- Composition is a very broad but important term in art. Art is not just about being able to accurately render a scene. It is the visual form of music and you are the composer.
- Composition in art is essentially the arrangement of Visual Elements using various Principles of Art and techniques. It is often used to describe the overall design of a drawing.
- A well composed drawing will intrigue and invite the viewer and help communicate the artist's statement.

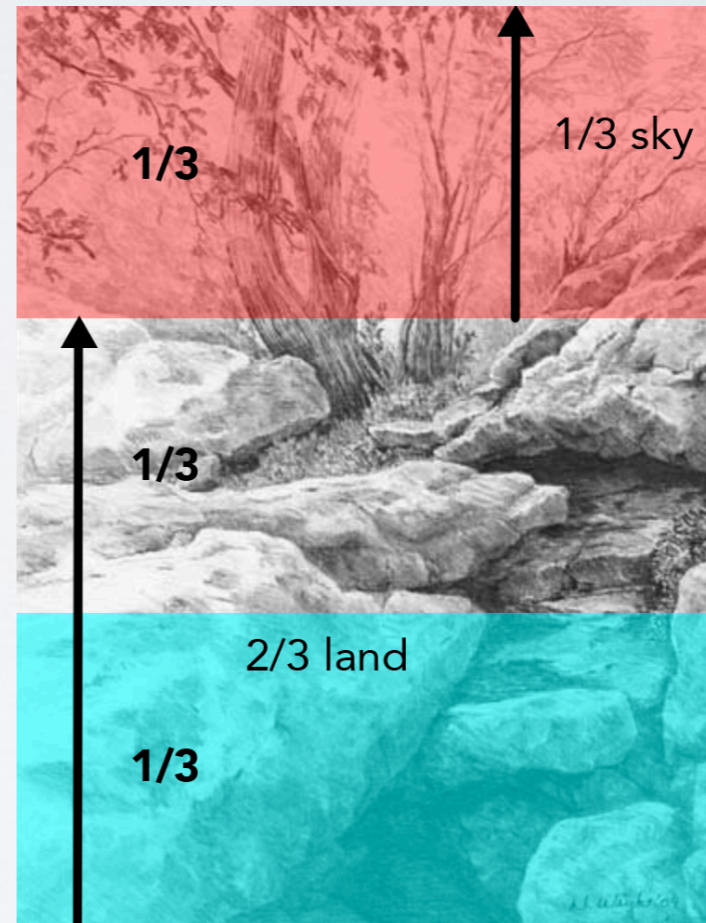
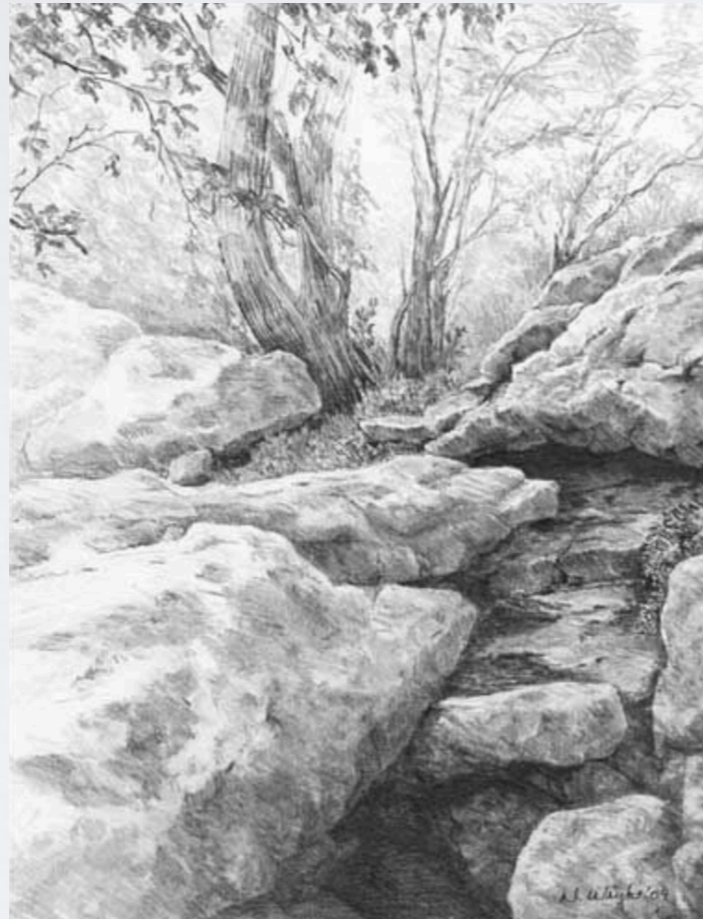
RULE OF THIRDS

- Rule of Thirds is dividing the visual field into thirds
- Divisions into thirds can be horizontal, vertical, or both
- It does not have to be exact, since it is an aesthetic design principle
- Rule of Thirds applies nicely to landscape photography, painting, and drawing
- The concept of the Rule of Thirds is a Principle of Design

EXAMPLES OF 2-D ART USING RULE OF THIRDS LANDSCAPE FORMAT



EXAMPLE OF RULE OF THIRDS PORTRAIT FORMAT

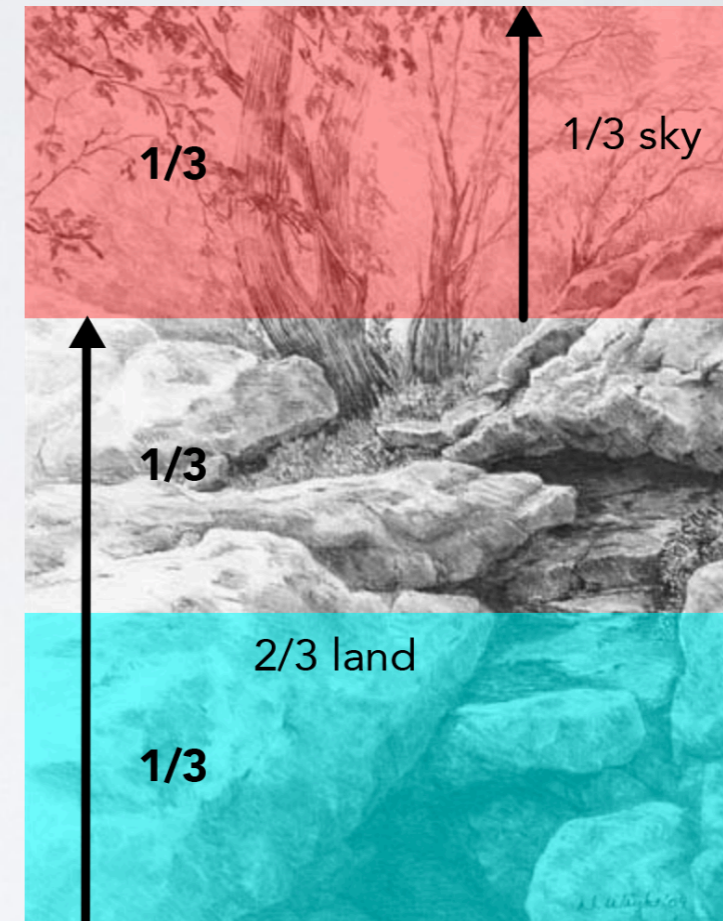
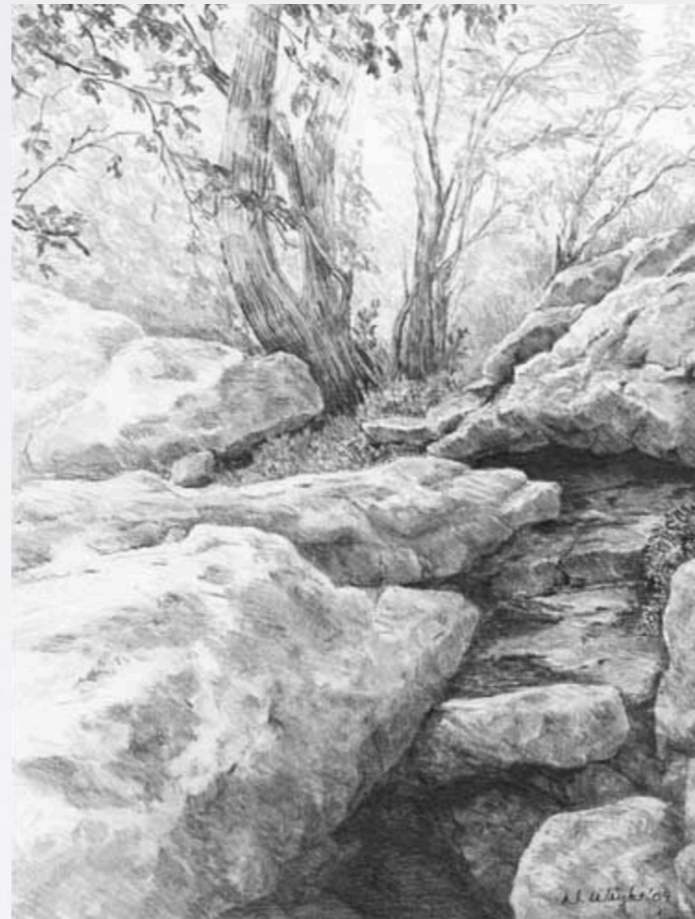


VERTICAL RULE OF THIRDS MAY RELATE TO FOREGROUND, MIDDLE GROUND AND BACKGROUND

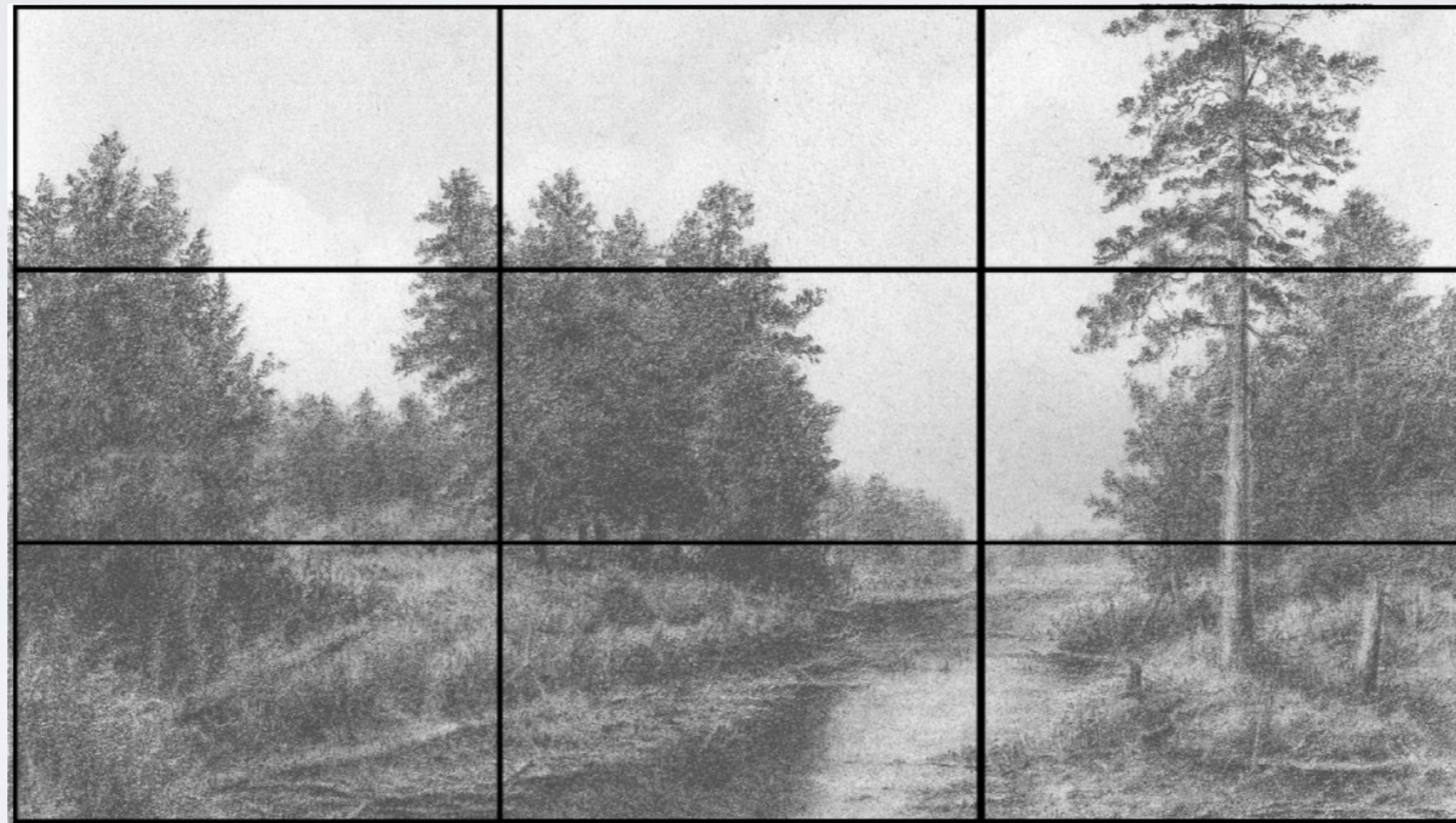
The foreground is made up of the large rocks

The middle ground features the closest trees

The background includes the lightest in value trees - fading them into the background



CONTEMPORARY DRAWING



CONTEMPORARY DRAWING



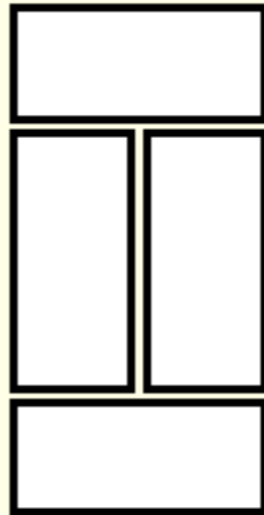
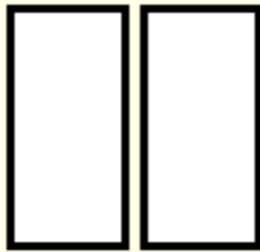
JAPANESE DESIGN

- Japanese design is based on two squares side by side.
- This is represented in the Japanese tatami mat seen here:

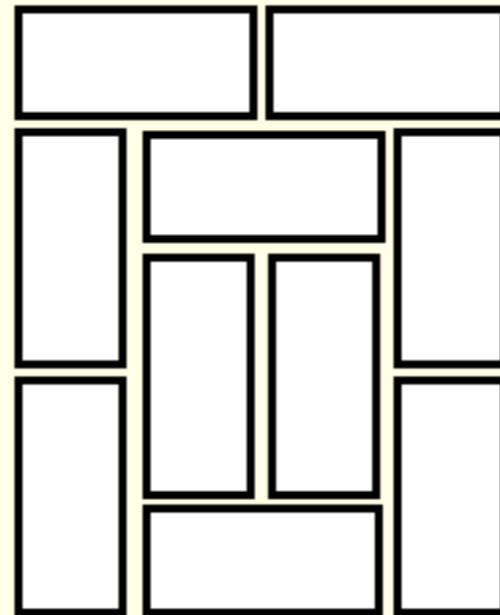
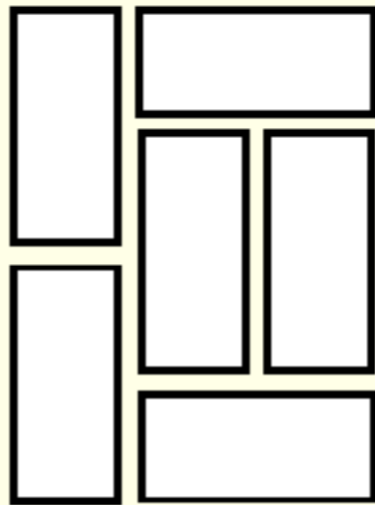
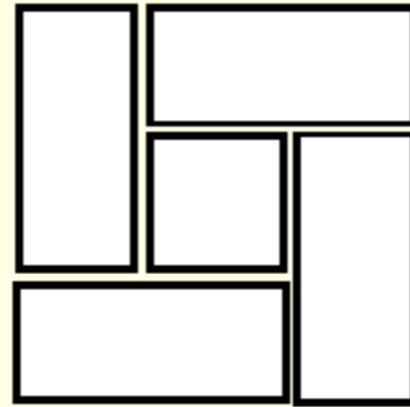


THE TWO SQUARE SYSTEM





**TATAMI
PATTERNS**



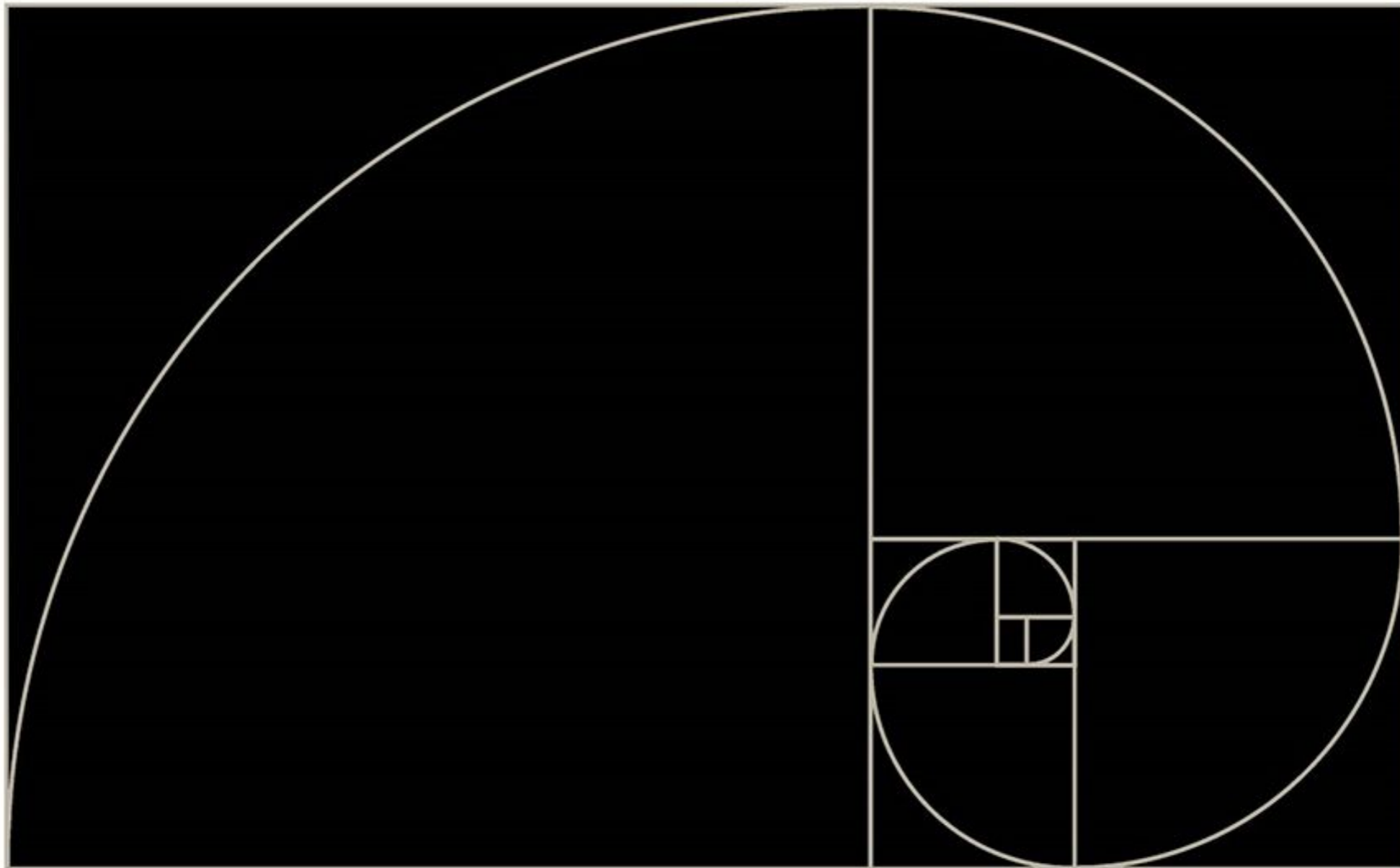
THE GOLDEN RATIO

The golden ratio is also called the golden mean or golden section.

Mathematicians since Euclid have studied the properties of the golden ratio, including its appearance in the dimensions of a regular pentagon and in a golden rectangle, which may be cut into a square and a smaller rectangle with the same aspect ratio.

The golden ratio has also been used to analyze the proportions of natural objects. The golden ratio appears in some patterns in nature, including the spiral arrangement of leaves and other plant parts. The golden spiral appears in seashells!

THE GOLDEN SPIRAL



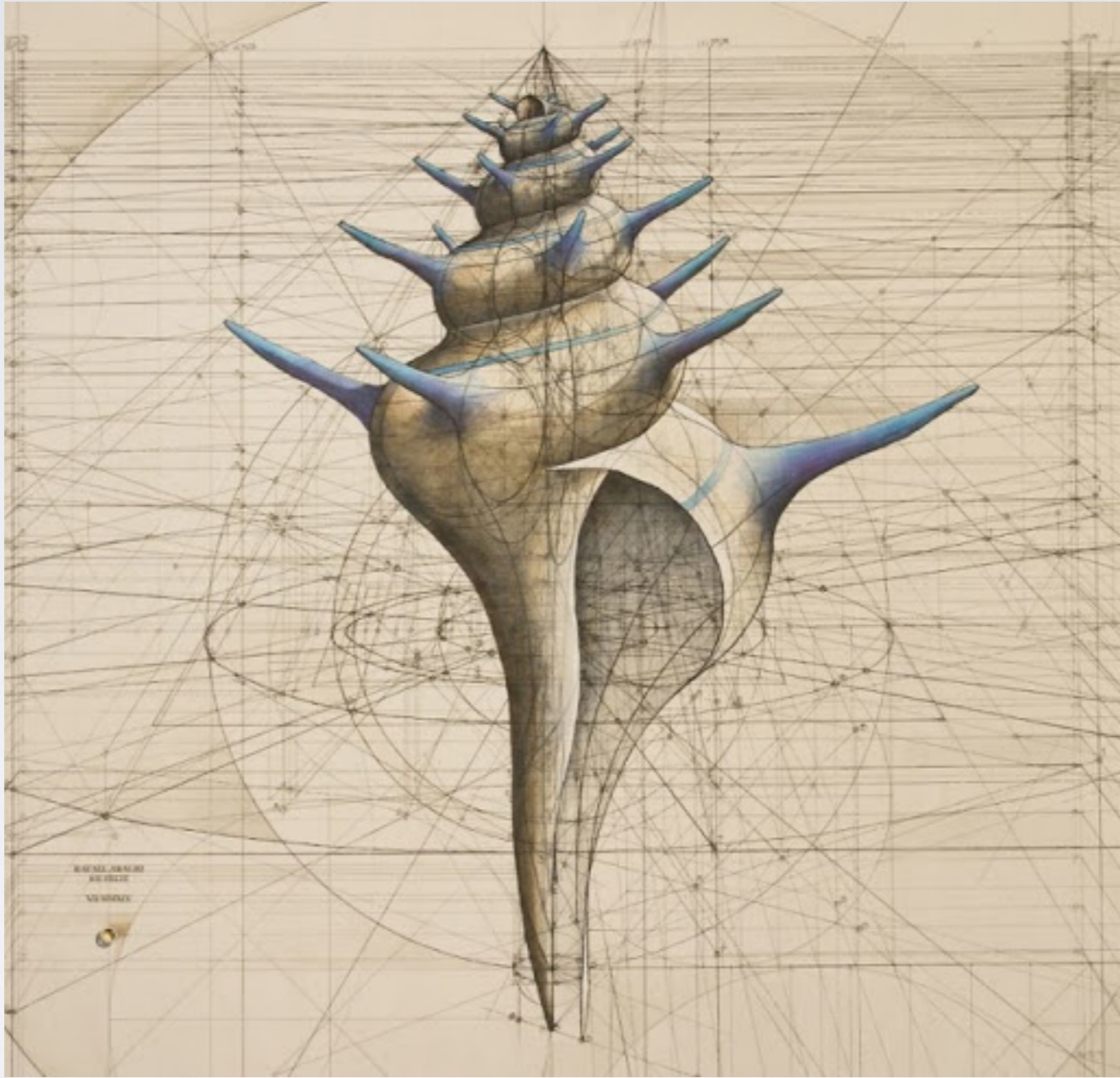
The Golden Ratio



RAFAEL ARAUJO
ME FECIT
IX MCMXVII

THE DIVINE BEAUTY OF
MATHEMATICS

Gary B. Meisner



THE END