

Design Principles

Chapter 11: Illusion of Motion

Introduction

From Stillness to Movement: Relative Stillness

- “Almost every aspect of life involves constant change.”
- “Movement is a very important consideration in art.”

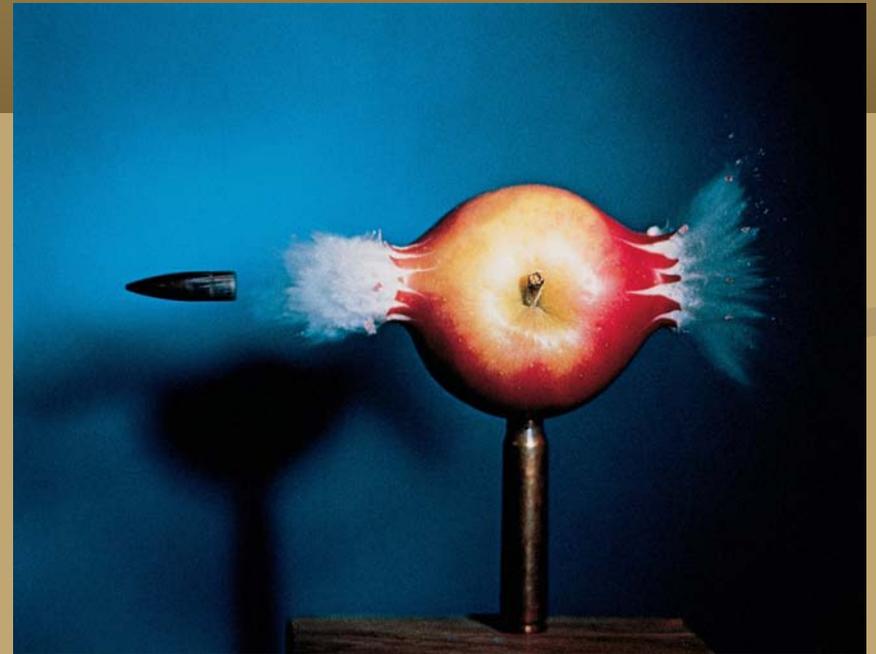
Jan (van Delft) Vermeer. The Milkmaid. 1658-1660.
Oil on canvas, 45.5 x 41 cm. Rijksmuseum,
Amsterdam, The Netherlands.



Depicting the Transient

“Since at least the Renaissance, artists have attempted to depict movement and elusive imagery.”

Kinetic – artwork that moves



Harold Edgerton. Making Applesauce at MIT (.30 Bullet Piercing an Apple). 1964. Photograph. © Harold & Ester Edgerton Foundation, 2007, courtesy of Palm Press, Inc.

Anticipated Motion

Seeing and Feeling Impending Action

- A lot of the motion we see in art is from our memory and our experiences.
- If you're watching a basketball you may also stretch, jump or shoot for the hoop.

Kinesthetic Empathy - a process where our bodies try to recreate or react to the motion that we are seeing.

Anticipated Movement - This feeling or action that is about to happen can be created by lines and

gestures.

Dragon Fountain. Sculptor: Giovanni Battista Foggini. Modeler: Gaspero Bruschi. Mercury and Argus. 1749. Porcelain, polychrome, and parcel gilt. The Getty Center, Los Angeles, 94.SE.76.



Anticipated Motion by Design

- As motion in society became more prominent during the last Century, motion in art became more and more prominent.
- Art began to reflect an interest, or a fascination with speed and motion.
- Even still objects began to have curving lines that reflect motion.



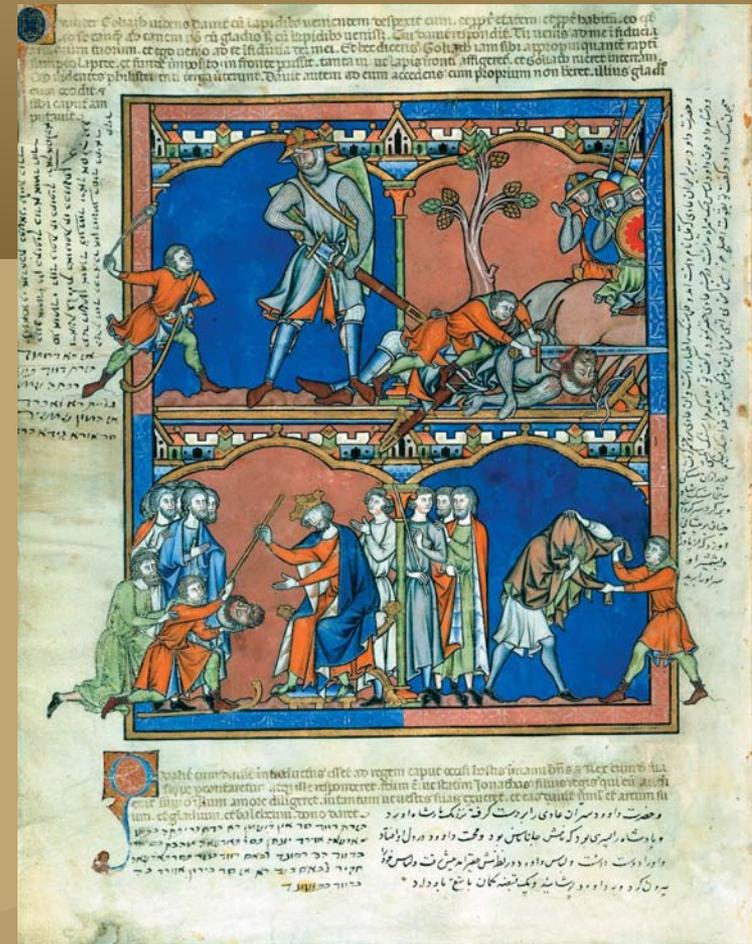
Larry Erickson and Billy F. Gibbons (designers).
CadZZilla. 1989. Custom automobile. Design patent
DES. 320, 959.

Ways to Suggest Motion

1. Figure Repeated
2. Figure Cropped
3. Blurred Outline
4. Multiple Images
5. Lines of Force
6. Grouping Multiple Images

Figure Repeated

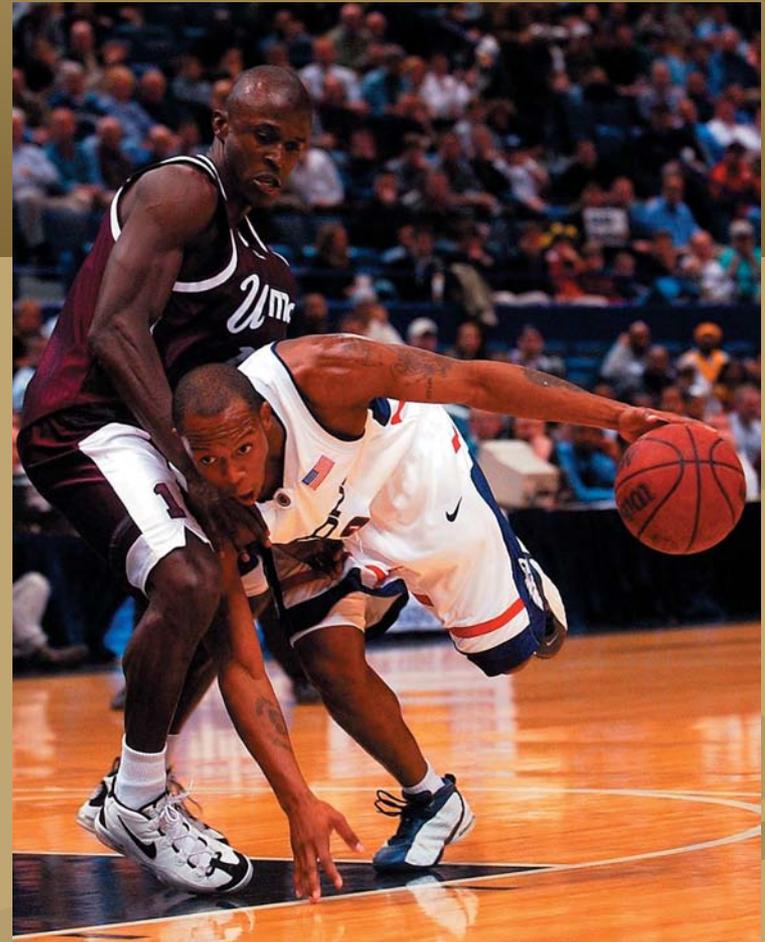
- Oldest
- Uses a *repeated figure*.
- Widely used in Oriental and Western medieval art.
- Character often has a special characteristic that makes then stand out.



David slays Goliath and cuts off his head; Abner brings David with the head of Goliath to Saul; Jonathan, smitten with love of David, gives him his garments. Manuscript illumination (M638 f 28v) from Old Testament Miniatures, Paris. c. 1245-1250. Tempera on vellum. The Pierpont Morgan Library, New York. C Taliek Brown of the University of Connecticut. December 10, 2002. Photograph.

2. Figure Cropped

- Implies motion
- The figure moves so fast that they escape the picture frame.
- Comics use both this figure repetition and figure cropping to create motion.



Taliek Brown of the University of Connecticut.
December 10, 2002. Photograph.

3. Blurred Outlines

Details and the outlines are lost in fast movement.

Used in Photography & Drawing, and Op Art

- Blurred Edges
- Sketchy
- Incomplete
- Overlapping lines

Op Art - a style of art and design where a still image creates the 'optical illusion of movement.

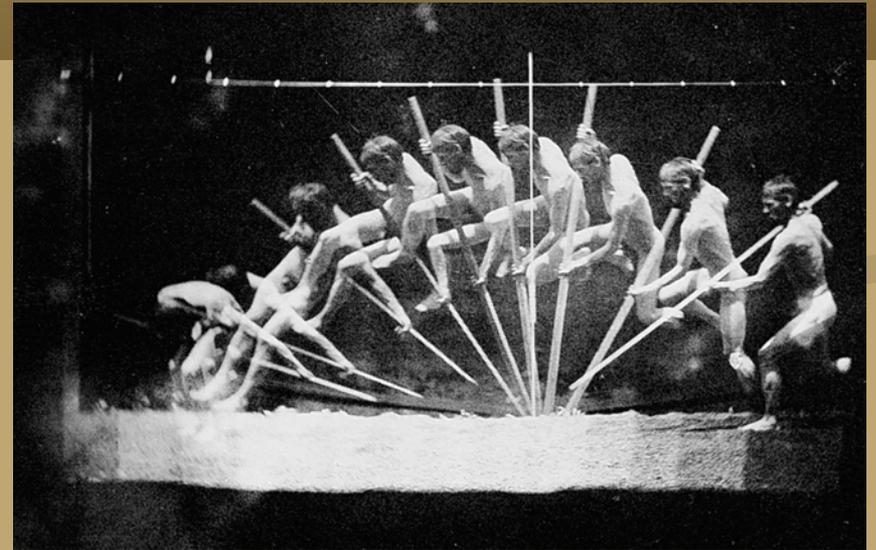


Gerhard Richter. Woman Descending the Staircase. 1965. 6' 7" x 4' 3" (200.7 x 129.5 cm). The Art Institute of Chicago (Roy J. and Frances R. Friedman Endowment; gift of Lannan Foundation, 1997.176).

4. Multiple Image

Multiple Image - When you see one figure in an overlapping sequence of poses.

It is that small change in position that suggests motions.



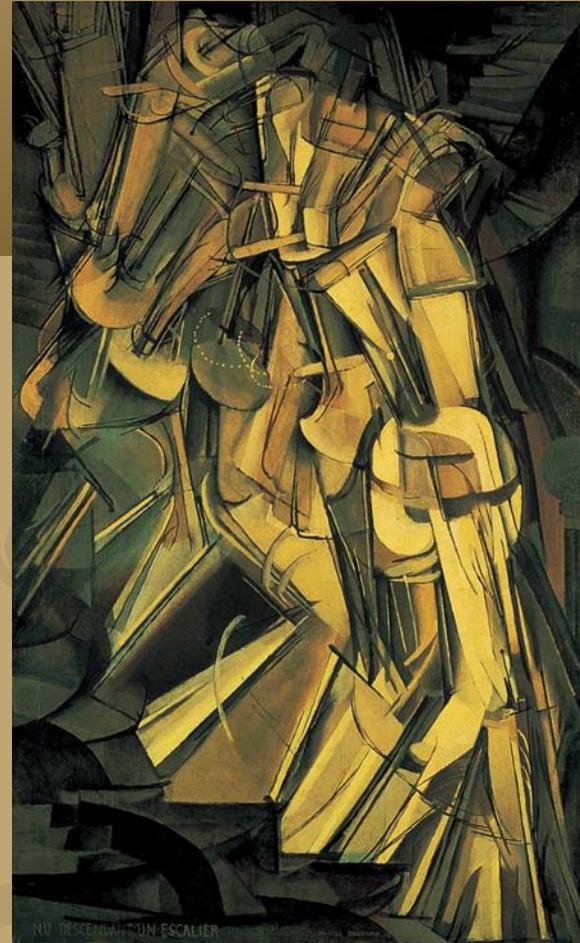
Thomas Eakins. Motion Studies, Man Pole-Vaulting. 1884-1885. Gelatin silver print. The Metropolitan Museum of Art, gift of Charles Bregler, 1941 (41.142.11).

Lines of Force

Lines of Force - Many curved lines showing the pathway of movement.

(Also used in comic strips)

Marcel Duchamp. *Nude Descending a Staircase, No. 2*.
1912. Oil on canvas, 4' 10" x 2' 11" (1.47 x 0.89 m).
Philadelphia Museum of Art (Louise and Walter
Arensberg Collection).



Grouping Multiple Images

- You can combining a series of images to create movement.
- You can even do this with images of different subjects and from different sources.



John Baldessari. Six Colorful Gags (Male). 1991.
Photogravure with color aquatint and spit bite aquatint,
3 1/2 x 11 1/4 in. Edition 25. Crown Point Press, San
Francisco.