

# Lighting Like An Old Master

By Emma Gilette Photography

# Tonight will cover:

- Appropriation

- Art History

*(focusing Artists, Artworks and Art Movements that are easy to appropriate)*

- The Design Process

- Choosing Subject Matter

- Lighting Techniques (demonstration at end)

# Appropriation

## Definition:

- The Deliberate reworking of images and styles from earlier, well-known works of art.

## Appropriation v's copying

- Appropriation artists deliberately copy images to take possession of them in their art. They are not stealing or plagiarizing. They are not passing off these images as their very own. Appropriation artists **want** the viewer to recognize the images they copy, and they hope that the viewer will bring all of his/her original associations with the image to the artist's new context.

# Reasons for Appropriating

- Pay homage (honour) to original artist
- Mock, critique, parody
- Portray meaning quickly
- Portray a message through juxtaposition
- To make a political or social statement (e.g. a feminist reworking)
- Advertising

# Renaissance

(Italy and Europe, 1250-1600)

## Main Features

**Subject Matter:** Religion (from human point of view)

**Techniques:** Emphasis on perspective and the illusion of space

## Masters

Leonardo Da Vinci

Raphael

Michelangelo



Michaelangelo



Raphael



Da Vinci



Da Vinci



# Appropriating Renaissance:



[Sandro Botticelli Primavera](#)



Una de las doncellas  
de La Primavera de  
Botticelli se pone al día  
con coquetería, belleza y un  
encantador vestido en  
estampado tipo jardín  
vestido, Louis Vuitton

# Baroque

(Rome 1590-1750)

Main Features	Masters
<p><b>Techniques:</b> . Richness, drama, deep color, and an intense play of light and dark shadows (<i>Tenebrism</i> and <i>Chiaroscuro</i>)</p> <p><b><u>Subject matter:</u></b> Dramatic &amp; emotive scenes of religious subjects, catholic dogma, historical stories, allegories, ancient mythology. Featuring fleecy clouds, cherubs and billowing drapery.</p>	Caravaggio Rembrandt



Rembrandt



Caravaggio



# Appropriating Baroque Style:

(Palestine Portraits by Spanish photographer Miguel Angel Sanchez)







# Appropriating Baroque Style

*Cockaignesque* series by photographer Helen Sobiralski



- *Cockaignesque* series is about opulence and abundance
- She constructed highly dramatic scenes

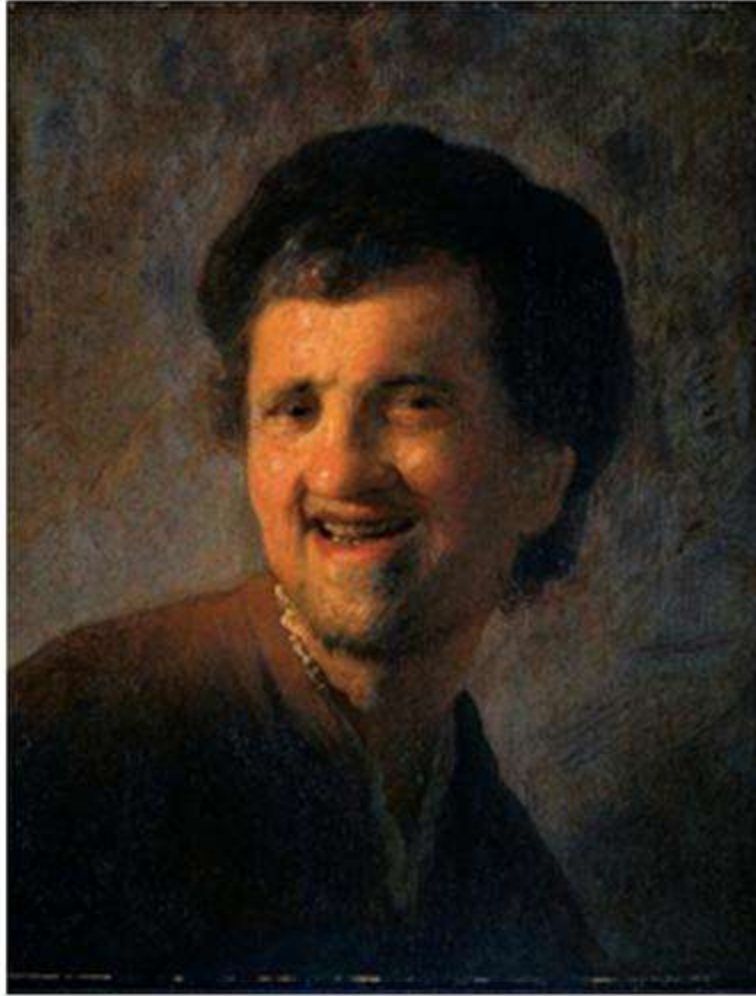


Helen Sobiralski



# Appropriating for Humour:

(Fools Do Art, a series by Chris Limbrick and Francesco Fragomeni )



Self portrait 19 by Rembrandt Van Rijn

Chris Limbrick and Francesco Fragomeni



Medusa, by Caravaggio, 1597



Chris Limbrick and Francesco Fragomeni

These two (clearly very busy) workers at Squarespace in NY spend their free time recreating famous paintings using whatever they find in their office for a project they've called "Fools Do Art."





Jean-Baptiste Colbert by Philippe de Champaigne, 1655



Chris Limbrick and Francesco Fragomeni

# Mariska Karto



Sensual Baroque-Inspired Photography. For Mariska, each step is important from the conceptual drawing, to preparation, shooting and post-production.

# The Dutch Masters

(late 1600's)

## Main Features

**Subject matter:** still life, peasant life, landscapes, domestic interior scenes, description of everyday life

**Techniques:**  
strong, sumptuous colour schemes. *Tenebrism* and *Chiaroscuro* add drama and enhance atmosphere

## Masters

Johannes (or Jan) Vermeer

Willem Kalf

Gerrit Van Honthorst (candlelight portraits)

Aert van der Neer (landscapes)



Willem Kalf



Gerrit Van Honthorst



Johannes Vermeer

# Photographer Hendrik Kerstens

Appropriates the style of the Dutch Masters









# Appropriating Style and Motifs

photographer – Bill Gekas



- Inspired by the works of old masters of European art like Rembrandt and Vermeer.
- Sought to emulate their style in his photography.
- Uses costumes and settings that remind one of the works of these masters.

# Bill Gekas:



# Appropriating Vermeer

- Dark backgrounds
- Candlelight or natural, narrow sidelight.

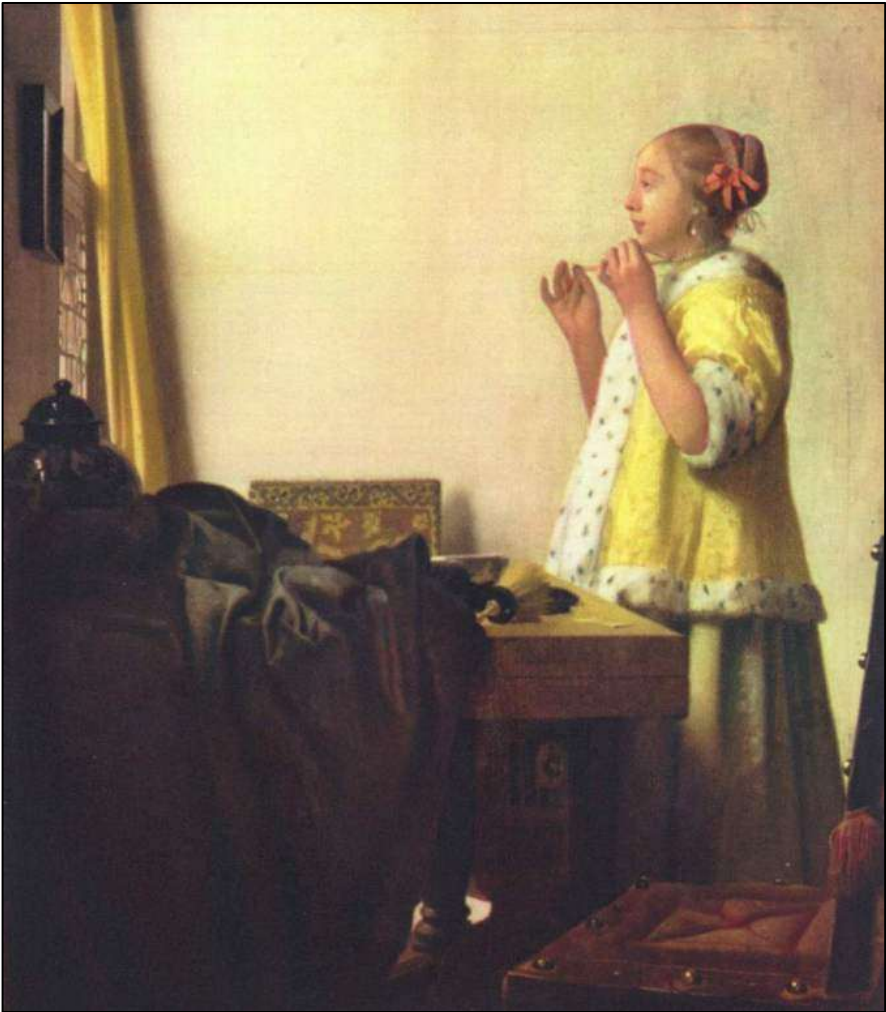


Johannes Vermeer



Dorothee Golz, The Pearl Earring, 2009





Johannes Vermeer, "The Woman with a Pearl Necklace"



HMUA Mikel Cain and Photographer Chirasak Rattanapanyakun



Johannes Vermeer, Girl reading a letter at an open window, 1657



Tom Hunter, Woman reading possession order\_1997



# Rococo

1700-1800

## Main Features

**Techniques:** Light, playful, decorative, graceful, ornate, elegant. Light colours, asymmetrical designs, fluid curves, and gold.

**Subject Matter:** Playful and witty, teasing, elusive, risque love themes, leisurely pastimes of the aristocrats.

## Masters

Boucher  
Baptiste  
Fragonard  
Amigoni  
Tiepolo  
Watteau



Jean-Honoré Fragonard



Jean Baptiste



François Boucher

# Appropriating Rococco:



Tiepolo



Mariska Karto





# Neoclassicism

1770-1820

## Main Features

**Techniques:** Pastel colours, Posed portraits, Diffused natural lighting

**Subject Matter:** Classical and greek attire

## Masters

Alma Tadema

David

Ingres



Sir Lawrence Alma-Tadema, Ask me no more, 1906



Ingres



# Appropriating Neoclassicism



Ingres



Amy Winehouse

# Appropriating Neo-Classicism:



Jacques Louis David, "Marat"



Ilenia Rubino

# Romanticism

1800-1850

## Main Features

**Subject Matter:** Importance on imagination and individual expression. The sublime landscape. Depict grand emotions (fear, devotion, victory, love).  
Techniques vary from artist to artist.

## Masters

Turner  
William Blake  
Bierstadt  
Goya



Albert Bierstadt, Looking Down Yosemite Valley



William Turner, Snow Storm, 1842



# Appropriating Romanticism:



# Realism

1850-1880 - and repeated throughout art history in different guises.

Main Features	Masters
<p><b>Techniques:</b> Attempt to represent subject matter truthfully – accuracy, detail, avoid stylization (rejected Romanticism).</p> <p><b>Subject Matter:</b> Unembellished and everyday subjects and situations in contemporary settings. Did not avoid unpleasant or sordid aspects of life, such as works of social realism or regionalism.</p>	<p>Gustave Courbet Jean-Francois Millet Honore Daumier Corot Julien Dupre</p>



Jean-François Millet



Honore Daumier

# Realism (Social Realism)



Julien Dupre



Bill Gekas



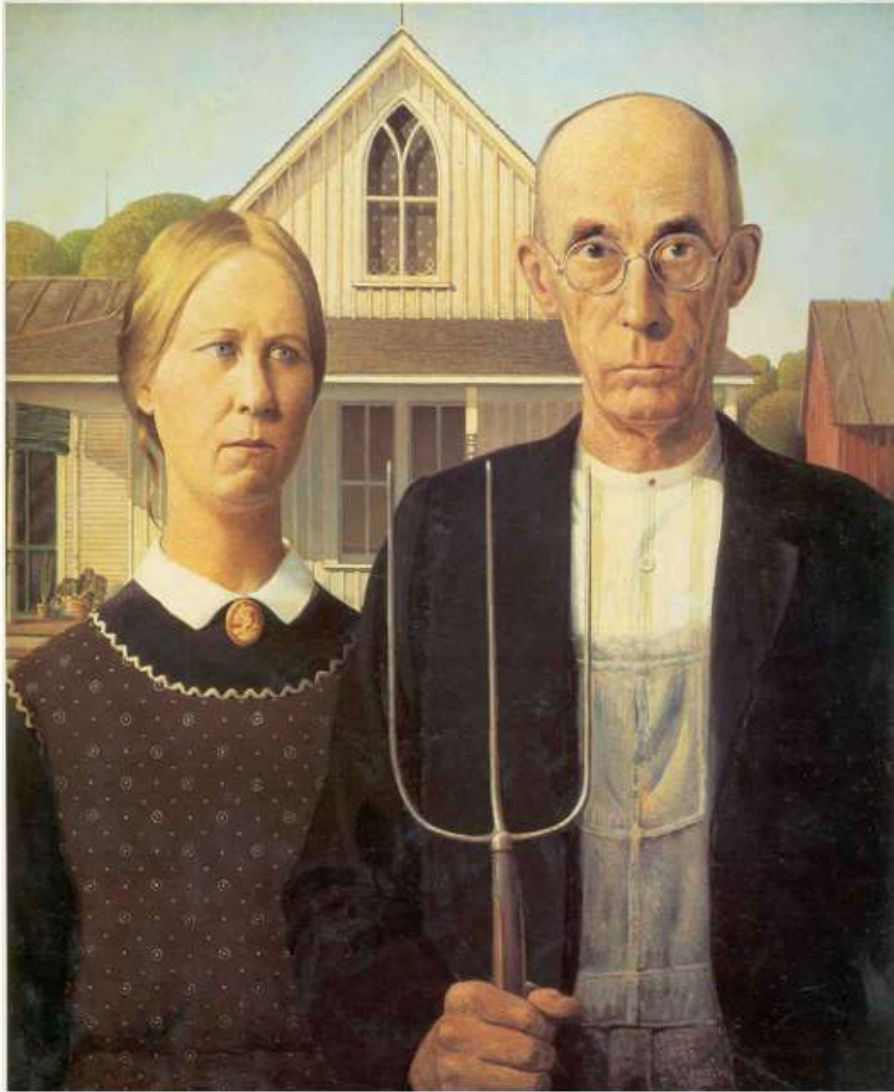


Julien Dupre



Bill Gekas

# Realism (Regionalism)



ia2-GrantWood-American-Gothic-1930



# Impressionism (1860-1920)

## Main Features

**Subject matter:** landscape, nature and scenes of everyday life

**Techniques:** natural light, colour and visible brushstrokes were important. Pastel colours.

## Masters

Claude Monet

Edgar Degas

Pierre-Auguste Renoir

Manet



Degas



Claude Monet





Francesco-fragomeni-chris-limbrick

Impressionist effect through texture filters





Claude Monet



Banksy



# Impressionist effect - Camera Jiggle





# Matt Molloy Stacked Clouds



# Impressionist Effects



Vaseline on lens filter



Panning lens



Blurring movement – slow shutter



# Post Impressionism 1886-1910

Main Features	Masters
<p><b>Techniques:</b> Pointillism, abstract qualities, using vivid colours, thick application of paint, emphasize geometric forms, distort form, use unnatural or arbitrary colour.</p> <p>Subject matter: Real-life subject matter as well as symbolic meanings.</p>	Van Gogh Gauguin Cezanne Seurat



Van Gogh



Cezanne



# Appropriating Seurat



seen on 9GAG.COM

**Sunday Afternoon on the Island of La Grand Jatte (1884-86)**

# Appropriating Van Gogh



Van Gogh



Dorothee Golz



# Appropriating Manet





# Fauvism

(Paris, 1905)

## Main Features

**Techniques:** Vivid, unnatural and highly contrasting colours. Shapes are filled with flat areas of colour and patterns.

## Masters

Henri Matisse  
Andre Derain



Woman with a Hat by Matisse



Andre derain

# Appropriating Fauvism:

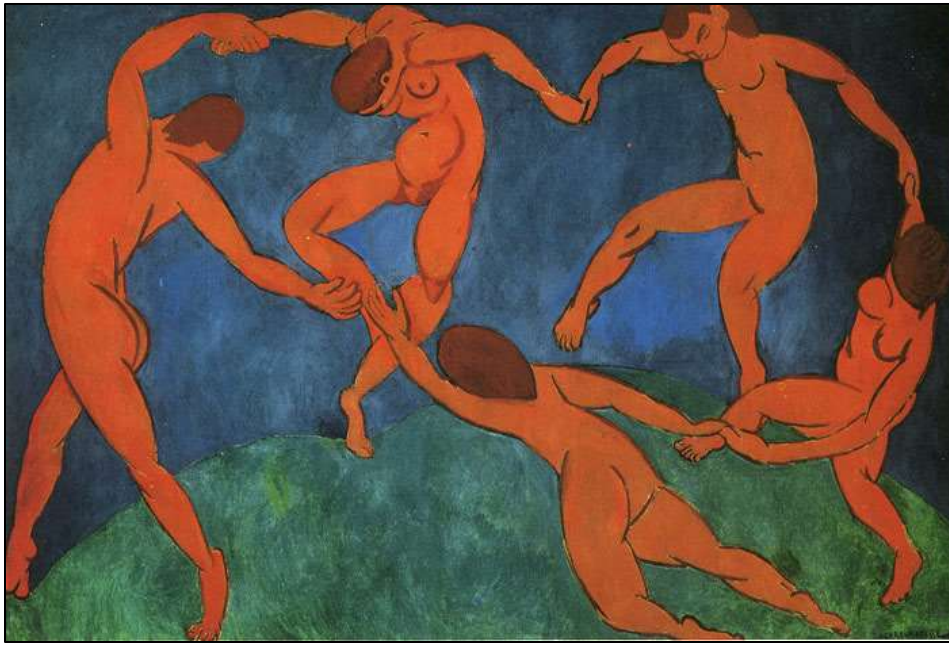


*The Dessert: Harmony in Red*  
by Matisse



Kumin Media





Henri\_Matisse\_The Dance



Blue Bowerbird



# Cubism

(early 1900s)

## Main Features

**Techniques:** Abstract, geometrical, flattened – showing multiple angles/perspectives at the same time. Breaks subject into shapes and fills each shape with tonal gradation, from varying angles of light.

**Subject Matter:** ranged from portraiture, to still life to landscape.

## Masters

Pablo Picasso  
Georges Braque



# Appropriating Picasso:



Picasso, *Les Femmes d'Alger (O. K. G.)*



Vogue



# Eugenio Recuenco



Spain-based photographer, Eugenio Recuenco shot a series of fashion photographs that pay homage to Pablo Picasso's paintings.

# Appropriating Picasso's Blue Period



Putting your white balance on “Tungsten” will achieve a blue effect.



# Photographer Alex Waber's Cubist Series:





Photographs by: **Lin Pernille Kristensen**  
Hair, Makeup, Styling: Lin Pernille Kristensen  
Model: Victoria Leta  
Inspired by: Pablo Picasso



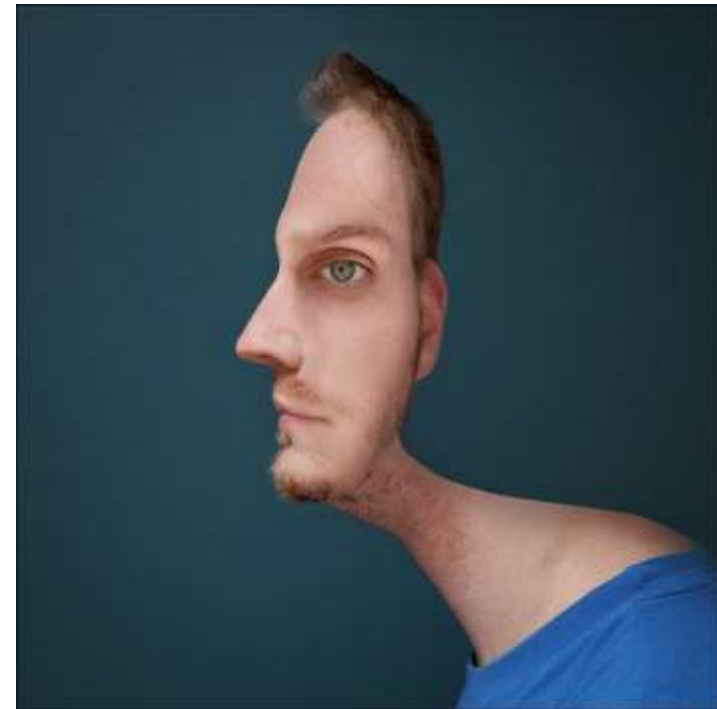
# Photographic interpretations of the Cubist Style:



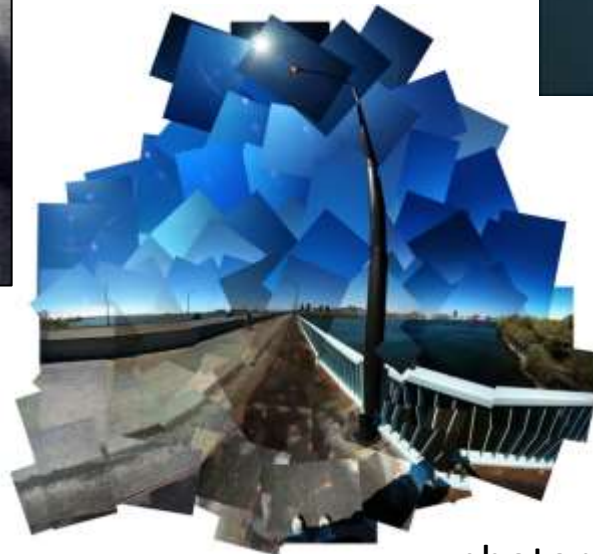
Ashkan Honarvar



Crumpled paper



Profil De Face, Dmitri Elson



photomontage



Blayne Wyatt



Shooting through a multi-surfaced glass



“In Transit” by Diego Kuffer – He takes multiple photographs of stationary scenes and merges them together to create a cubist world view.



# Futurism

(1909, Milan)

## Main Features

**Subject matter:** Glorified modernity: machinery, transport and communications.

**Techniques:** Angular forms, powerful lines, capturing movement through repetition

## Masters

Balla

Boccioni

Duchamp



# Appropriating Duchamp:



*Nude Descending a Staircase* by Duchamp



Étienne-Jules Marey



# Surrealism (1922-1940)

## Main Features

Combination of dream and reality. Unnerving and illogical scenes, ranging from dreamlike serenity to nightmarish fantasy  
Realistic subjects/objects painted in unrealistic manners, locations, proportions and combinations.

## Masters

Salvador Dali  
Frida Khalo  
Rene Magritte



# Homage to Rene Magritte



Rene Magritte



inspired by surrealism by Clodiana Prendi

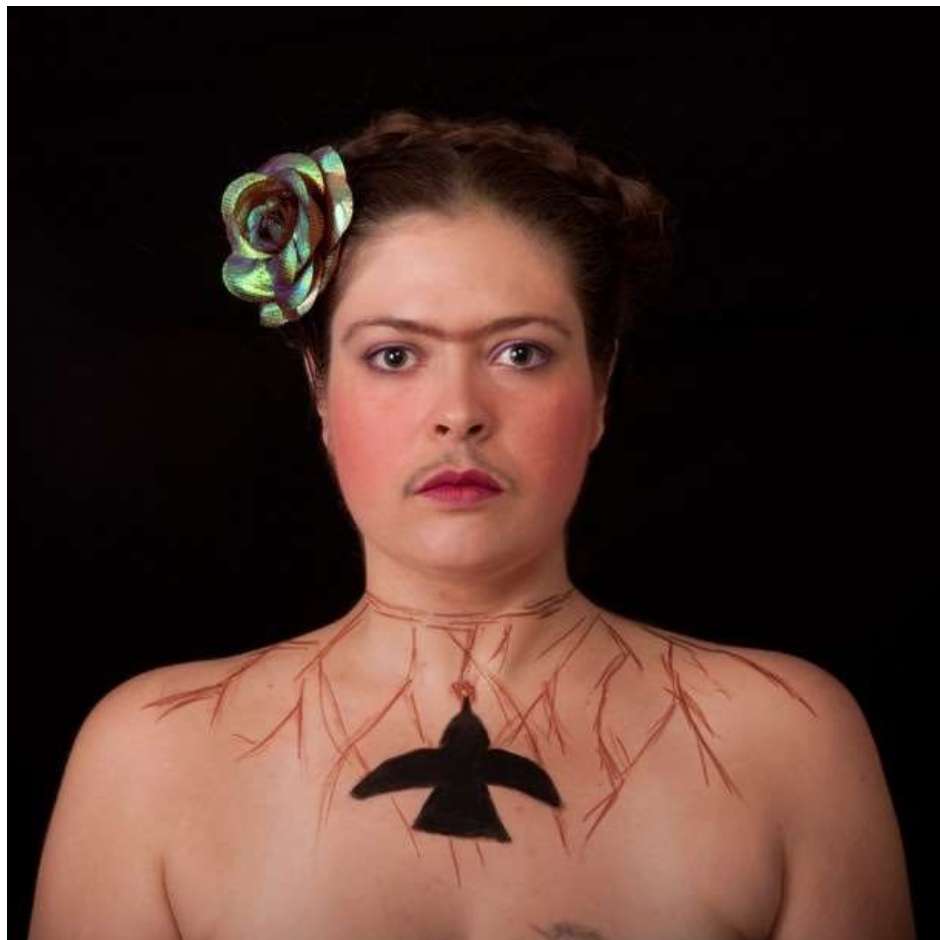


# Homage to Magritte:



Joe Webb, Photomontage, 2012, Daydream IV

# Appropriating Frida Khalo:







States of Consciousness\_by Gaby Herbstein1

# Expressionism (1930-1960)

## Main Features

Expressing emotion  
Represent their innermost feelings rather than the external world.  
Violent, unreal colour and dramatic brushwork

## Masters

Edvard Munch  
Van Gogh  
Beckman  
Heckel



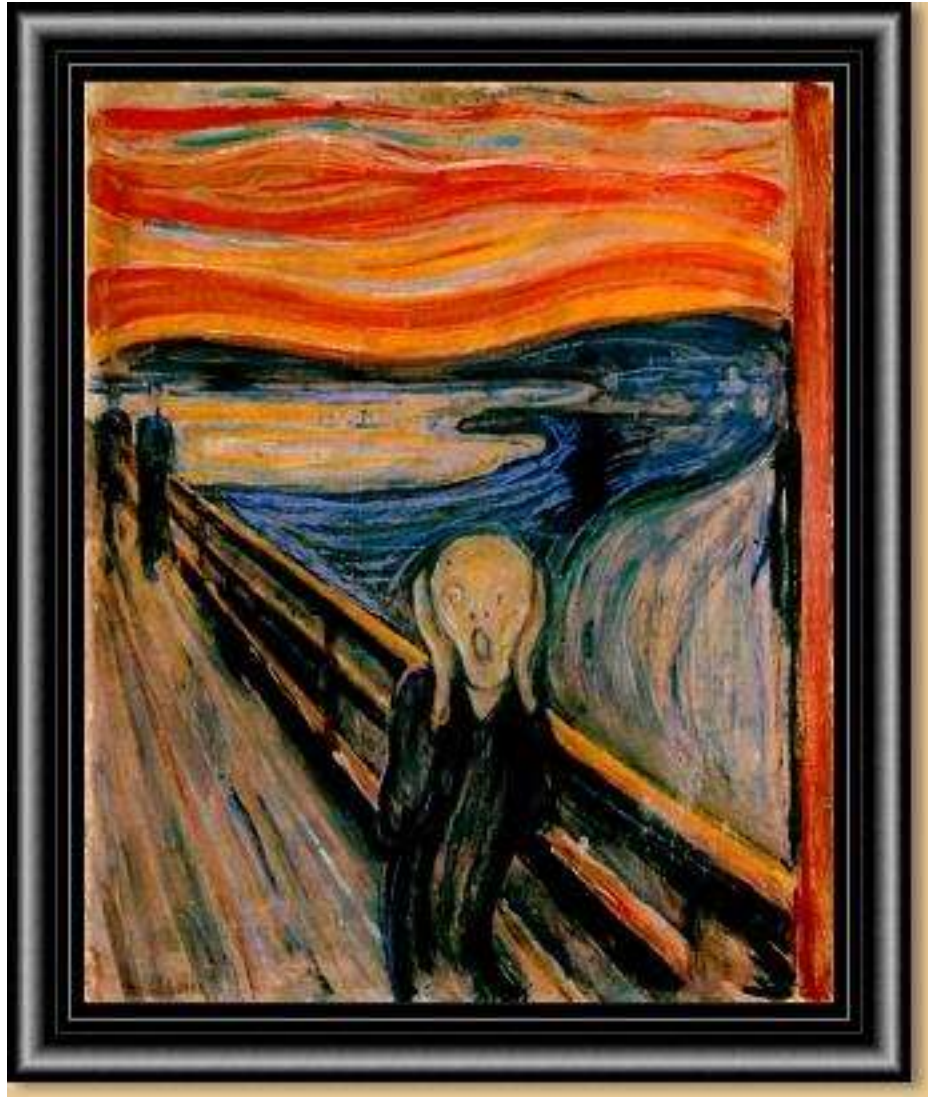
Beckman



Heckel



# Appropriating The Scream:



# Pop-Art

(1950's, US/Britain)

## Main Features

**Subject matter:** Images from consumer society and pop culture – comic strips, advertising, mass produced products,

**Techniques:** Hard-edge, bright flat colours, repetition of shape, photo-montage

## Masters

Hamilton  
Andy Warhol  
Lichtenstein



Lichtenstein



Warhol



# Appropriating Pop Art:



Roy Lichtenstein



Vogue



Andy Warhol



### How to do this in Photoshop:

1. Use posterise filter then add colours using paint bucket.
2. Make a new blank image that is twice the size of your original. Copy and paste the original 4 times, moving each copy into a corner.
3. On each layer, change the hue so it is different than the others.



# The Design Process

1. Think of an idea / purpose
2. Choose your subject matter
3. Look at other artists/photographers (e.g. google “Baroque photography”)
4. Draw and refine your ideas (conceptual drawing)
5. Experiment (lighting, props, camera angle)
6. Plan and shoot (costume, lighting, props, background, model/s, camera settings)
7. Edit and Refine

# Choosing Subject Matter:

Four main categories:

1. Figurative / Portraiture
2. Landscape / Seascape
3. Still Life
4. Abstract



# Lighting Techniques

- Hard light v's diffusion
- Narrow light source / Snoot
- Side Lighting and Reflectors
- Light boxes
- Focal point / meaning / message

# How to Appropriate:

- *Copy enough to make the image recognisable* (e.g. the pose, the costume, the lighting, the colours, the techniques, the style, etc ).  
Remember, you want the audience to recognize the image/style you are copying, so they can bring all of the original associations to your new context.
- *Change enough to make it your own.* Think about WHY you are doing it – what meaning or message do you want to portray?



# Advice for the Competition

- Give clues to your intent in your title. E.g:
  - “homage to ...”
  - “parody of ...”
  - “Inspired by ...”
- Try something new!
- Planning is paramount. Don’t use an old image and try to adapt it for this comp. Challenge yourself to create something new and show me that you have put in the effort to plan it out (e.g. thinking about the model/s, costume/s, location, lighting, editing, etc.)
- Good luck – I’m looking forward to seeing your ideas!

# Being Critical:

- Look at the following appropriations to give an idea of the range of difference responses to this artwork. Be critical of your own work and make sure you get the lighting right! 😊



# Original painting by Andrew Wyeth, 1917



Note the lighting on the subject:





# Appropriations #1



- Lighting on correct angle,
- Colour tones and location are well matched.
- Pose looks awkward and hair is different.



# Appropriations #2



- Lighting direction is correct, but too strong.
- Pose, dress and hair colour are better matched.
- Location is different, making the appropriation not as easily recognisable.

# Appropriations #3



- Pose and location are good (although grass should have been toned brown)
- Lighting, scale and camera angle not well matched.



# Appropriations #4



- Pose and location ok.
- Clothing, model, lighting and scale are not well matched.

# Appropriations #5



- Pose correct (although feels more awkward)
- Appropriation for humour – not designed to be accurate, just recognisable.