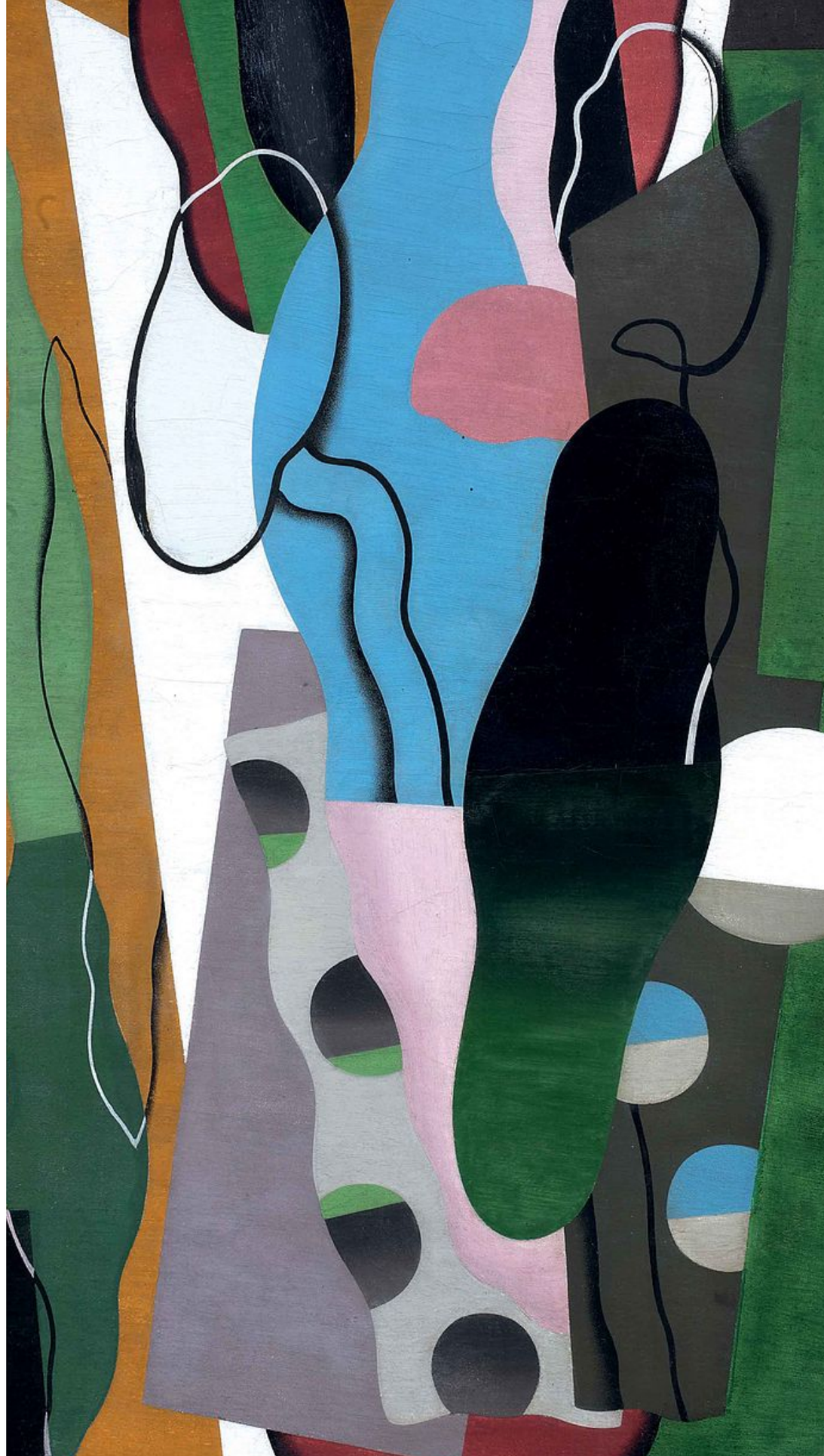
ART ASSIGNMENT #2: CUBISM

Elements of Art- Line + Shape



REVIEW: ELEMENTS OF ART



Elements of Art are considered the "building blocks" of an artwork. Every single artwork (be it abstract or representational) is composed out of at least two of these elements. In other words, art cannot be created without them.

7 Elements of Art:

- Line
- Shape
- Color
- Texture
- Form
- Value
- Space

REVIEW: PRINCIPLES OF ART



Principles of Art are the means an artist uses to arrange or organize elements in order to create an artwork. In other words, it is how the artist *manipulates* the elements in order to create a visually pleasing composition and transmit the message/idea that is meant to be transmitted.

8 Principles of Art:

- Balance
- Contrast
- Emphasis
- Movement
- Pattern
- Rhythm
- Unity
- Variety

WHY ARE THEY IMPORTANT?



- **Together with topics like perspective, anatomy, color theory, composition, etc. Elements and Principles of Art are considered *Fundamentals of Art.***

- They are the backbone for any artwork and what artists should know like the back of their hand. It becomes intuitive later on.

- **Knowing about Elements and Principles of Art enables us not only to create more effective artwork, but it also helps us:**

  a) Talk about other people's artwork with more advanced language/vocabulary

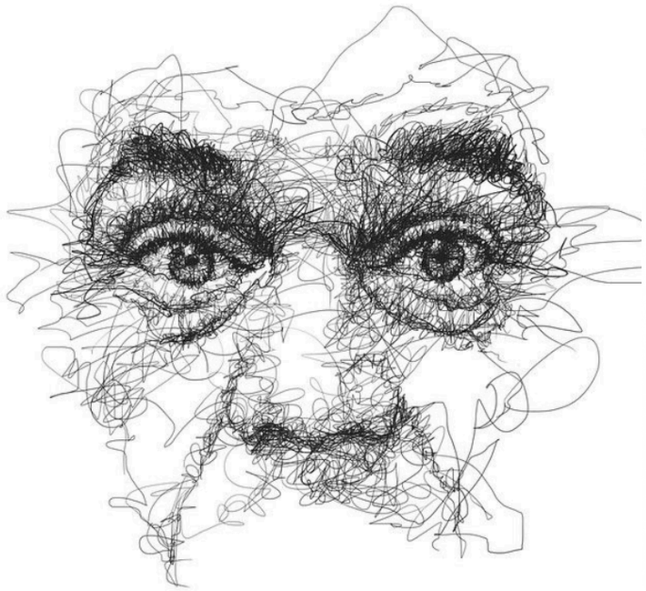
  b) Effectively critique artwork

  c) Communicate ideas clearly

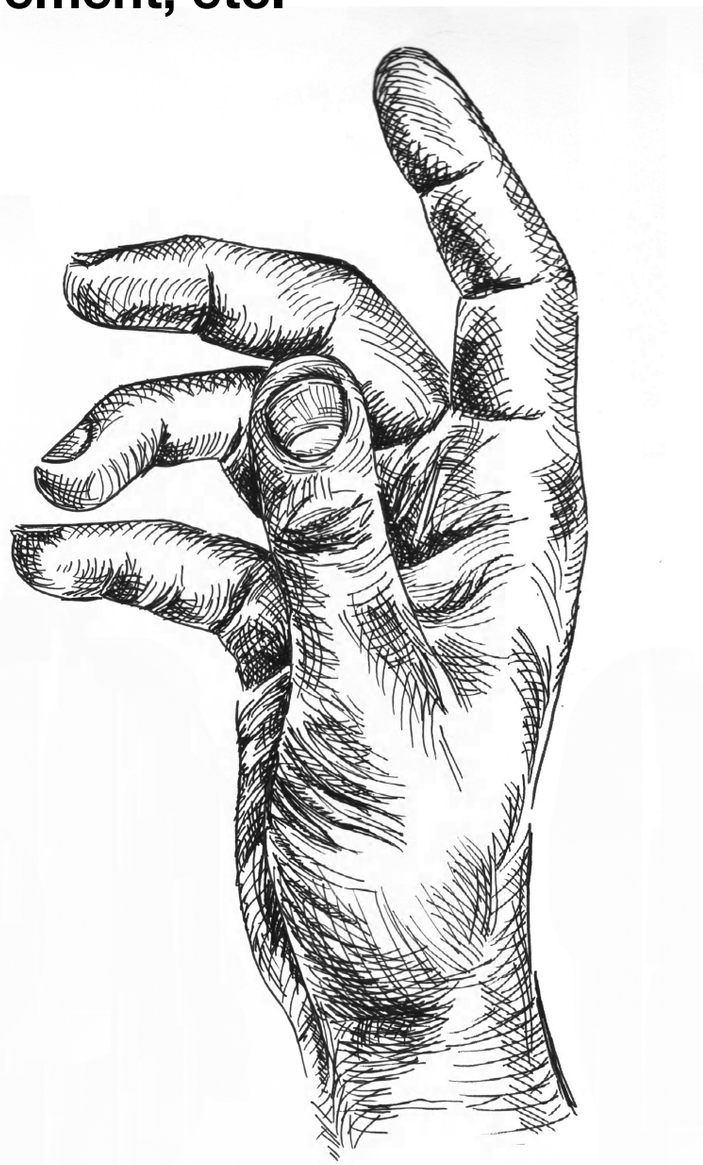
ELEMENT OF ART 1: LINE

- **The most basic Element of Art and foundation for all drawing.**
- Line in an artwork can be used in many different ways: **to suggest shape/contour, to render different values and create a sense of form, texture, energy/movement, etc.**









TYPES OF LINE

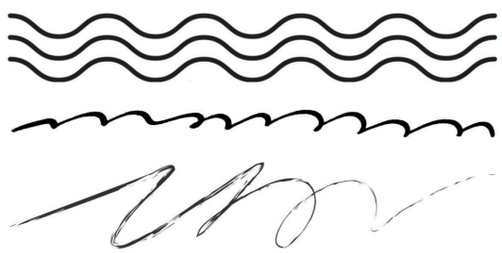
Different types of line create different psychological responses:

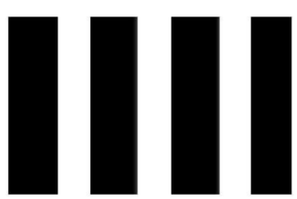
- Curved lines = comfort and ease
- Horizontal lines = distance and calm
- Vertical lines = height and strength
- Jagged lines = turmoil and anxiety



They can also have expressive qualities:

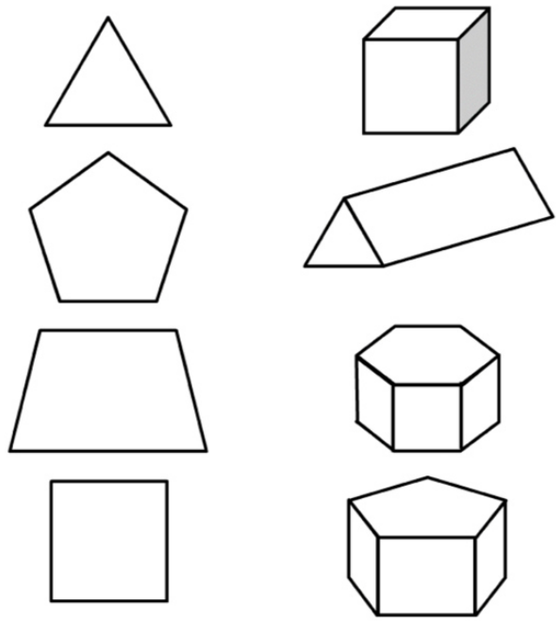
- Freehand lines = energy
- Mechanical lines = rigid control
- Broken lines = ephemeral or the insubstantial
- Thick lines = strength
- Thin lines =delicacy
- Continuous lines can lead the eye in certain directions



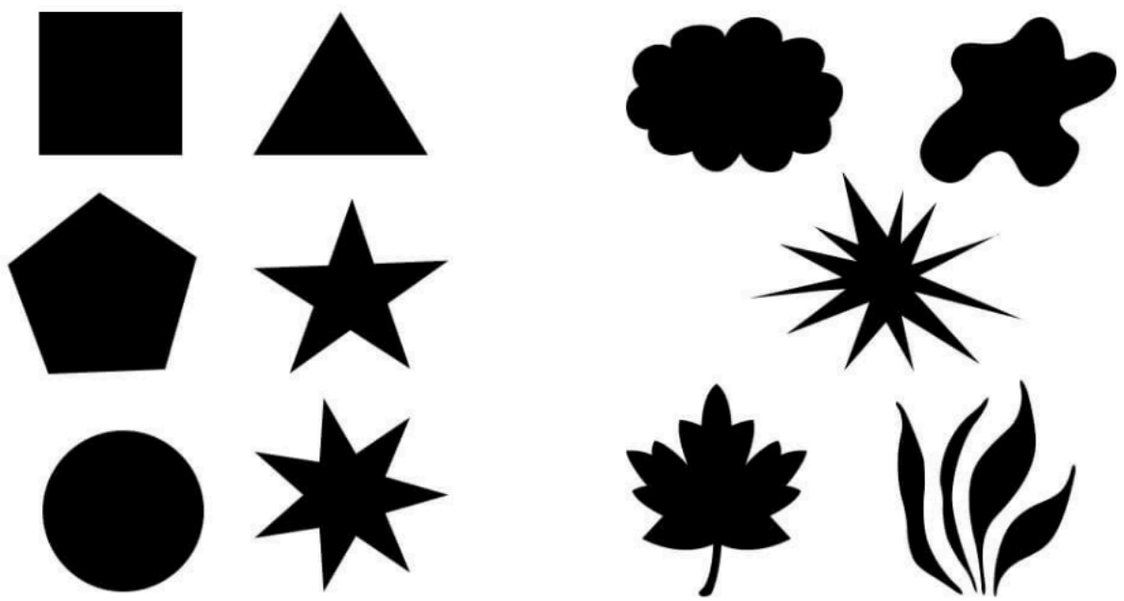


ELEMENT OF ART 2: SHAPE

- **A shape is created by a closed line and can be flat (2-dimensional) or referred to as “form” when it’s (3-dimensional).**



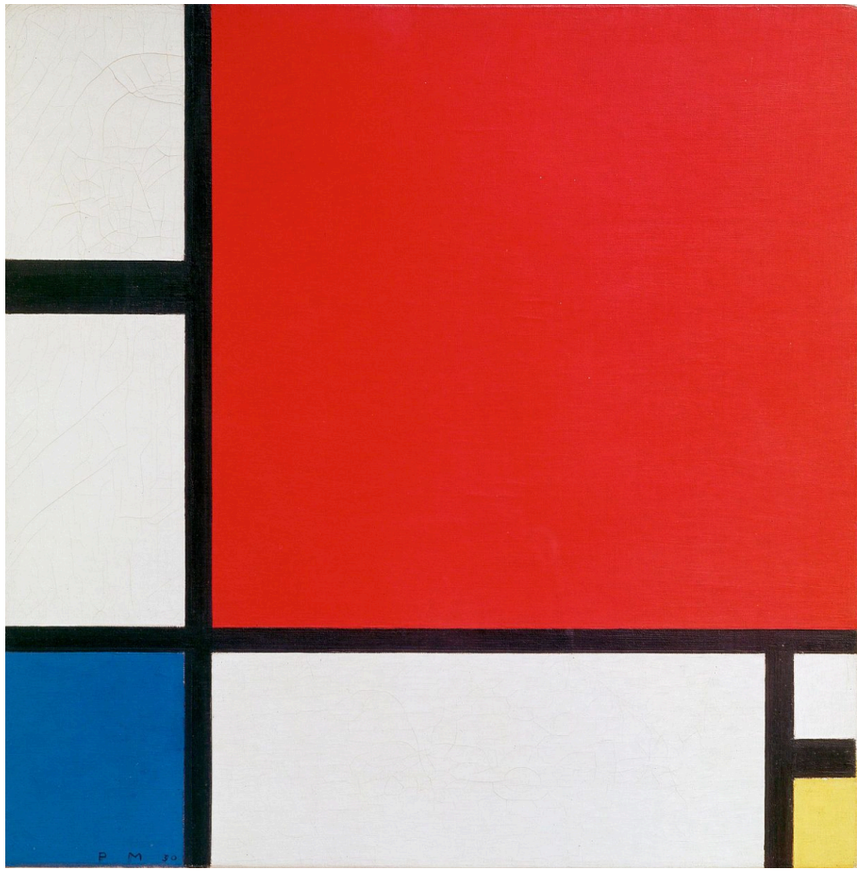
- **Shape can be Geometric (usually man-made) or Organic (usually natural objects/subjects)**



TYPES OF SHAPE

- Just like line, different shapes can be used to transmit different emotions and create different psychological responses!

  - **Squares and Rectangles** = strength and stability
  - **Circles and Ellipses** = continuous movement
  - **Triangles** can lead the eye in an upward movement
  - **Inverted Triangles** can create a sense of imbalance and tension



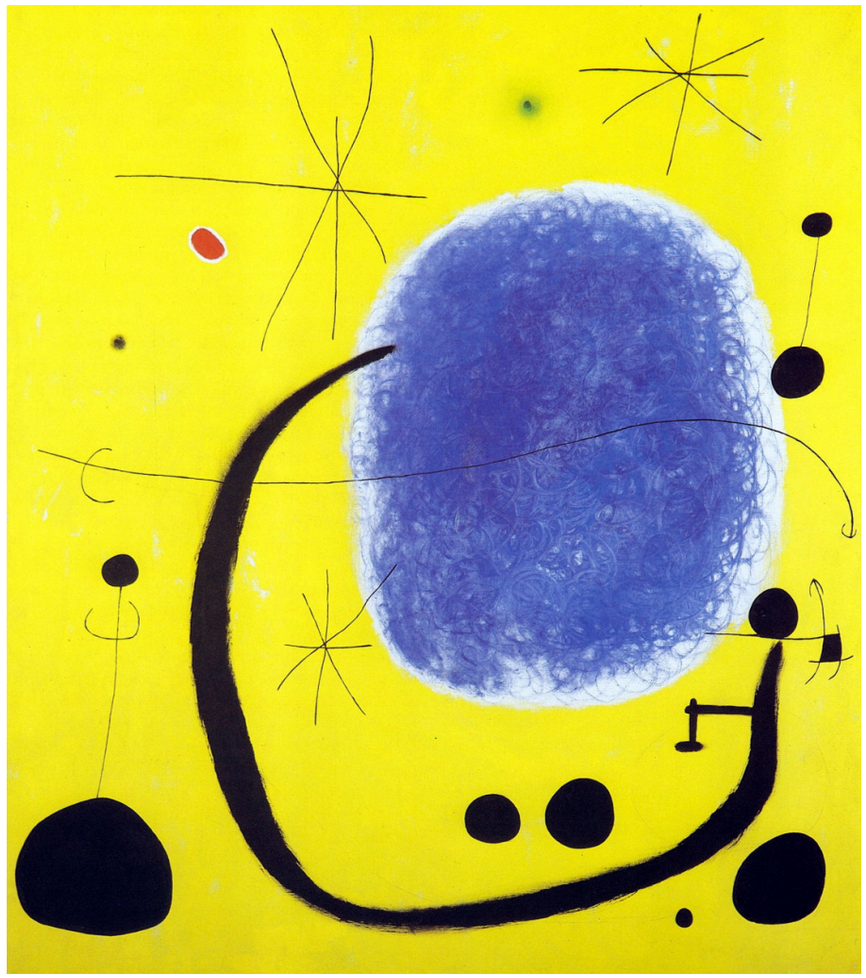
Piet Mondrian, *Composition II in Red, Blue, and Yellow*, 1930



Joan Miró, *Untitled,* 1947

PRINCIPLE OF ART 1: CONTRAST

- **Contrast is created by any kind of notable difference, whether it be in color, value, size, texture, etc.**
- It is used to create visual interest, drama, and to intensify certain elements, usually focal points.
- Think of *opposites*



Juan Miró, *The Gold of Blue,* 1967



Vincent van Gogh, *Wheatfield with Crows*,1890

PRINCIPLE OF ART 2: VARIETY

- **Variety is achieved by using different shapes, sizes, and/or colors in a work of art.**

- **When an artist places different visual elements next to one another, he/she is using variety.** Straight lines next to curvy lines, organic shapes among geometric shapes, bright colors next to dull colors add variety.

- **Variety is the principle of art that adds interest to an artwork. Having no variety is boring!**



Van Gogh, *Road with Cypress and Star*, 1890.

CUBISM–HISTORY

- **Cubism is an art movement that made its debut in 1907.**
- **Pioneered by Pablo Picasso and Georges Braque.**
- **Cubism is considered the first abstract style of modern art** and it evolved at the beginning of the 20th century in response to a world that was changing with unprecedented speed.



Pablo Picasso, *Still Life with Mandolin and Guitar*, 1924



Georges Braque, *Viaduct at L'Estaque*, 1908

CUBISM

- **Their objective was to develop a new way of seeing which mirrored the modern age.**
- **The Cubists challenged conventional forms of representation, such as perspective,** which had been the rule since the Italian Renaissance.
- Cubist artists started integrating collage (or the collage *look*) into painting.



Pablo Picasso, *Weeping Woman*, 1937



Juan Gris, *Violin and Glass*,1915



Umberto Boccioni, *Dynamism of a Soccer Player*, 1913

CUBISM- CHARACTERISTICS

- Characterized by **fragmented objects/subjects deconstructed in such a way that it can be viewed from multiple angles simultaneously.**
- **Flat planes and distorted perspective**
- Doesn't imitate nature



Eugene Ivanov, *Labyrint,* 2009.



Auguste Herbin, *Landscape in Ceret,* 1913

ART ASSIGNMENT #2:

- **Create two quick sketches using line and shape intentionally:**

  a) One that shows stability, calm and order

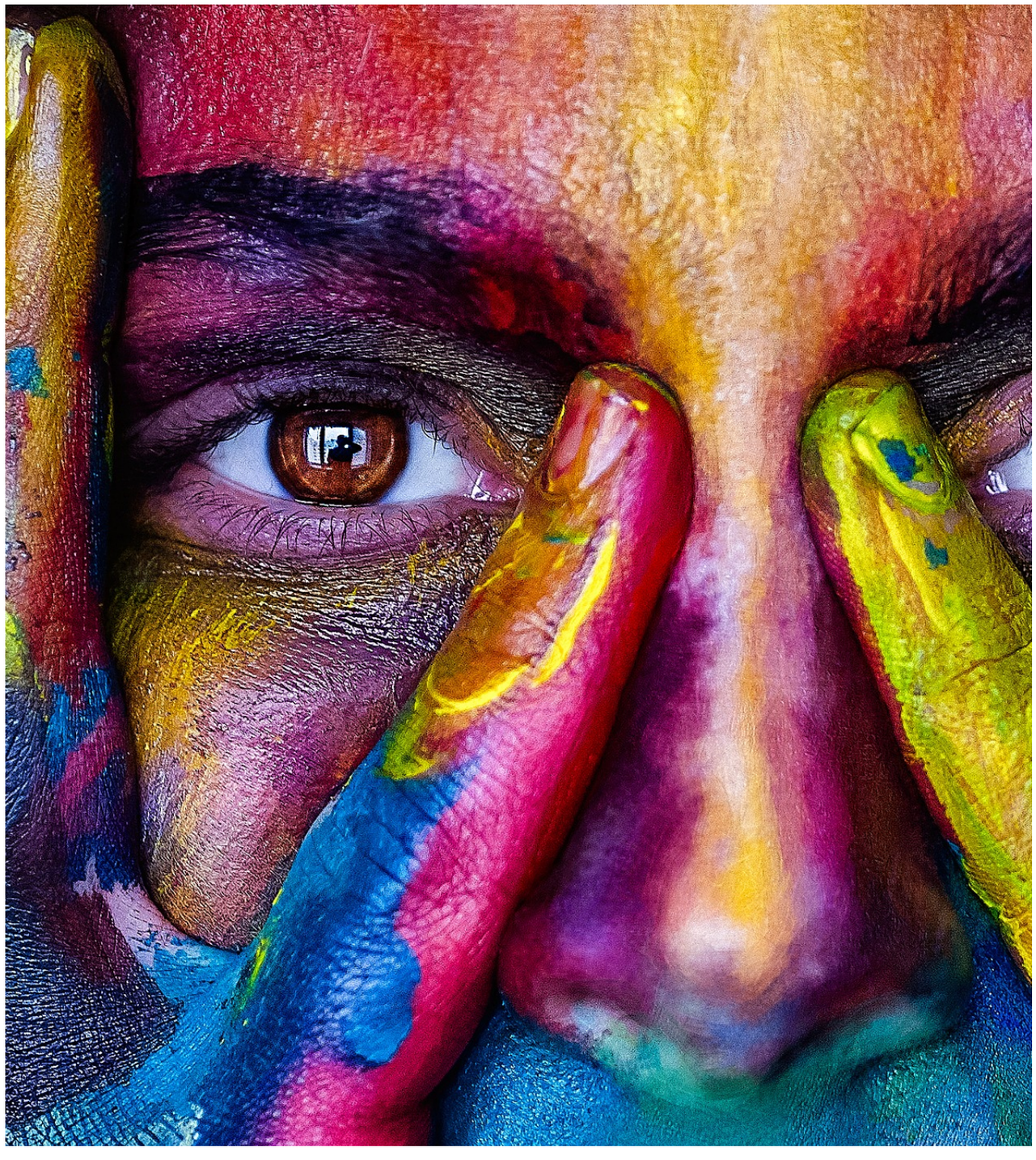
  b) One that transmits movement and energy

- **Bring in contrast to your composition by making use of size, color, value and/or texture.**

- **Suggested art style to explore: Cubism**

- **Have fun and be creative! :)**

ARTISTIC PROCESS *SUGGESTED* STAGES



1. Dream it

2. Plan + Prepare

3. Execution

4. End it (or repeat it)

5. Evaluate + Reflect

Staying mindful of these helps you keep moving forward!