

Vocab squares

Art Word - **Gestural**

In a sentence:

When an artist uses gestural marks, they often create bold, sweeping, and dynamic strokes that capture the essence and vitality of their subject. These marks can be loose, rapid, and sometimes even chaotic, reflecting the artist's emotions and intentions.

Definition:

the term "gestural" refers to a style or technique that emphasizes the expressive and spontaneous use of brushstrokes or other mark-making tools

Etymology:

The word "gestural" has its roots in the Latin word "gestus," which means "gesture" or "action." Over time this made its way into the English language as "gestural."

Visual example



Art Word - Positive and Negative space

In a sentence:

In Robert Kushner's artwork, **positive space** is often represented by **vibrant and detailed elements**. On the other hand, **negative space** refers to the areas around and between the main subjects. It is the **empty or unoccupied space** that surrounds the positive elements. . The empty spaces between the objects create a sense of movement and allow the viewer's eyes to rest.

Definition

Positive space refers to the main subject or object in a composition. It is the area that commands attention and holds the viewer's focus.

Negative space, on the other hand, is the empty or background area surrounding the subject. It is the space that surrounds and defines the positive space.

Etymology

The terms "positive space" and "negative space" originated from the field of graphic design and were later adopted by the art community. The concept of positive and negative space can be traced back to the early 20th century when artists and designers began exploring the relationship between objects and their surrounding space.

Visual example



Art Word - **The grid**

In a sentence:

The artist used the **grid** to combine different subject matter.

Definition:

In design and art, a **grid** is a structure made up of intersecting straight (vertical, horizontal, and angular) or curved lines (**grid lines**) used to structure content. It can be regular or irregular, symmetrical or asymmetrical.

Visual example



Art Word - **Grisaille**

The artist David Salle used the **grisaille** technique to create a stunning monochromatic portrait, using shades of gray over a single colour ground to capture the subtle nuances of light and shadow.

Definition:

Grisaille is a painting technique that uses shades of gray and black over a single colour ground in order to create depth

noun: **grisaille**

Origin: French

mid 19th century: French, from gris 'grey'.

Visual Example



Art Word - **Silhouette**

In a sentence:

The artist skillfully used the technique of **silhouette** to create a striking contrast between the darkened outline of the subject and the vibrant background.

Definition:

silhouette • \sil-uh-WET\ • noun.

1 a : a picture (as a drawing or cutout) of the outline of an object filled in with a solid usually black color b : a profile portrait done in silhouette

2 : the shape or outline of something; especially : the outline of an object seen or as if seen against the light.

Visual example



Images sources:

- *Eduardo Icaza, When I come back you won't recognise me, oil on canvas, 210 x 140 cm, 2015*
<https://eduardomataicasa.com/en/artworks>
- *Robert Kushner, Byobo II, 2015, monoprint, unique collage with screened colors, 34 x 60 inches*
<https://www.robertkushnerstudio.com/blog/robert-kushner-monoprints-pace-prints>
- David Salle, Angels in the Rain (1998) at the Saatchi gallery.
https://www.saatchigallery.com/artist/david_salle
- David Salle, Comedy, Oil and acrylic on canvas, two panels, 96 1/4 x 144 1/8 inches (244.5 x 366 cm) overall, 1995
<https://www.guggenheim.org/artwork/artist/david-salle>
- Penny Howard, Molly's Cape, Acrylic on Board, 2014,
<https://www.whitespace.co.nz/artists/penny-howard>