



COMPOSITION

What is it & Why do we need it?

When you look at a successful painting, that is interesting and captivating, chances are it has a strong compositional structure. Possibly, more than one! Compositional structures are the visual rules with which creative elements are organized. These structures are not set in stone and can work together, and often do.

Types of Composition



Vertical



Horizontal



Diagonal



**Cross, "L" Shape
or Radiating**



Unbalanced

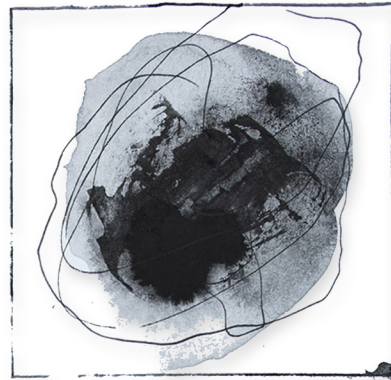


**Three Points
Composition**

Types of Composition



Radiating



Circular



Grid/ Rule of Thirds



Overlapping Frames



Curvilinear

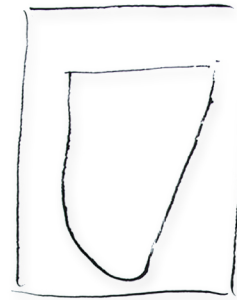


Constellations

How does **Composition work** in your painting?

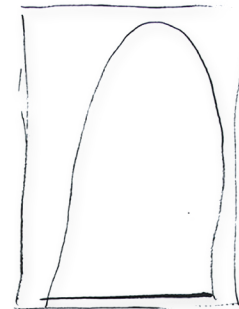
Composition is not only the structure that holds your work together but it is also the message behind your painting. Often with abstract art it is hard to understand yourself what is it that you are trying to convey. Hence composition helps set the mood of your work and communicates the idea, energy and emotion.

With compositional structures in mind your work becomes more intentional, thus more mature and more professional.



V Shape

Happiness/ positivity
(as elements go up in
a v shape)



Bell shape

Bell shape
down, sadness



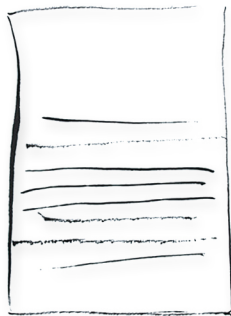
Circular

Circular movement
would signify - Harmony



Vertical

Vertical movement would signify festivity, victory.



Horizontal

Horizontal movement would translate as tranquility, stability



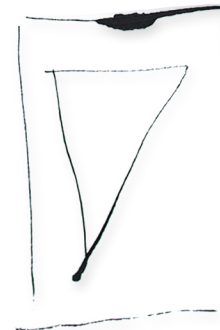
Cross or radiating

Cross or radiating movement would read as dynamic composition and can signify conflict, clash, or turmoil. this does not necessarily mean something negative but it would be the opposite of tranquil.



Stability Triangle

Where elements aligned in perfect trio. usually used in religious icons and Renaissance paintings



Reversed Triangle

The opposite of stability



Diagonal Composition

Its a dynamic arrangement and crates a sense of movement across the page, as most of us read left to right bottom to top.

Take a look at the examples below

Each frame contains emotional equivalent or association that comes with the various placements.



Three Points



Overlapping Frames



Curvilinear