Form, Volume, Mass, Texture
Terms

- **Elements**
  - The basic vocabulary of art: line, form, shape, volume, etc—basic vocabulary
- **Principles**
  - The ways elements of art are constructed in a work of art—the grammar, like language, how words and rules create the structure of a sentence.
- **3-Dimensional (3-D)**
  - Having height, width, and depth
- **Shape**
  - A 2-d area the boundaries are defined by lines or suggested by changes of color or value
- **2-Dimensional (2-D)**
  - Having height and width
- **Form**
  - An object that can be defined in 3 dimensions
- **Scale**
  - The size of an object/artwork or to a system of measurement
- **Volume**
  - The space filled or enclosed by a 3D object or figure

- **Mass**
  - A volume that has gives the illusion of having or not having weight density and bulk
- **Perspective**
  - The creation of the illusion of depth in a 2-d image by using a mathematical projection system (1 point, 2 point, isometric)
- **Texture**
  - The surface quality of a work, for example fine coarse, detailed, fuzzy
- **Space**
  - The distance between identifiable points and planes
- **Geometric Form**
  - 3D form composed of regular planes and curves
- **Plane**
  - A flat surface often implied in the composition
- **Organic Form**
  - 3D form made up of irregular planes that suggest the natural world
Terms cont.

- In the round
  - Freestanding work that can be viewed from all sides

- Facade
  - Any side of a building

- Foreground
  - Part nearest to viewer

- High Relief
  - A carved panel where the figures project with a great deal of depth from the background

- Bas-Relief
  - Sculpture carved with very little depth

- Steele
  - Upright stone slab decorated with inscriptions or pictorial relief carvings

- Composition
  - Overall design or organization of a work

- Focal Point
  - Center of interest in a work often drawing the viewer to the most important elements

- Axis
  - Imaginary line showing the center of a shape volume or composition
A 2D object is known as a shape, shapes are flat and have no mass or volume.

A 3D object is known as a Form. It occupies space and exists and a real and solid way.

Can we think of what could potentially change the experience of viewing a 3D Form?
Geometric Form

Geometric form are regular and readily expressible in terms of mathematics, using changes in planes to define the form.
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David Smith, Cubi XXI, 1964

https://youtu.be/7VJfTQtmrE0?list=PLrJYPQk6MedRhzTsSrOgtaq6ihOVAcz7E
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Aranda/Lasch, Primitives, Design Miami, 2010

https://youtu.be/t6KoTNt2_WY
Organic Form

Organic Form: Irregular characteristics that mimic the forms in nature.

Roettgen Pieta, c1330, Middle Rhine Region, twisted forms, wooden material, what feelings do organic forms convey vs geometric?
**Organic Form/Abstract**

Organic Form: Irregular characteristics that mimic the forms in nature.

Abstract: art imagery that departs from recognizable images from the natural world; can be altered from a recognizable form.

Henry Moore

Isamu Noguchi
Relief and “In the Round”

Relief Sculpture Projects inward or outward on a flat surface.

In the Round is a sculpture the viewer can walk around and is freestanding

Imperial procession Ara Pacis Augustae 13BCE
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Imperial procession Ara Pacis Augustae 13BCE

Stele-relief sculpture holding some design or writing/a marker. In the stele of Hammurabi it was laws of babylon in cuneiform script

- Victory stele of Naram Sin
- Stele of Hammurabi 1792bce
- https://youtu.be/_w5NGOHiqTw
- https://youtu.be/HbZ2asfyHcA
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Imperial procession Ara Pacis Augustae 13BCE

Bas Relief- Victory of Naram sin, the carving is nearly on the same plane as the background. Low relief

- Victory stele of Naram Sin
- Stele of Hammurabi 1792bce
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Relief and “In the Round”

In the Round is a sculpture the viewer can walk around and is freestanding.

- [https://youtu.be/REeBUSYRzRo](https://youtu.be/REeBUSYRzRo)
- Lysippos, Apoxyomenos (Scraper), c. 330 B.C.E. (Roman copy)
**Volume**

VOLUME is the amount of space occupied by an object. Solid objects have a volume. So do objects that enclose an empty space.

Volume can be an enclosure, such as this atrium. A volume of empty space.
Volume

VOLUME is the amount of space occupied by an object. Solid objects have a volume. So do objects that enclose an empty space.

Open volume, suggesting a volume without being completely solid.


625 miniature cardboard submarines

[https://youtu.be/sajdbmiicJk](https://youtu.be/sajdbmiicJk)
Volume

VOLUME is the amount of space occupied by an object. Solid objects have a volume. So do objects that enclose an empty space—negative space, implied space by the absence of material.

Vladimir Tatlin, Monument to the third international, 1919-1920

https://youtu.be/dlWdEJiv0T1
Mass is the suggestion of Volume, something appears heavy or light.

Question, does this image appear to have high mass or low mass, how does it differ from the stone Pyramids?
Mass

https://youtu.be/2Rx_V7OnHeA

Rachael Whiteread, House 1993

This piece casts the form of the house making a 1:1 copy
Texture

Any 3-D sculpture or object can be touched and have texture, the tactile sensation we experience.

Anish Kapoor, Cloudgate 2004, Chicago
Texture

Any 3-D sculpture or object can be touched and have texture, the tactile sensation we experience

Jennifer Bornstein, American, born 1970

_Gorgeous Early Collectors’ Kodak Retina Camera with Leather Case-IIIC, 2014_

Frottage, Rubbing of 3-D texture with charcoal to apply the texture on paper.

Active Learning Assignment

Try your hand at frottage, find objects that have tactile qualities and try to make rubbings of them in your sketchbook.