

## **Asymmetry and Value**

### **ART 1000 Foundations 1**

Instructor: David Mazure

Due date: Wednesday, October 21<sup>st</sup> (at the beginning of class)

With this assignment, you will focus on creating **two** interesting compositions using asymmetry. Using ink and acrylic paint or gouache as your primary medium you will create two asymmetrical compositions to be turned in for a grade. (Markers may be used minimally as a supplemental medium). The final presentation should be mounted in the standard fashion - onto black illustration board with a 1" border. It will be your decision whether or not you mount them together or separately.

Ink is a very supple and powerful medium. Using it in the capacity of pure tone, or with washes (diluting it with water), you can create rich value tones. Acrylic paint can be equally as effective, but it's consistency and tone read very differently from ink. It is important that you comprehend the difference between these mediums and how to use them together and when not to use them together. Therefore, we will experiment with both.

The purpose is to introduce you to new mediums, and to explore value and tone as a means of organizing space and creating composition.

#### Criteria:

- Paint and ink can be hard to control, so you will need to experiment with them first. Let's not forget that as an end result you want to make a GOOD composition that is energetic, not static. So what can you do with ink and paint? Think about fields of tone/value, and shapes that have a gradation in value. Also, what about simple marks you make as lines? Not every mark needs to be made with the brush itself. What about using a stick, the end of your brush, a toothbrush, a pinecone, the tip of your nose? What about splattering? Experiment – be creative!
- Think about what you learned through your Value reading and homework assignment. Think about using high contrast, low contrast, atmospheric perspective, and/or a wide range of value.
- You must **first** make an inventory of different marks and approaches to value and tone as you experiment with these materials. **At least 15 different kinds of marks and 10 different attempts at manipulation of the ink and paint as a means of value and attempting to achieve a large value range.**
- **Next**, you must make at least 10 separate thumbnail sketches of ideas for your compositions. You must use your ink and/or paint to complete these sketches.
- Your compositions will focus on three things:
  - 1) Asymmetry
  - 2) Value
  - 3) Movement

#### Final Project:

Your final compositions will be completed on 6"x6" pieces of Bristol board. If you choose to, for this project you are open to experiment with other papers, such as watercolor paper (which might work well for this project). But, before you choose to use a different type of paper, please speak with me about it first.

So, you may be wondering what these compositions should look like? Well, they can look like anything you want as long as you are using asymmetry, value, and movement. My advice is to not make your composition representational, but instead make it more abstract. Based on your readings you know full well that value can be used very successfully to express emotion and mood. Maybe your composition's only purpose is to express this certain mood or emotion. Your final project must have a title. The title should represent whatever it is you are attempting to convey. Be creative, your title cannot be wrong!

Media: Ink and acrylic or gouache (with the supplement of markers for definition) on Bristol board or other paper that has been approved by me.

Size: 6" square mounted onto an 8" square of black illustration board.

