

# The Heckscher Museum of Art

## EXHIBITION GUIDE FOR TEACHERS



Joe Constantino, *Boys on Ice*, 1973 (printed 2001). Heckscher Museum of Art; Gift of the Artist.

### THE ART OF NARRATIVE

## Timeless Tales and Visual Vignettes

April 15 , 2017 - April 15, 2018

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## ABOUT THE EXHIBITION

Narrative art tells a story. One gallery in this exhibition displays artwork that dates from the 16th century to the early 21st century. These works depict stories from the Bible, mythology, literature, and history. The second gallery contains paintings, sculptures, works on paper, and photographs which portray a wide range of human experiences and emotions. Every work in this exhibition reminds us that a picture really is “worth a thousand words.”



Adolf Schreyer, *Arab Horsemen, Defeat and Hate*, 1863. Heckscher Museum of Art; August Heckscher Collection.

## ARTISTS IN THE EXHIBITION

Martino Altomonte  
William Holbrook Beard  
H. Brackner  
Federico Castellon  
Alonzo Chappel  
Joe Constantino  
William Richard Crutchfield  
Johann Mengels Culverhouse  
Melchior D'hondecoeter  
Giacinto Diano  
Donald Harcourt De Lue  
Arthur G. Dove  
Alfred Emslie  
Gary Erbe  
François Girardon  
George Grosz

N. Jay Jaffee  
Daniel Ridgway Knight  
William Robinson Leigh  
Martina Lopez  
Mark Markov-Grinberg  
Richard Thorpe McLean  
Henry Varnum Poor  
Auguste Raffet  
Andreas Rentsch  
Boardman Robinson  
John Rogers  
James Rosenquist  
Adolf Schreyer  
Cornelis Verbeeck  
Anthonie Verstraelen  
Alice Morgan Wright

## EXHIBITION-RELATED WEBSITES

H. Brackner, *Roger Williams Leaving Salem Under Obloquy*  
**Roger Williams biography:** [history.com/topics/roger-williams](http://history.com/topics/roger-williams)

Alonzo Chappel, *Washington at the Battle of Monmouth*  
**Battle of Monmouth information:** [tinyurl.com/battleofmonmouth](http://tinyurl.com/battleofmonmouth)

Melchior D'hondecoeter, *Stripped of Borrowed Feathers; The Raven-Jackdaw*  
**Aesop's Fable of the Vain Jackdaw:** [tinyurl.com/vainjackdaw](http://tinyurl.com/vainjackdaw)

François Girardon, *The Rape of Proserpine*  
**Greek mythology story:** [tinyurl.com/greekmythforkids](http://tinyurl.com/greekmythforkids)

N. Jay Jaffee, *Chariot of Victory*  
**Goddess of Victory:** [ancient.eu/nike](http://ancient.eu/nike)

## EXHIBITION-RELATED VOCABULARY

**abstract:** A work of art that does not show a real person, place, or thing; abstract art focuses on formal elements, such as color, shape, and line.

**composition:** The arrangement or placement of objects or design elements within a work of art.

**figure:** The representation of a human or animal subject.

**geometric shape:** A shape that obeys the laws of geometry. Geometric shapes have definitions or rules for their creation (ex: a square has four equal sides at right angles).

**horizon line:** The line where the earth meets the sky.

**interpretation:** A viewer's personal meaning or understanding of a work of art. Viewers often have different interpretations from one another of the same work of art.

**landscape:** A work of art showing an outdoor place.

**movement:** The act or process of changing place or position. Movement may be actual or implied by the arrangement of artistic elements that move the eye around the **composition**.

**narrative:** A work of art that illustrates part of a story.

**organic shapes:** A shape with flowing, natural edges that cannot be "defined" by any set of rules.

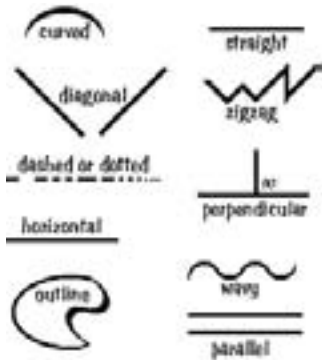
**pattern:** The regular repetition of colors, lines, shapes, or other elements in a work of art.

**portrait:** A work of art depicting a person or animal.

# ELEMENTS OF ART

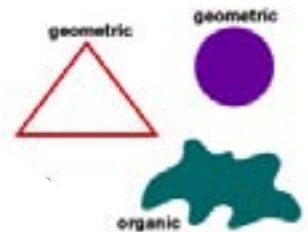
The Elements of Art are the “building blocks” or language of art. They are intended as guidance in discussing artwork in which one or more particular element or principle is demonstrated.

## ELEMENTS OF ART



**LINE** refers to the continuous mark made on a surface by a moving point. It may be two-dimensional, like a pencil mark on paper, three-dimensional, like wire in space, or implied, like the edge of a shape/form.

**SHAPE** is an enclosed space defined by a line or edge. Shapes may be **geometric**, meaning they have set rules for construction (ex: a square is comprised of four equal sides) or **organic** (ex: a flowing, natural edge that cannot be “defined” by any set rules).



**COLOR** has 3 properties:

1. **Hue** is the name of the color (ex: red, yellow).
2. **Intensity** is the purity or strength of the color (ex: brightness, dullness).
3. **Value** is the lightness or darkness of the color.



**Primary Colors** are the colors from which all colors are mixed. (red, yellow, blue)

**Secondary Colors** are colors created by mixing the primary colors. (orange, green, purple)

**Tertiary Colors** are colors created by mixing one primary and one secondary color. (ex: blue + green = blue-green)

**Complimentary Colors** are colors that are across from one another on the color wheel (red and green, yellow and purple)

**Analogous Colors** are colors that are side-by-side on the color wheel. (ex: red, orange, yellow)

**FORM** is three-dimensional and encloses volume. (ex: cubes, spheres, cylinders)



**TEXTURE** is the surface quality or “feel” of an object (ex: roughness, smoothness, softness). Texture may be **implied** or **actual**.



**SPACE** refers to the distance or area between, around, above, or within things. It can be both two-dimensional and three-dimensional. **Positive space** refers to the space occupied by the subject of a work of art. **Negative space** refers to the space not occupied by the subject of a work of art, or the “empty” space.



## SELECT IMAGES

# THE ART OF NARRATIVE

## Timeless Tales and Visual Vignettes



William Holbrook Beard, *Give Up That Egg*, 1891. Heckscher Museum of Art; August Heckscher Collection.

## SELECT IMAGES

# ∞ THE ART OF NARRATIVE ∞ Timeless Tales and Visual Vignettes



John Rogers, *Checkers at the Farm*, 1875. Heckscher Museum of Art; Gift of Hersh and Fern Cohen.

## SELECT IMAGES

# ∞ THE ART OF NARRATIVE ∞ Timeless Tales and Visual Vignettes



Martina Lopez, *Heirs Come to Pass, 3*, 1991. Heckscher Museum of Art; Gift of the Artist in honor of Merrill Sindler and Alfredo "Chip" Lopez. © Martina Lopez.



## SELECT IMAGES

# ∞ THE ART OF NARRATIVE ∞ Timeless Tales and Visual Vignettes



Mark Markov-Grinberg, *A Mother's Anguish, Ruins of Orlov City*, 1942. Heckscher Museum of Art; Gift of George and Alexandra Stephanopoulos.



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Adolf Schreyer, *Arab Horsemen, Defeat and Hate*, 1863. Heckscher Museum of Art; August Heckscher Collection.