

Project 1: LINE DYNAMICS

Due: September 13

Problem: Develop two dynamic, non-representational designs, using line, shape and texture. Mount them compositions on one board.

Objectives:

- To fully engage the edges of each composition.
- To create an illusion of space.
- To experiment with forms of balance.
- To explore ways of increasing visual impact.

Materials: Black felt markers and sheets of 8.5" x 11" drawing paper.

Strategy: Use thumbnail sketches to rough draft at least ten ideas.

- Pay special attention to the edge of the composition. When a line or shape intersects this edge, the composition can visually extend beyond the page and into the viewer's world.
- Overlap, variations in size, location and degrees of definition can be used to increase the illusion of space. The illusion of space gives more room for movement, increasing the overall energy in the design.
- Experiment with forms and degrees of balance. Symmetrical balance is often used when stability is needed, while asymmetrical balance is generally more dynamic.

Reading: Chapter 3.

Working in larger scale, you can more fully explore the inherent dynamism of line. Dynamic designs are generally dominated by diagonals and curves, which tend to suggest movement and imply change. When lines are connected, shapes can be formed, adding variety and complexity to the design.

This seemingly simple assignment actually provides an overview of the elements and principles of design. To create a dynamic design, you must understand balance and use it effectively. By creating the illusion of space, you can suggest movement from foreground to background. Also, a focal point can provide a dramatic pivot point for the entire composition.

Consider:

- Develop means by which compositions have been unified.
- Develop dominant and subordinate visual patterns.
- How deep is the space in the composition?
- How does spatial depth contribute to visual dynamism?
- Is there a dominant movement in the composition?
- If so, how was this movement created?

