## SYMMETRY

- 1. Translation
- 2. Rotation
- 3. Reflection
- 4. Glide reflection

#### Translation

• All points in a figure are moved the same distance in the same direction.









- M. C. Escher used translations (and other transformations) to achieve a tessellation (also known as <u>tiling</u>, <u>mosaic</u>, or <u>paving</u>) of the plane
- A tessellation is a set of polygonal regions that cover the plane without gaps and without overlap.
- In art, tessellation is sometimes also known as a regular division of the plane.





- Tessellation is based on the principle of the <u>double function of</u> <u>contour lines</u>.
- A contour line is the outline or edge of a figure.
- Each contour line defines the shapes of two figures, on either side of it.





#### **Rotation**

- A figure is turned on an angle.
- This angle is the **fixed point** of the rotation.









 Translations and rotations may be used to generate a sense of rhythm and development





#### Reflection

Preserves shape (distances) but alters "handedness".

- The figure is "flipped".
- Its right-hand side and lefthand side are exchanged.



- Reflection is <u>not</u> order preserving.
  - The points in the image do not have the same order as the points in the original.
- Reflection is an <u>order reversing</u> transformation.
- One cannot move one figure and fit on top of the other figure without taking it off the flat plane and reversing it in 3D space.



- Rotations and translations, on the other hand, are order preserving.
  - We can move one image onto the other without taking it off the flat plane and onto space.





#### Moiré patterns

- Moiré is interference that can be seen when overlaying similar patterns.
- It is a special case of counterpoint.
- The result is strongly dynamic and unstable.











- Moiré patterns may sometimes produce an <u>alias pattern</u>.
- <u>Aliasing</u> occurs when a new pattern is visually apparent – but was not present in the source patterns.





- A similar instability can also be produced without any moiré patterns.
- Bridget Riley often created such effects by means of <u>thin curved lines</u> packed close together.
- The effect is of intense flowing movement across the image.



# Bridget Riley



• Similarity combined with gradual change can give an impression of motion.







### **Victor Vasarely**

Irregular progression can also create a sense of depth.

Especially when there is a contrast between cool and warm colors.





- Vasarely has made many designs where the progression bulges <u>out</u> <u>from a center</u>.
- This gives an impression of volume.
  - The two-dimensional design appears three-dimensional.













- Here is one way of organizing such a pattern:
- 1. Draw a square grid.
- 2. Draw a circle within the grid.



- 3. Change the lines <u>inside the circle</u> into arcs.
- 4. Delete the circle to obtain the pattern.





You can also draw a symmetric motif inside the deformed grid.





• There are different ways to organize a progression around the center.





 Different kinds of progression can be combined into one image.



Bridget Riley •

- The previous painting uses a definite geometric progression from the center to the outer edges.
- The gradual change can be seen by making a grid.









- In the previous image, the effect of space is achieved by changing the distance between lines.
- Another important technique is the use of <u>angles</u>.
  - Acute and obtuse angles are often viewed as representatives of threedimensional objects.