



# A DAY IN THE ARTS

## Making art accessible to all

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### WHY COLORS AND KNOWING YOUR COLOR WHEEL ARE IMPORTANT FOR ARTISTS!

By Anna Meenaghan

In a color wheel half of the wheel contains red, orange and yellow and you could say these are warm Colors which seem to move forward. Whereas in the other half of the wheel you have blue, violet and green, which emit coolness and they seem to shrink backwards.

This is very useful, say, if you are doing trees in a landscape picture. If you use blue and green for the distant trees it would make them look as if they are receding. Now, Colors which are into opposition to each, otherwise known as complementary colors.

So, if you place them side by side, one works against another to dominate the space you have. This is very effective when you want to produce contrast and vibrant colors to your work.

Bear in mind that light is the main way we perceive colour all about us. To a lot of people red is red, blue is blue etc., but it does not stop there, you only need to look at the sea or the skies to decide upon that.

No two skies are the same and just look how many shades of colour they may contain. The same applies to the seas with the different greens, blues and sometimes they even look black, depending on the light.

Take a rainbow when the sunlight goes through the raindrops, this is when you get the spectrum. So, if you put these colors into a ring, you have a colour wheel. So, let`s move to colour mixing!

The pure colors, known as the primary colors, are red, yellow and blue, and these cannot be mixed from any other Colors. The secondary colors being orange, green and violet, simply because the consistency is made up from an equal mixture of their two primary colour neighbors in the circle.

This can be stretched even further by mixing in any of the three primary colors with any of the secondary colors. So, as an example, turquoise is the result of blue and green being mixed together. Mixed colors generally seem to have their names derived from flowers or stones. You only need to look at a few labels to

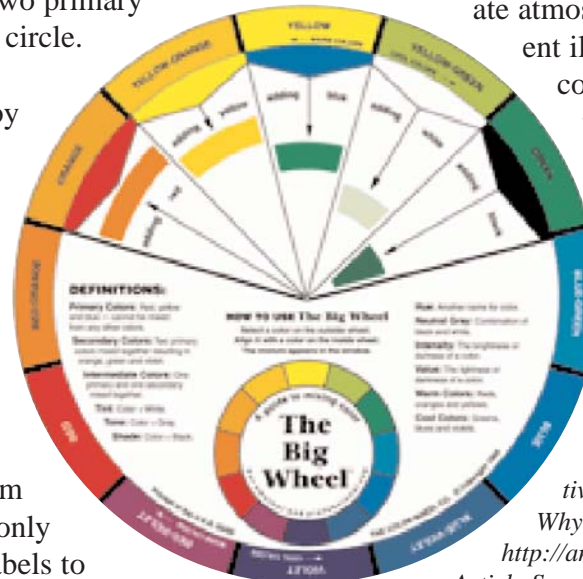
see this.

In a color wheel it will be noticeable that there is no black or white. If light falls on an object, it will take some of its wavelengths, as it were, and bounce back others which will make up the colour before us.

With the color black it soaks them all up and white bounces them all back. Therefore black is a missing color and white is all the colors made into one.

If you take brown as an example. Mix the primaries together and see how many shades you get.

Color quite obviously plays a very important part for artists. It is amazing, you can create atmosphere, emotions, excite, present illusions of realism and even control space. They can also be transparent, opaque, translucent, textured, flat, matt, gloss, dull or vibrant.



*Anna Meenaghan is a contemporary artist that runs an online art community for artists and art lovers alike. There you can find all things art related from canvas art on display to more "How To" articles. The community is a new, interactive, art concept for all varieties of art.*

*Why not have a look for yourself?*

<http://annameenaghanart.com>

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## ART NEWS



The 2008 Western States Horse Expo People's Choice, Untitled by Sarah Lam of Sacramento, California

### HORSESHOW

The Western States Horse Expo, scheduled for June 12-14, 2009 at Cal Expo in Sacramento, California would be honored to have your participation in the best-attended equine art show in the country. Please submit between one and three entries of your best work (up to three entries per division) having to do with horses of all breeds, color, sport, landscape or lifestyle. Ribbons will be awarded for first through third place in each division, along with a "People's Choice" award and a "Best of Show" award. All first place art will be eligible for the "Best of Show" award. "Best of Show" will be awarded \$200.00. More info: <http://www.horsexpo.com/2009ArtShowProspectus.pdf> Entry deadline: April 10, 2009

### LAGUNA CLAY COMPANY

Laguna Clay Company has an on-going competition to be one of their featured artists. If you use their products, you can send them information on your work. Visit their site: <http://tinyurl.com/daqmwv>

### WOMEN'S COMPETITION

The Pen and Brush 2009 juried and curated group exhibitions welcome entries from all women artists internationally and reflect the diversity of contemporary art. The entry deadline is April 15, 2009. Full information: <http://tinyurl.com/cp64bc>

### ART FOUND

Police in New Heaven, CT, have found thousands of dollars worth of art, stolen from a Yale art gallery and a library, in a raid on a home occupied by a drug addict. They think he may have stolen the works to support his habit. <http://tinyurl.com/c4xr7k>

### KRAZY KOOL LEGOS

Explore the world of building with Legos! In this workshop at the Westport Arts Center in Westport, CT, students will construct, layer, and assemble using legos. Each day, students will work together in groups of 4-5 and will focus on the session's theme such as space travel to

city architecture, and wild jungles. At the end of the session, the group will share what they have made. The goal of this workshop is to foster teamwork, friendship and creativity in a fun and exciting environment. <http://tinyurl.com/d9tzo9>

### UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MUSEUM OF ART EXPANSION

On March 28, 2009, the University of Michigan Museum of Art (UMMA) will open a landmark 53,000-square-foot expansion and major restoration of its historic, 41,000-square-foot home, Alumni Memorial Hall. Designed by principal architect Brad Cloepfil and his team at Allied Works Architecture, the \$41.9 million transformation not only more than doubles the space available for collections display,

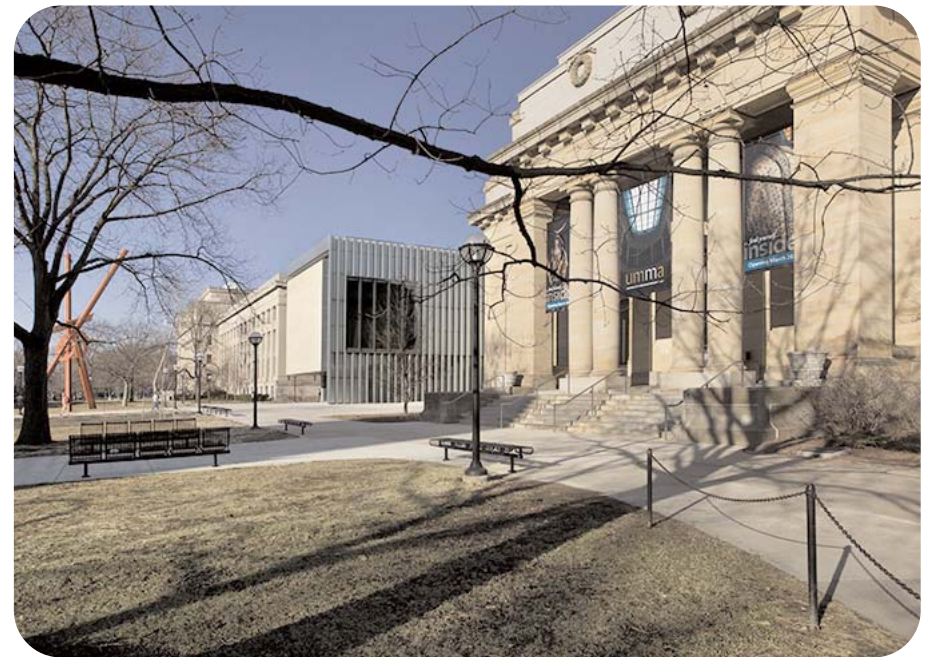


Photo above: Copyright 2009 Richard Barnes and the UM Museum of Art

temporary exhibitions, programs and educational exploration, but also fulfills the Museum's mission to bridge visual art and contemporary culture, scholarship and accessibility, tradition and innovation.

The Museum will reopen with newly installed collections galleries featuring works drawn from the Museum's collections of more than 18,000 works of art and three special exhibitions: Museums in the 21st Century: Concepts, Projects, Buildings, in which UMMA's expansion and restoration figures; Expressions of Vienna: Master Drawings by Klimt and Schiele from the Pulgram-McSparran Collection, highlighting an extraordinary recent gift of artwork by two iconic masters of Austrian Expressionism from two University of Michigan professors; and UMMA Projects: Walead Beshty, which serves to inaugurate the Museum's new signature series focusing on global contemporary art.

### CUBA EXHIBIT

"Twenty-eight US art galleries have been invited to show work at the Museo Nacional de Bellas Artes in Havana, Cuba, for the first time since 1986. Organized by New York art dealers Alberto Magnan and Dara Metz, "Chelsea Visits Havana" opens on 28 March, with the participation of dealers including Andrea Rosen, Sean

Kelly, Barbara Gladstone, Mary Boone and Matthew Marks." Read the full story here: <http://tinyurl.com/bfbm7g>

### GUSTAVE CAILLEBOTTE AT THE BROOKLYN MUSEUM

The first major showing of the work of the French Impressionist Gustave Caillebotte (1848-1894) to be presented in New York in more than thirty years will be on view at the Brooklyn Museum March 27 through July 5, 2009. In 1977, the Museum was a venue for the landmark exhibition that introduced the artist to the American public.

*Gustave Caillebotte:*

*Impressionist Paintings from Paris to the Sea* presents the artist's well-known Parisian cityscapes alongside his painted scenes of outdoor life on the coast of Normandy and in the rural villages of Yerres and Petit Gennevilliers, where he and his family maintained estates. The exhibition will explore for the first time how these paintings express Caillebotte's passion for



Gustave Caillebotte (French, 1848-1894). "Oarsman in a Top Hat", 1877-78. Oil on canvas, 35 7/16 x 46 1/16 in. (90 x 117 cm). Private collection

subjects in which water plays a central role-as an enigmatic magical element reflecting its surroundings; as an essential atmospheric ingredient; and as a scene for sporting activities. Caillebotte approached his motifs with the trained eye and hand of an accomplished rower, yachtsman, and engineer. [www.brooklynmuseum.org](http://www.brooklynmuseum.org)

### WORD OF THE DAY TABLEAU VIVANT

A scene presented on stage by costumed actors who remain silent and motionless as if in a picture. [ta-bloh vee-vahn]

"The beautiful is in nature, and it is encountered under the most diverse forms of reality. Once it is found it belongs to art, or rather to the artist who discovers it."

Gustave Caillebotte

### ART AEROBICS

#### Practice you drawing skills

Use colored pencils to sketch the cover of a DVD you like to watch. Twelve minutes.