

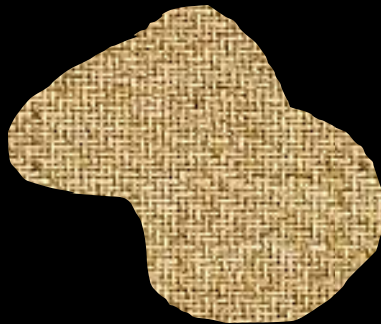
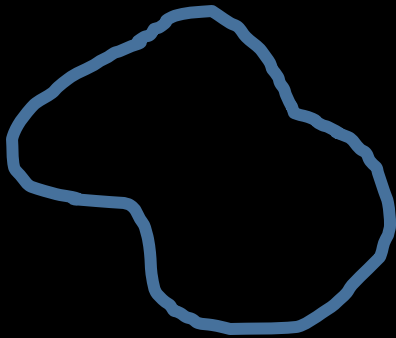
# Elements of Design: Shape & Space

Claudia Jacques de Moraes Cardoso  
2D Design – Art 112

# Shape

A flat enclosed area created when:

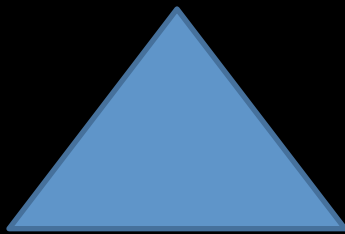
1. A line connects to enclose an area.
2. An area of value, color or texture is defined by a clear boundary.
3. An area is surrounded by other shapes.



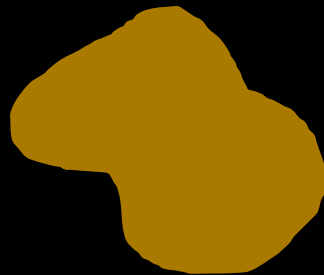
# Shape

Characteristics:

- **Geometric** - A shape that appears related to geometry; such as a triangle, rectangle, square or circle.
- **Organic** - A shape based on forms from the natural world or suggestive of living organisms.
- **Static** - Shapes that appears stable and resting.
- **Dynamic** - Shapes that appears moving and active.



Geometric



Organic



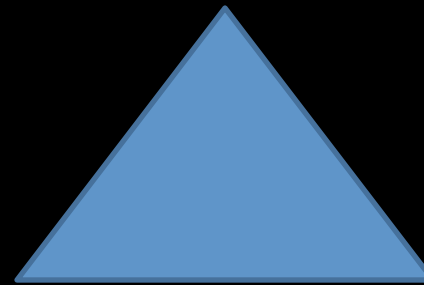
Static



Dynamic

# Shape

- Shapes can vary endlessly and can suggest physical form and direct eye movement.
- Simple shapes are remembered and understood more easily than complex shapes.



Simple Shape

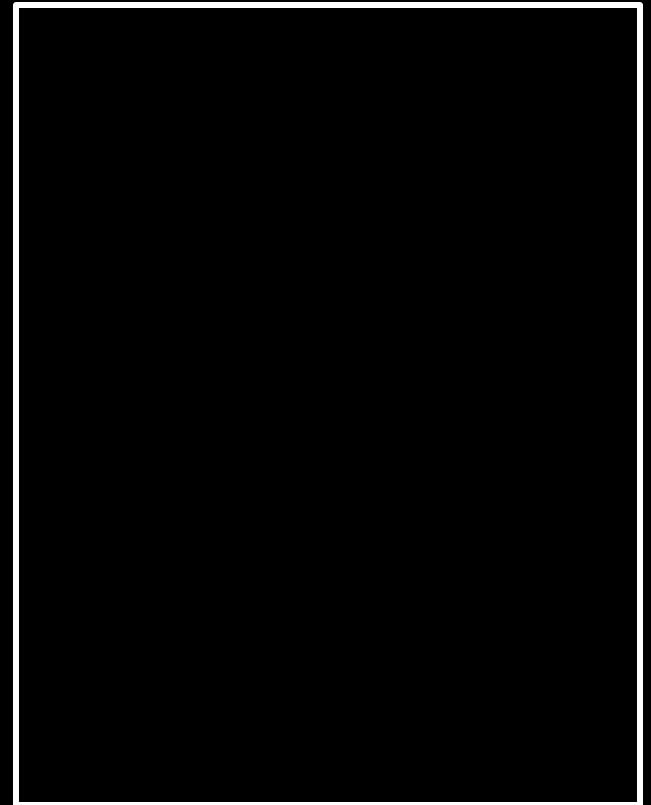


Complex Shape

**Space**

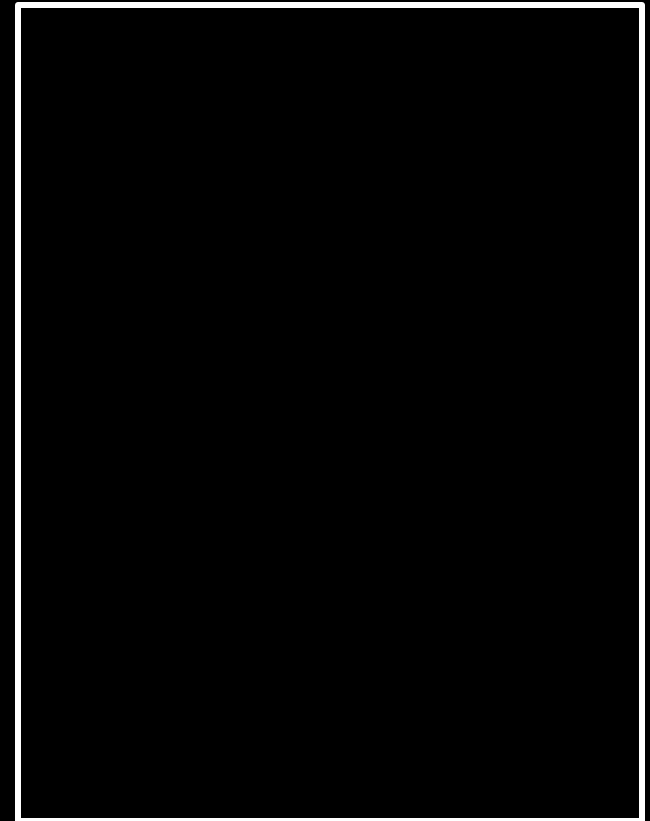
# Space

- 2D = height, width & illusion of depth.
- Area between and around lines, shapes, textures, colors and type.
- Negative space refers to the area of unused or unoccupied area in the field.
- Negative space has shape.



# Space

- Space can also refer to the feeling of depth.
- Real space is three-dimensional.
- In visual art when we can create the feeling or illusion of depth we call it space.
- Space = Ground = Background, field, empty space.

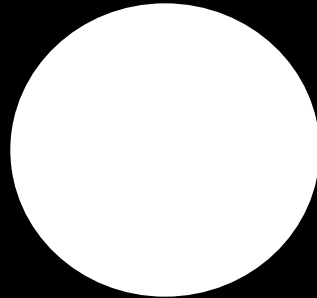


# Shape & Space Relationship

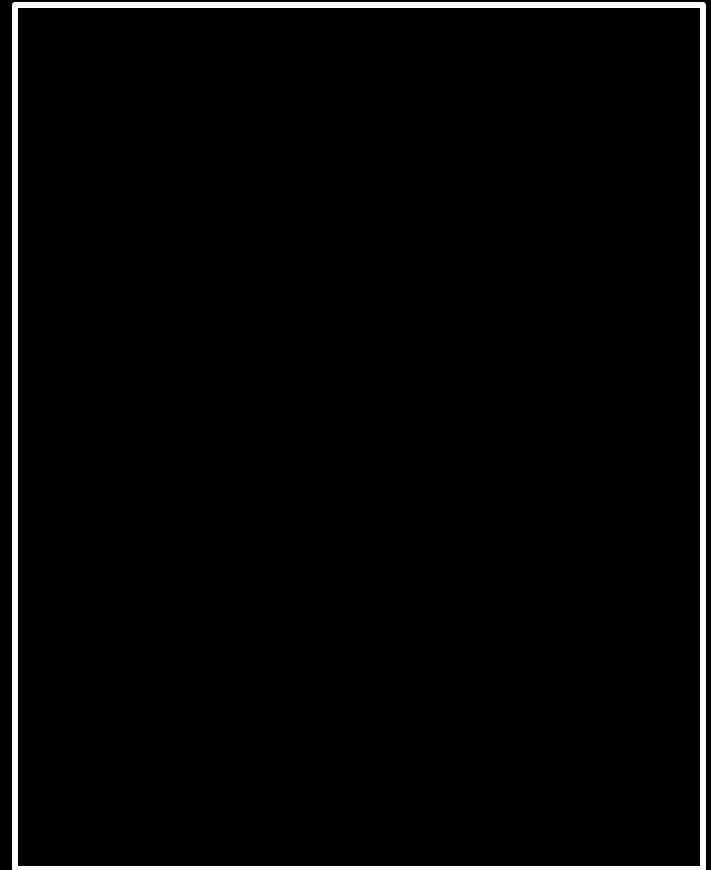


# Shape & Space Relationship

- Shape & Space define figure/ground relationship.
- Shape = Figure
- Space = Ground

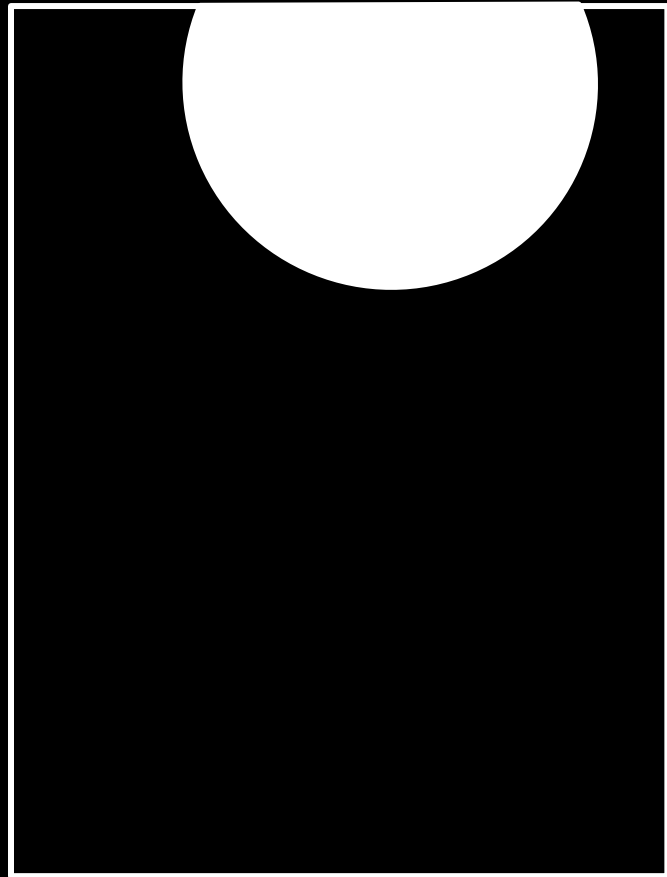
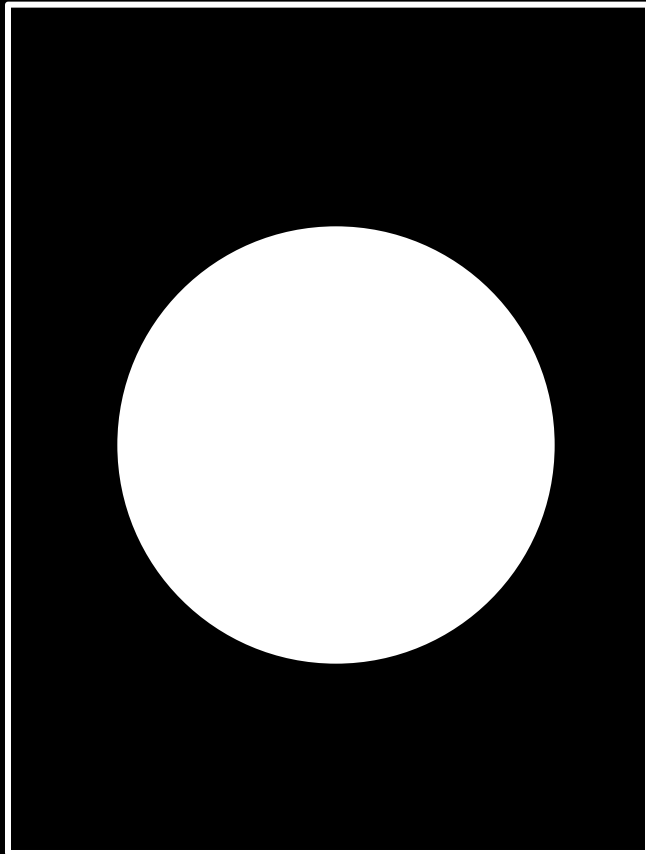


Figure



Ground

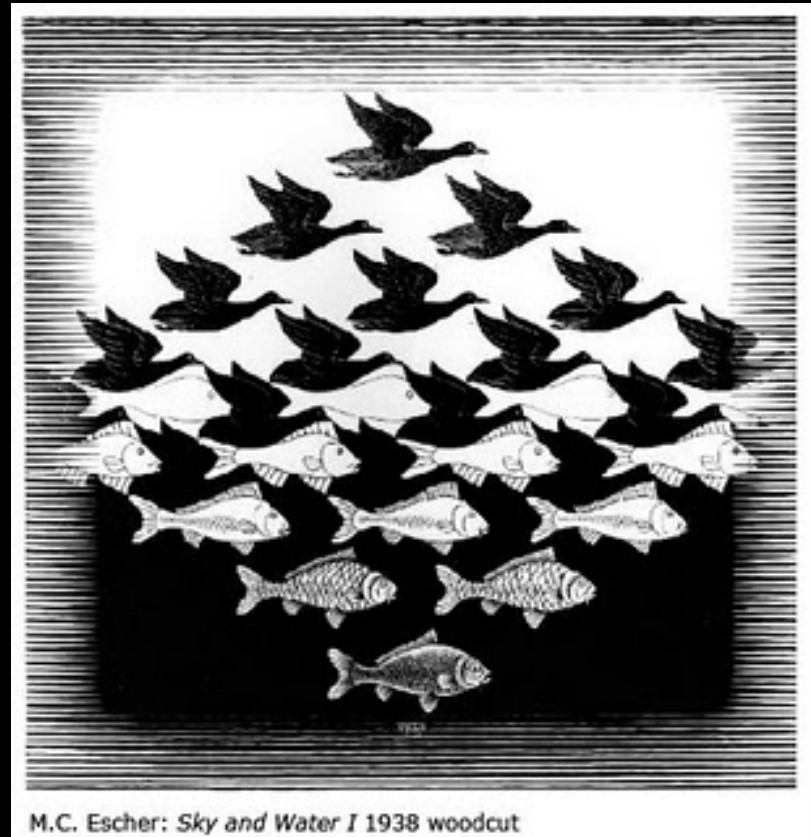
# Shape & Space Relationship



# Shape & Space Relationship

## Figure/Ground Value Reversal

- Ground = background
- Figure = shape, foreground
- Figure/Ground relationship is balanced
- Shape can be read as background.
- Background can be read as shape.
- Figure/Ground value reverse



M.C. Escher: *Sky and Water I* 1938 woodcut

# Conclusion

## Shape:

- It's an element of design.
- Flat enclosed area of value, color, texture, space.
- Characteristics:
  - Geometric
  - Organic
- Simple shapes are easier to remember.
- Shapes can:
  - vary endlessly,
  - suggest physical form,
  - direct eye movement.



simple

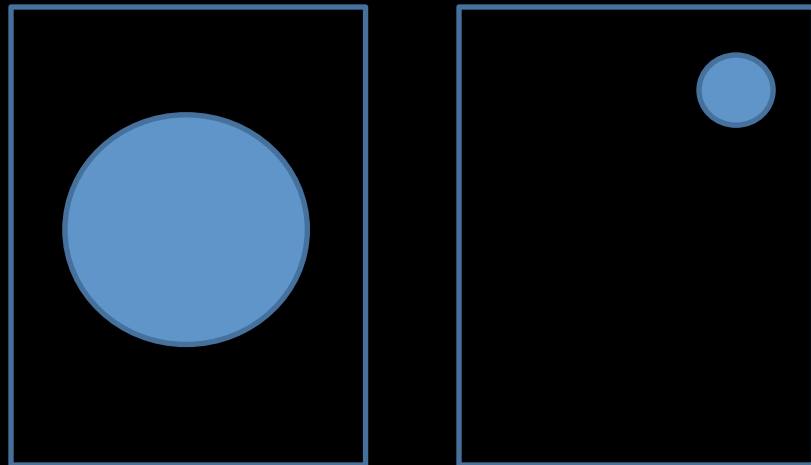


complex

# Conclusion

## Space:

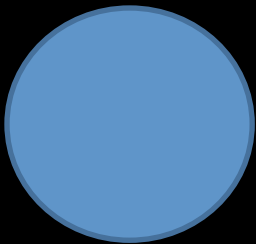
- It's an element of design.
- Area between and around lines, shapes, textures, colors and type.
- Negative space = unused or unoccupied area in the field.
- Negative space has shape.



# Conclusion

## Shape & Space Relationship

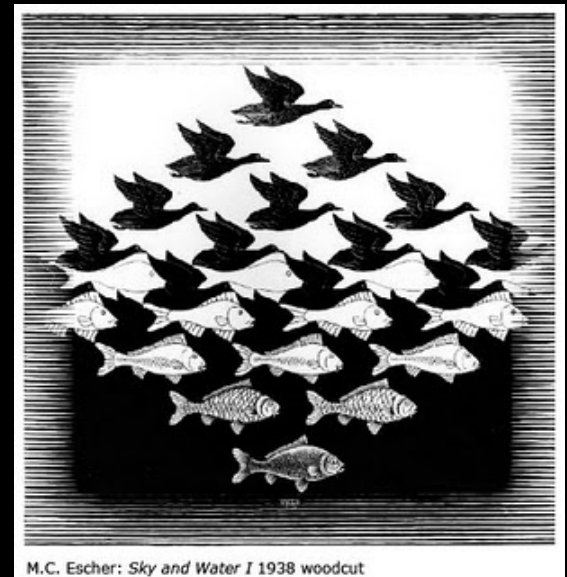
- Shapes & Space define figure/ground relationships.
- Shape = Figure
- Space = Ground = Background, field, empty space.
- Figure/Ground value reversal



Figure



Ground



M.C. Escher: *Sky and Water I* 1938 woodcut

Figure/Ground Value Reversal