

Color Harmony Vocabulary

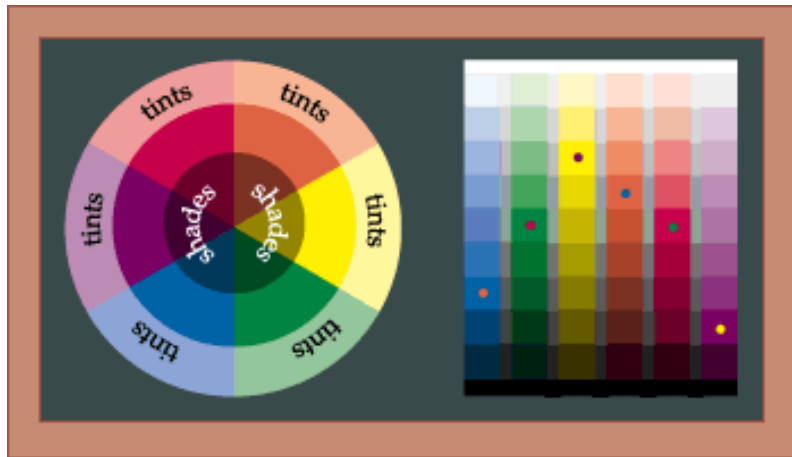
Color Schemes

Intensity, saturation, and chroma are all words used to describe the purity of a color. High intensity colors are often used to maximize impact. Grace Hartigan's *Billboard* explodes with energy, as the rich blues, reds, and yellows dance across the canvas.



Grace Hartigan, *Billboard*, 1957
oil on canvas, 78 1/2 X 111 in.

Value, Shade, Tone, Tint



- **Value:** Relative lightness or darkness of a color
- **Shade:** Created by addition of black
- **Tone:** Created by the addition of Gray (black and white)
- **Tint:** addition of white

Chromatic Gray: Created by complements and color mixing, instead of black and white



Claude Monet, *The Magpie*, 1869.
Oil on canvas, 35 X 51 in.

The result is both subtle and vibrant. In *The Magpie*, the grays vary widely, from the purples and blue-grays in the shadows to the golden-gray light in the foreground and the silvery grays for the snow-covered trees.

This is not a dark, sullen winter day; through the use of chromatic grays, Claude Monet makes the warm light an transparent shadows sparkle in the crisp air.

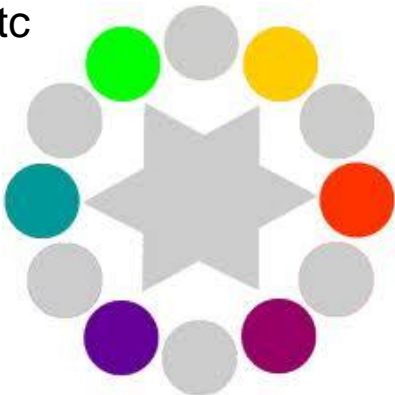
Primary- r, y, b



- Secondary
O, G, P



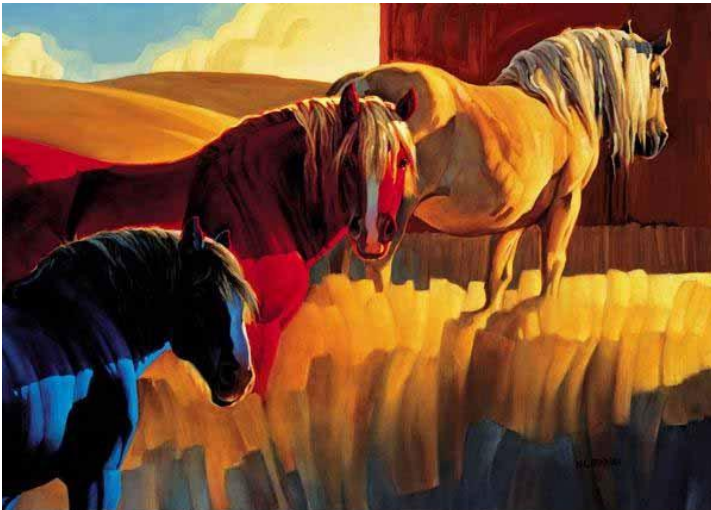
- Tertiary/intermediate
Yellow-green, yellow-orange,
etc



- Earth Tones- Burnt Sienna,
Umber, Yellow Ochre

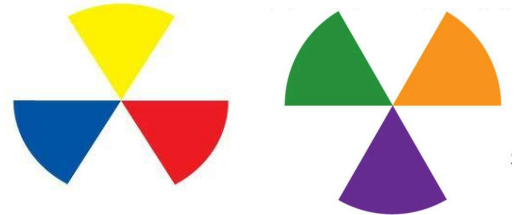


Triadic



Nancy Glazier
Primary Colors

This painting is a primary triad w/ Red, Yellow, and Blue as dominant colors



3 colors equally spaced

Monochromatic



One color plus tints, shades, and tones

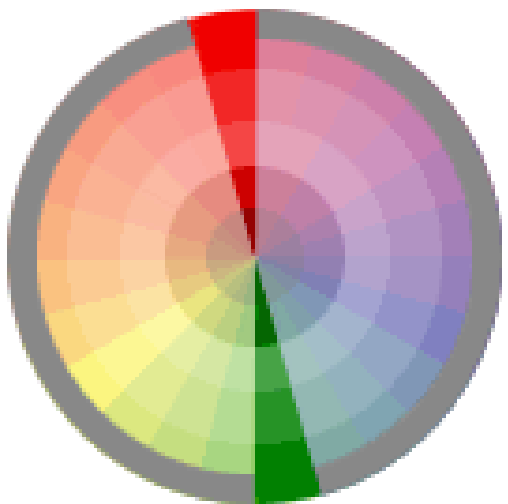
Most harmonious and unified, and least contrast or visual interest



Picasso's "La Femme aux Bras Croisés" (Woman with Crossed Arms) 1901

COMPLEMENTARY:
Highest Contrast

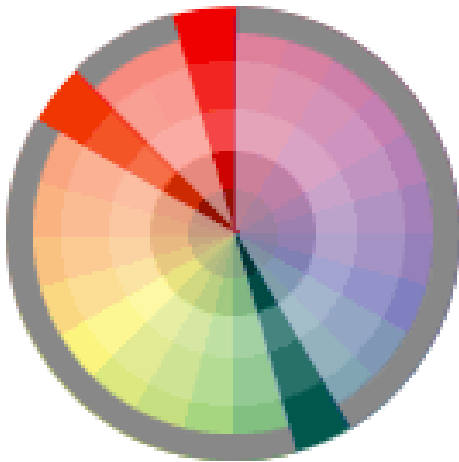
Any color pair that are
across from each other on
color wheel
B & O, R & G, Y & P



Francis Bacon- Study for Self Portrait
1982- Lithograph

Split Complimentary

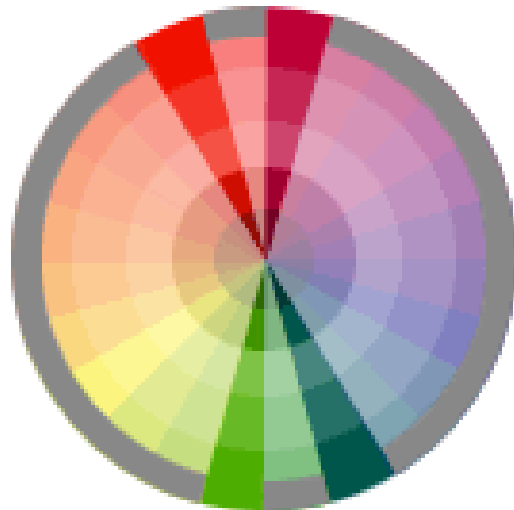
One hue plus two others equally spaced from its complement.



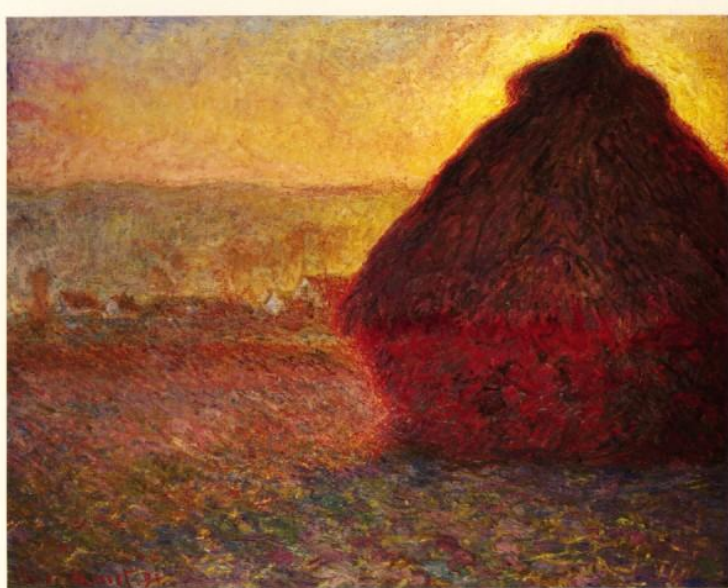
Darla McDowell- daily Oil Paintings

Double-Complementary Relationship

- Two complementary color sets; the distance between selected complementary pairs will effect the overall contrast of the final composition.



Analogous



Claude Monet
"Meule, Soleil Couchant"- 1891

Yellow, yellow- orange, orange, orange-red etc.

Adjacent to each other on the color wheel

Very harmonious because the colors are made up of each other

Color Theory- The Art and Science of color interaction and effects

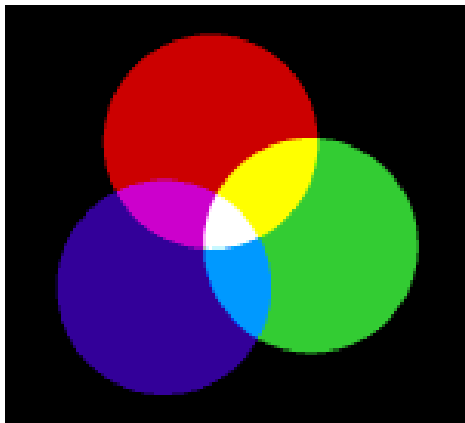
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<http://www.utdallas.edu/~melacy/pages/color.html>

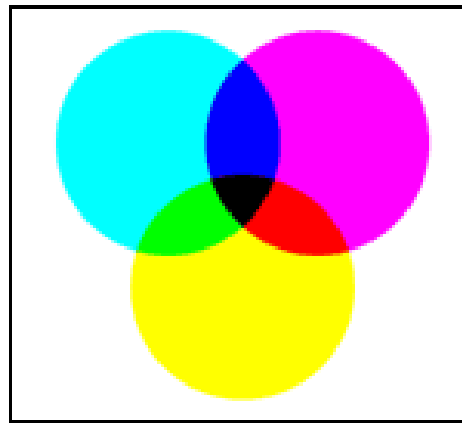
- **HUE:** The name of a color-determined by wavelength
- **Color Interaction:** Refers to the way colors influence each other

R, G, B

R, B, Y



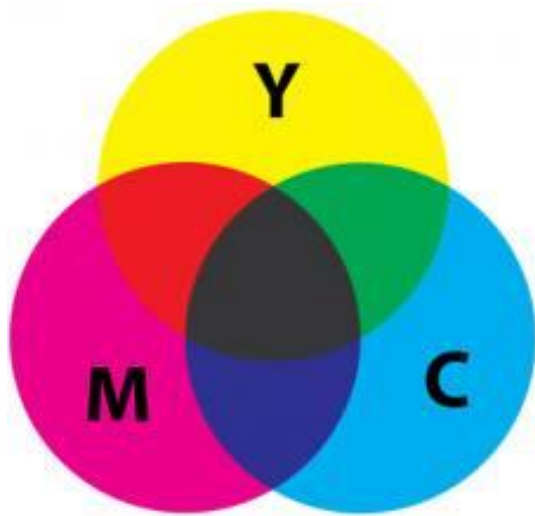
Additive Color
combining light



Subtractive Color
combining pigment

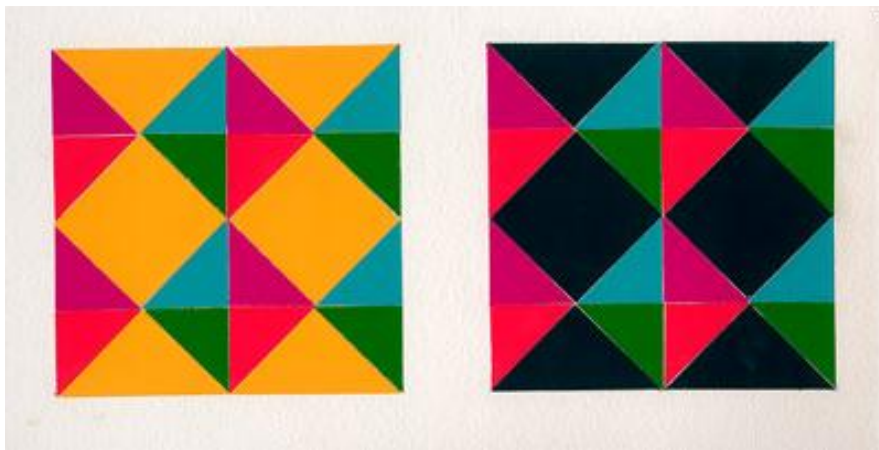
Process Colors

- Used for printing
 - Cyan
 - Yellow
 - Magenta



Bezold Effect:

Demonstrates the profound influence of color interaction



The total effect of perceived hues used
are altered by the change
of ONE Dominant Hue.

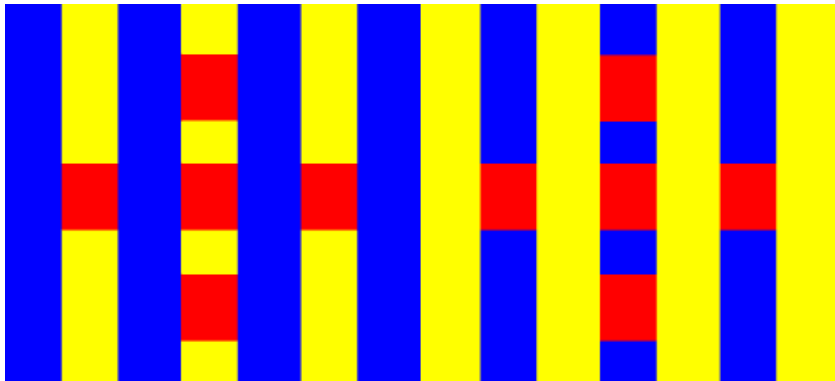
Opponent Theory

- Constant shifting between opposing colors creates a visual overload at the edges of shapes, resulting in electric glow



Simultaneous Contrast

- An effect created by affects of a color by the surrounding areas
- Identical colors appear to shift when framed by different backgrounds or patterns. This is called "simultaneous contrast" and has a variety of affects on how we see things.



Color Key

The dominant color in a composition

. A color key, or dominant color, can heighten psychological as well as composition impact. In Egon Schiele's *Portrait of Paris von Gütersloh*, the flaming orange around and within the figure places the anxious man in an emotional electric chair.



Egon Schiele
Portrait of Paris von Gütersloh, 1918
Oil on canvas, 55 1/4 X 43 1/4 in.

Color Disharmony

- Often used when the subject matter is disturbing or when an unusual visual approach is needed



Color Overtones: A secondary hue bias in a primary color

- Alizarin Crimson is red with violet overtones while scarlet is a red with orange overtones.

