Grid Systems Kimberly Elam

Filled with an expansive range of twentieth-century examples of design, from Jan Tschichold's brochure for *Die Neue Typographie* to Bauhaus graphics to a Nike catalog, *Grid Systems* provides a rich, easy-to-understand overview of the grid and demonstrates a step-by-step approach to typographic composition. It reveals design strategies that transcend simple function and reductionist recipes to allow grids to become a means of truly dynamic communication.



Kimberly Elam

Princeton Architectural Press, New York



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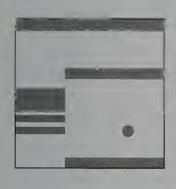
Grid Systems: Principles of Organizing Type

Table of Contents

5 7 8 9	Introduction Project Elements and Process Constraints and Options Proportion of Elements Grouping
11	Negative Space and Grouping
12	Perimeter Edge and Axial Relationships
13	The Law of Thirds
14	The Circle and Composition
17	Horizontal Composition
35	Brochure for <i>Die Neue Typographie</i>
36	Cover Page and Text Page from <i>The Isms of Art</i>
37	Spread from the Catalog of Bauhaus Products
38	Theatre Am Hechtplatz Advertisement
40	SamataMason Web Site
42	Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies Graphic Program
44	Sotheby's Graphic Program Table of Contents Saved for The New Urban Landauers
45	Table of Contents Spread for <i>The New Urban Landscape</i>
46	Horizontal/Vertical Composition
63	Zürcher Künstler im Helmhaus Poster
64	Nike ACG Pro Purchase Catalog
66	Program for Zurich University's 150th Anniversary
67	Best Swiss Posters of the Year 1992
68	Festival d'été (Summer Festival), Program Spread
69	Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture and
	Planning Posters
71	Diagonal Composition
89	Kandinsky Poster
90	Page from Reklama Mechano
90	Page from The Next Call
91	National-Zeitung (Newspaper) Poster Series
92	Title Page Studies for the Freiburg Municipal Theatre
94	Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture and
	Planning, Lecture and Exhibition Posters
97	Typographic Hierarchy
04	Case Study: Identification of the AIDS Virus
07	Case Study: The Beginning of Communism in Cuba
112	Case Study: Levi's Become Fashion
116	Case Study: "If the glove don't fit, you must acquit."
118	Acknowledgments
118	Image Credits
118 119	Selected Bibliography Index
113	IIIu 6x



Introduction







Typography is not only verbal information but also lines of texture within a composition. These textures create rectangles of tone on the page, and the relationship of the positions of these rectangles is critical to the perception of order and unity within a composition. The duality of the two roles gives the designer responsibility for both communication and composition.

This typography project enables the designer to focus and explore the role of composition within a system and a structure. The structure is a simple three-column by three-row grid system. Although this is a modest system, there is enough flexibility for variation and thorough investigation. The 3 X 3 grid system also corresponds to the law of thirds that suggests when a rectangle or square is divided into thirds vertically and horizontally, the four intersecting points within the composition are the points of optimal focus. The designer uses placement and proximity to determine which of these points is hierarchically the most important.

The example at left is a simple composition of six rectangles and a small circle. The elements are in proportion to each other and are grouped and arranged in the grid so that each rectangular element aligns with at least one other element. The interior alignments, proportion of elements, and placement in the format result in a unified and visually satisfying composition. In this example, the gray rectangles have been replaced by lines of text. There is an obvious hierarchy in the content of the message, via text size and placement, and an alignment axis at the left of the format. Analysis of these three samples shows that the compositional principles related to typographic messages are the same in all. An understanding of the compositions abstract elements of texture leads the designer to a deeper understanding of the role of the compositional principles and visual forces of design. This project is a case study of a methodology used to teach these principles and visual forces.

This book, and others in the series, is indebted to my students for all they have taught me and is intended to share with others approaches and methodology that may prove useful. Design education is a fluid process that constantly evolves. Designers and design educators are invited to share the results of their experiences with me for inclusion in later printings of this work.

Kimberly Elam

Ringling School of Art and Design

Department of Graphic and Interactive Communication Sarasota, Florida



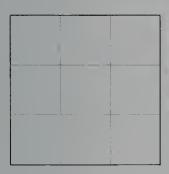
Project Elements and Process

A three-column by three-row structure is the format for exploring texture and composition. This simple grid system provides a wide range of variation for exploration within a controlled system of organization. Because the format is a square, visual attention will focus on the interior composition rather than the shape and proportion of the format.

Six gray rectangles, which will later correspond to the type sizes of the visual message, are the compositional elements. A small circle is also used to provide an element for balance, visual control of the composition, and contrast.

The circle is the wild-card element in all of the compositions. Even though it is very small, it has a tremendous amount of visual power. This is true of any circle, any size, in just about any composition. The human eye loves the circle and embraces it. The contrast in form to the rectangular elements provides visual interest, in addition to the inherent visual power of the circle itself. Its position in the composition is less prescribed than the other elements, and it can appear anywhere.

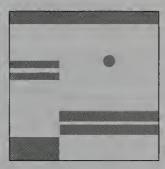
The student explores the visual principles of composition, texture, and interrelationship through a series of exercises that become increasingly complex and dynamic.



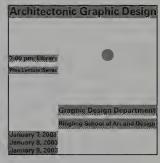
The grid system is three columns wide by three rows deep, yielding a total of nine visual fields



The compositional elements are six gray rectangles and a small circle.



The compositional elements are arranged within the grid system.



Lines of text replace the gray compositional elements (above) and yield a typographic composition (below).

Architectonic Graphic Design

7:00 pm, Library
Free Lecture Series



Graphic Design Department Ringling School of Art and Design

January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003

Constraints and Options

The format, rectangle elements, and a concise series of rules are given to the student:

- In the horizontal series, all rectangle elements must remain on the horizontal. In the horizontal/vertical series, all rectangles must be either horizontal or vertical. In the diagonal series, all rectangles must be on the same or contrasting diagonal.
- All rectangle elements must be used.
- No rectangle element may extend outside the format.
- Rectangle elements may almost touch but not overlap.

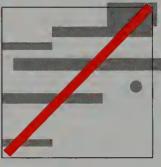
Since this is a formal composition project, the constraints are important rules for creating a cohesive whole. Elements must remain on the horizontal in the first series and will occupy other positions in later series. It is important that all elements are used, as each bar corresponds to a line of text from a message that will later replace the rectangle elements. All elements are sized to fit in either one, two, or three visual fields and must fit, left to right, within the grid columns.



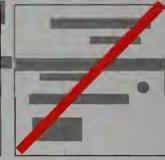
Yes. All rectangle elements are on the horizontal and all elements are used. Elements do not extend beyond the format or overlap. The circle may be placed anywhere in the format but may not overlap other elements.



No. Elements must remain on the horizontal for the first series. Later compositions will work with vertical and diagonal elements.



No. Elements may never overlap or extend beyond the format perimeter.



No. Elements must fit within the arid columns.



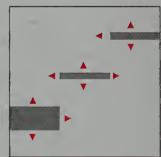
The circle may occupy any position. It is a wild-card element in the composition and need not necessarily correspond to the grid lines.



The largest rectangle must fit within the square format, left to right. It can take any position top to bottom.



The two second largest rectangles must occupy either the two right columns or the two left columns. They can take any position top to bottom.



The three smallest rectangles may occupy any single column. They can take any position top to bottom.

Proportion of Elements

This project is designed to present considerable potential for success. There are a number of reasons for this. First, the student is focused on selected issues throughout the project, and the decision-making process is directed toward these issues. Second, the square format serves to focus the student's attention on the elements and composition rather than on the proportion of a rectangular format. Third, a hierarchy of size exists and this hierarchy is present in the proportion of the elements. Since the

grid is three columns wide, the length of all of the elements are in the proportion of 1:2:3. This proportion is pleasing and logical in a simple compositional structure, and is as important as all of the other visual theories in creating a cohesive composition.

The circle, too, is in proportion to the rectangular elements. It is approximately one-fourth of a unit in diameter and this diameter is roughly equivalent to the width of the longest rectangle.

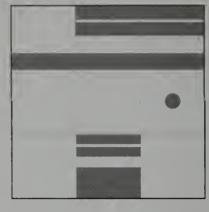
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- 1 unit -	- 2 units -	- 3 units -

Grouping

Grouping of elements is important in visual messages. Grouping permits an element to have an immediate visual relationship with another element in close proximity. Both similar and dissimilar elements can be grouped to create rhythm and repetition as well as larger areas of texture. The composition is simplified by grouping, white space, or negative space, is enhanced, and a stronger sense of visual order is created.



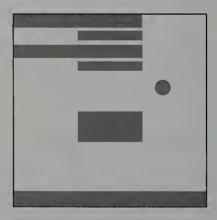
No Grouping
Without grouping of elements, the
viewer has seven individual elements
to visually absorb. The format appears
unorganized and the elements too
complex.



Grouped Elements By grouping, the number of elements is reduced, which simplifies the composition and enhances the white space.



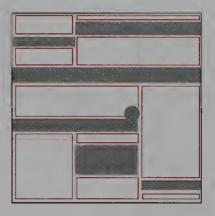
Grouping of Similar Elements Rectangle elements of a similar width can be grouped.



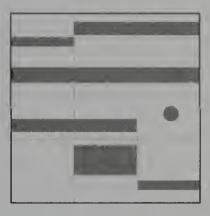
Grouping of Dissimilar Elements Rectangle elements of different widths can be grouped.

Negative Space and Grouping

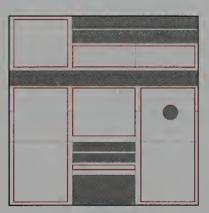
Negative space, or white space, is the space that is not occupied by the composition rectangles. The shape and composition of this space has a direct impact on how the composition will be perceived by the viewer. When elements are not grouped and each is surrounded by white space, the surrounding spaces are many and the composition appears chaotic and unorganized. As elements are grouped, the white spaces become fewer and larger, and a simplified, more cohesive perception of the composition is created.



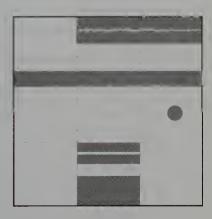
No Grouping: Complex Negative Spaces In this ungrouped composition there are at least ten rectangles of negative space, as shown by the outlines, making the composition appear chaotic and visually uninviting.



No Grouping: Complex Negative Spaces



Grouped: Simple Negative Spaces In this grouped composition there are six rectangles of negative space as shown by the outlines. These spaces are not only fewer in number but also larger and, therefore, more visually pleasing.



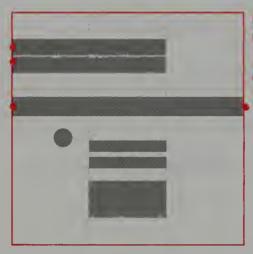
Grouped: Simple Negative Spaces

Perimeter Edge and Axial Relationships

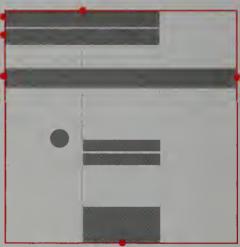
Use of the perimeter edges of the format is critical in creating cohesive compositions. If none of the elements is near the top and bottom edges, as in the Perimeter Edge Relationships example below, the white space squeezes the elements, and the composition is ungrounded. When the elements of a composition move toward the top and bottom perimeter edges of a format, the white space is optimized, and the composition appears larger and more spacious by visual expansion.

Placement of elements within the grid structure creates axial alignments. When an axis occurs in the interior of the composition, strong visual relationships are formed that give the composition a sense of visual order. Axes on the left and right edges help to bring order to the composition but are considerably weaker visually. A single element does not create an axis; two or more elements create an axis, and, in general, the larger the number of aligned elements the stronger the axis.

Perimeter Edge Relationships



Weak Perimeter Edge Relationship Since there are no elements touching the top or bottom edges, bars of inactivated white space squeeze the top and bottom of this composition.



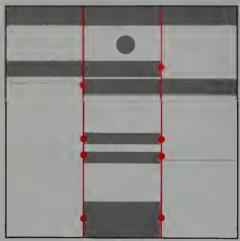
Stronger Perimeter Edge Relationship By allowing elements to touch all four sides of the format, all spaces are activated and the format expands visually.

Axial Relationships



Weak Axial Relationship

The red line indicates the left edge axis in this composition. This relationship is weak because the interior alignments are minimal and the left edge position moves the eye off the page.



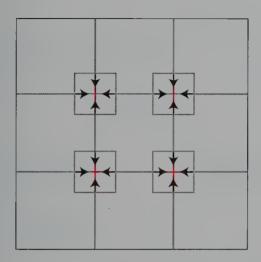
Stronger Axial Relationship

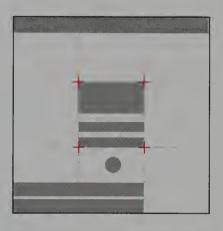
The interior axes in the center column are visually stronger because more elements align on each of these axes.

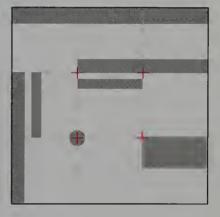
The Law of Thirds

The 3 X 3 grid system corresponds to the rule of thirds that suggests when a rectangle or square is divided into thirds vertically and horizontally, the four intersecting points within the composition are the points of optimal focus. The designer uses placement and proximity to determine which of these points is hierarchically the most important.

An awareness of the law of thirds enables the designer to focus attention where it will most naturally occur and to control the compositional space. Elements do not need to land directly on the intersecting point as close proximity draws attention to them.









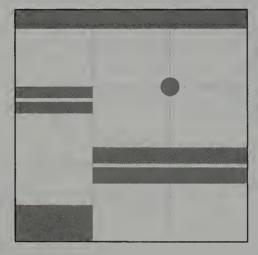
The Circle and Composition

As a wild-card element, the circle can be placed anywhere in the composition. As the circle nears lines of text it draws attention to them and modifies the lines. Placed in between lines of text, it separates and organizes the lines. Placed away from the text elements, it draws the eye and controls the visual flow during viewing, and has a tendency to balance the composition. Each different position changes the way the composition is viewed.

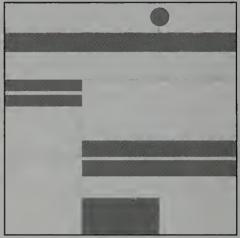
In all compositions the circle becomes an accent and an element that contrasts the rectangles. It can be a pivot point, an element of tension, a starting or stopping point, or it can contribute to visual organization or balance. It is a tool for the designer with which to consciously control the desired visual response.

Potential Circle Functions:

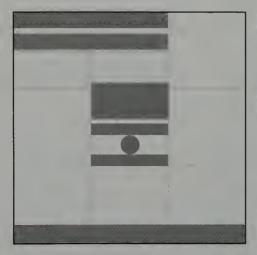
- Space Activator
- Pivot Point
- Tension
- Starting or Stopping Point
- Organization
- Balance



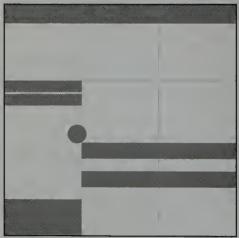
Balance Placement and Pivot Point
When the circle is placed in predictable
alignment to the grid, a sense of visual balance
is achieved. The circle is also a pivot point as
the eye moves around the composition.



Space Activator
When the circle occupies a postion within a confined white space, the space becomes activated. A stronger sense of asymmetry is achieved in the composition as well as more visual interest.



Tension
When the circle is placed very close to the other elements a visual tension occurs.

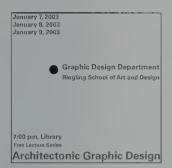


Tension
Placement of the circle near a 90° corner intensifies the contrast of shape and tension.

On this page all of the compositions are similar with only the placement of the circle changing. The black color of the circle calls attention to its position because its placement very clearly changes the way in which the viewers eye moves throughout the composition.

Placement of the circle near text often results in emphasis of that text. This emphasis changes the hierarchy as the circle

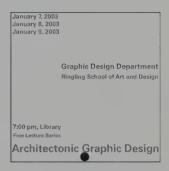
becomes a starting point. Placement of the circle in between lines of text separates the lines and organizes them into individual groups, with a result of additional emphasis given to each line. Placing the circle so that it is surrounded by white space frequently causes the circle to become the pivot point. Trapping the circle tightly in between text and an edge results in both visual tension and an emphasis of the line of text.



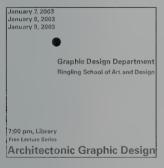
Emphasis Placement and Starting Point



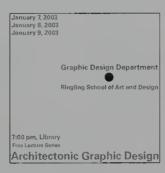
Emphasis Placement and Stopping Point



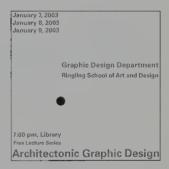
Emphasis and Tension Placement



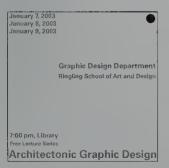
Organization Placement



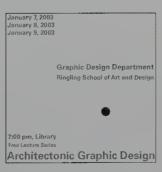
Emphasis and Organization Placement



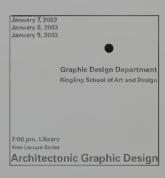
Organization Placement



Balance Placement



Balance Placement and Pivot Point



Balance Placement



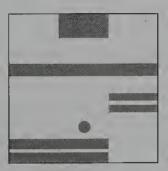
Horizontal Composition

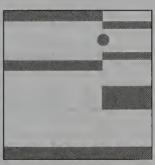
The first in the series of exercises is the most simple—horizontal composition. Compositions are first developed in a series of small thumbnails as the visual principles of grouping, edge relationships, axial alignment, and circle placement are investigated. It is during the thumbnail phase that the visual principles begin to emerge.

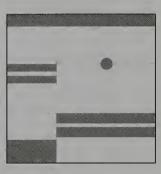
A seemingly very simple task becomes more complex as the designer becomes increasingly aware of and sensitive to the nuances of composition. The initial compositions consist of the most obvious choices. Later evolutions of compositions are more interesting in that the designer begins to explore beyond the obvious.

The strongest compositions are refined in large scale, and, finally, lines of text are substituted for the rectangle elements. Those compositions that are the most ordered and compelling in the abstract version are also, invariably, the most interesting in the typographic version.

A visual hierarchy has already been built into this project by the assignment of each line of copy to the rectangles in the given grid structure. Further unity is achieved by employing a single face and weight of type for all lines in the composition. More than any other factor, the position of text and proximity of the circle will determine the hierarchy.







Organizing the Approach to the Project

At the onset of the project, the student is inclined to create thumbnails rapidly and intuitively. This approach has its merits in that the most predictable solutions to visual organization are inevitably explored. However, there is a strong probability that one or more of the three approaches of top, bottom, and interior position of the longest rectangle will be overlooked. By organizing the project from the onset, attention can be knowingly focused on the three major approaches and to the key issues of composition within each approach.

The longest element, the rectangle that spans all three visual fields, controls the composition. Therefore, the three major approaches include: Long Rectangle in Top Position, Long Rectangle in Bottom Position, and Long Rectangle in Interior Position. The thumbnail compositions are divided into these three groups. In addition, each set of thumbnails will focus on specific compositional aspects of the project. The change of focus of each of the first two series provides the student a limited range of visual ideas to master. The third and final series brings all of the compositional aspects together.

Emphasis:

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading

Horizontal Composition

Series 1, Long Rectangle in Top Position

Emphasis: • Grouping

- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment

The primary focus is on the basic aspects of composition.

Series 2, Long Rectangle in Bottom Position

Emphasis: • The Law of Thirds

- Circle Placement
- Leading

The primary focus is on compositional control and enhancement.

Series 3, Long Rectangle in Interior Position

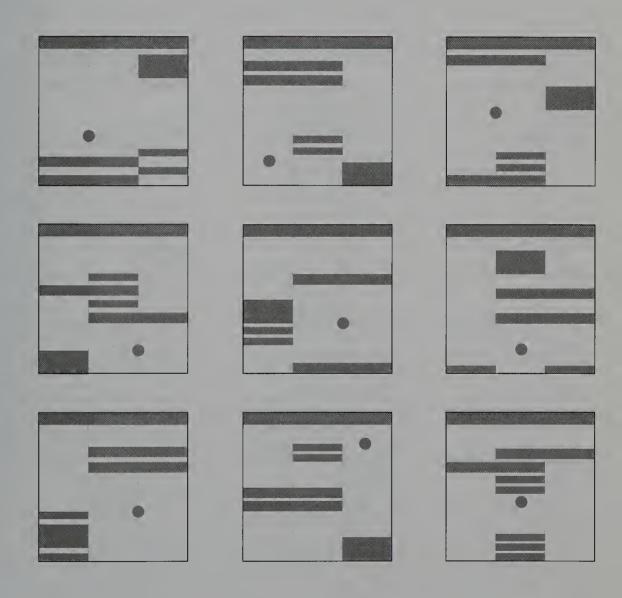
- Emphasis: Grouping
 - Negative Space
 - Perimeter Edge
 - Axial Alignment
 - The Law of Thirds
 - Circle Placement
 - Leading

This series brings all of the compositional aspects together.

Long Rectangle in Top Position Thumbnails

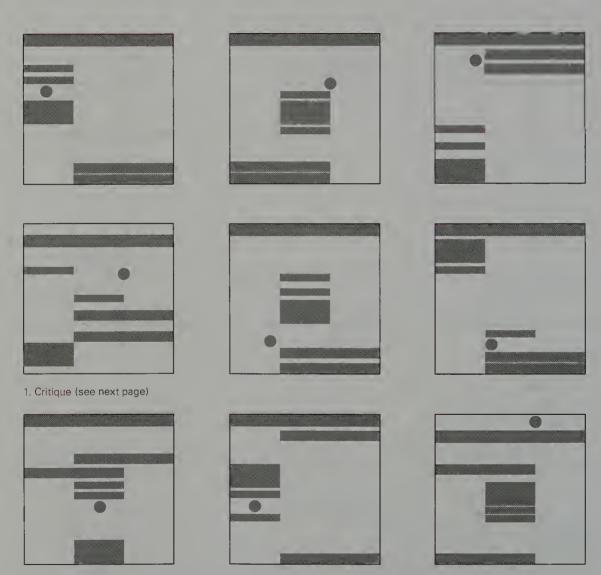
The Long Rectangle in Top Position series of thumbnail compositions will use the longest rectangle only in the top position, touching the top of the format perimeter, or very near the top. Compositional emphasis is on grouping, negative space, perimeter edge, and axial alignment. Experimentation is encouraged as the student begins to understand which, and why, specific compositions are the most pleasing.

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



Long Rectangle in Top Position Thumbnails

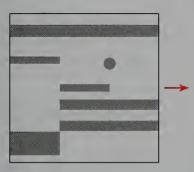
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



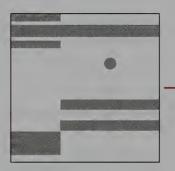
2. Critique (see next page)

Long Rectangle in Top Position Critique

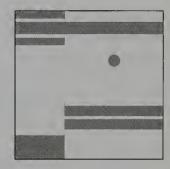
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of ThirdsCircle Placement
- Leading



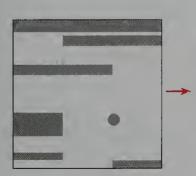
1. This work is less compositionally cohesive than many of the other thumbnails. There is trapped white space at the top that is inactivated, many elements are ungrouped causing the composition to feel complex, and the bottom edge of the perimeter is unused.



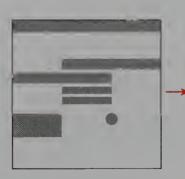
The white space at the top edge is activated by placing one of the narrow rectangles above it. A second narrow rectangle is grouped with the first by placing it under the long rectangle.



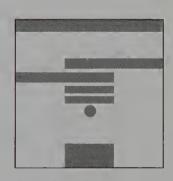
Finally, the two medium rectangles are grouped and leaded more tightly, and the thick rectangle is placed on the bottom edge to make the composition feel more spacious.



2. This work suffers from some of the same problems as the work above. Elements need to be grouped more tightly to simplify the composition, and the interior axial alignments need to be strengthened.



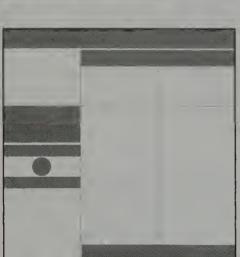
The two midsize rectangles remain offset. However, they are more tightly leaded and are grouped with the two small rectangles.

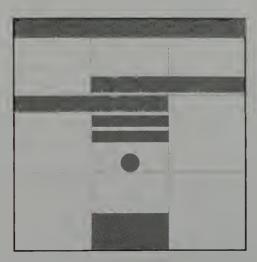


Finally, the thick rectangle is placed on the bottom edge of the perimeter to anchor the composition, and the circle is placed in the center to modify the strong axial alignments on the center column.

Text Adjustments
Lines of text replace
the gray rectangles in
the strongest thumbnail
compositions. Fine
tuning adjustments are
made to the text leading
in the final compositions.







Free Lecture Series January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003 7:00 pm, Library

Architectonic Graphic Design
Graphic Design Department

Graphic Design Department
Ringling School of Art and Design

January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003 Free Lecture Series 7:00 pm, Library

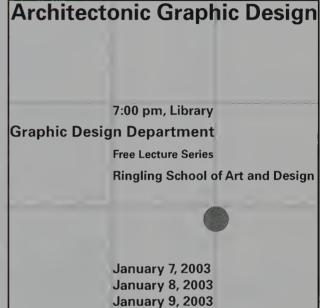
Ringling School of Art and Design

Architectonic Graphic Design

Ringling School of Art and Design Graphic Design Department 7:00 pm, Library Free Lecture Series



January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003





Architectonic Graphic Design Graphic Design Department Ringling School of Art and Design 7:00 pm, Library

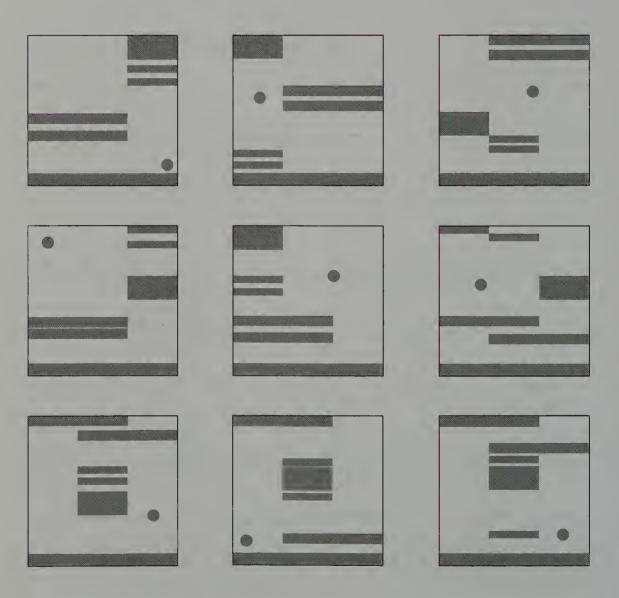
Free Lecture Series

January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003

Long Rectangle in Bottom Position Thumbnails

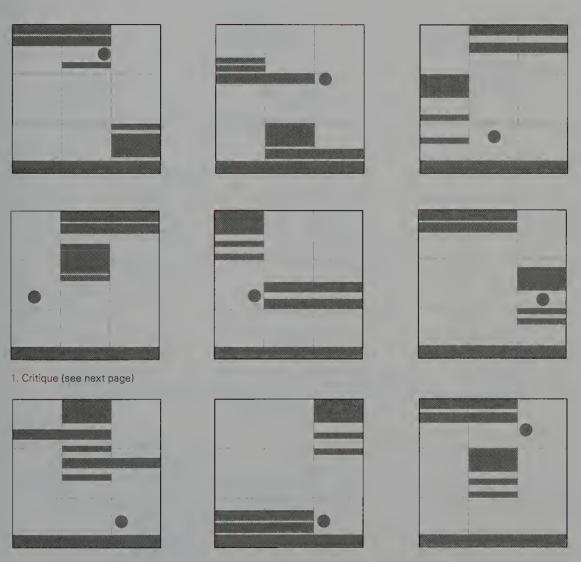
The bottom position is the most stable compositional placement for the long rectangle and gives stability to all of the other elements. This is as if gravity was at work causing the longest or heaviest element to fall to the bottom. The other compositional elements can be moved freely in the space above because stability already exists below.

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



Long Rectangle in Bottom Position Thumbnails

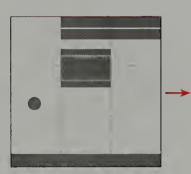
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



2. Critique (see next page)

Long Rectangle in Bottom Position Critique

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial AlignmentThe Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



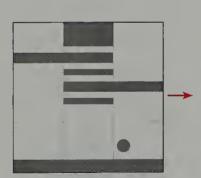
1. This work is fairly compositionally cohesive. The next two revisions consciously employ the law of thirds to investigate the possibility of a more cohesive composition.



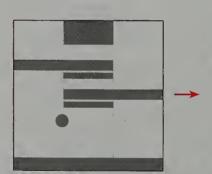
The law of thirds suggests that when a rectangle or square is divided into thirds vertically and horizontally the four intersecting points within the composition are the points of optimal focus.



The two variations investigate the results of a change in leading and a change in placement of the circle.



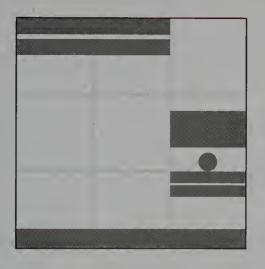
2. This work is also fairly compositionally cohesive. The next two revisions consciously employ variations in leading to investigate the possibility of a more cohesive composition.



Tightening the leading creates two distinct groups of dissimilar elements.



Moving the groups apart makes them more distinct. The breaking of the thick rectangle into three lines creates a different rhythm.



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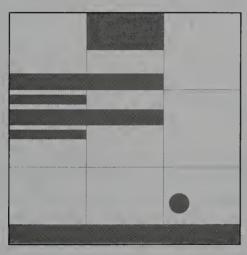
Graphic Design Department

January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003



7:00 pm, Library
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January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003

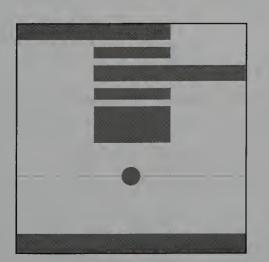
Ringling School of Art and Design 7:00 pm, Library

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Architectonic Graphic Design



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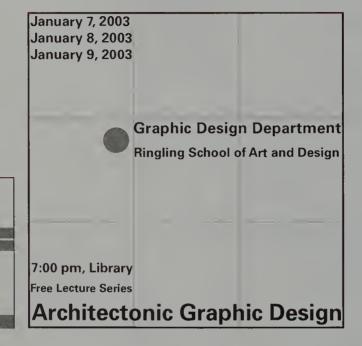
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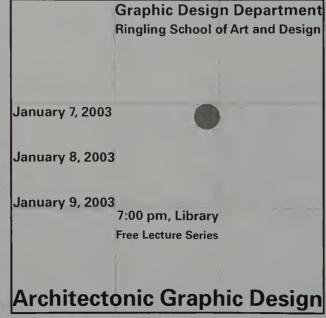
Graphic Design Department

7:00 pm, Library

January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003

Architectonic Graphic Design





Long Rectangle in Interior Position Thumbnails

The interior position is a precarious one for the long rectangle. Because it spans the width of the format, it divides the square into two smaller rectangles. If no elements are placed in one of the rectangular divisions, that space is inactivated and visually uncomfortable. The placement of at least one element in each of the rectangular divisions activates the total space.

The placement of the longest rectangle in the interior creates an aesthetic disadvantage. This is the result of dividing a harmonious square format into two less harmonious rectangles. Even with both spaces activated, the result is decidedly less pleasing than compositions that are not divided by the long rectangle.



Long Rectangle in Interior Position Thumbnails

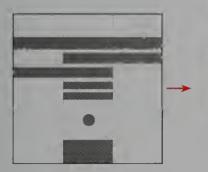
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



2. Critique (see next page)

Long Rectangle in Interior Position Critique

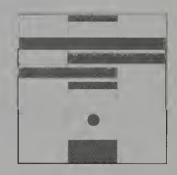
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading



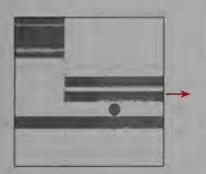
1. The composition has good interior alignment but the long rectangle has isolated an inactivated space at the top. This white space is awkward and makes the composition feel as if the elements are bottom heavy.



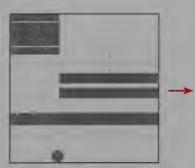
Since the rhythm and repetition of the small and medium rectangles are interesting, the small rectangles are moved up as space activators.



A single element, such as a small rectangle, can also activate the space. As an isolated element, it will attract considerable attention.



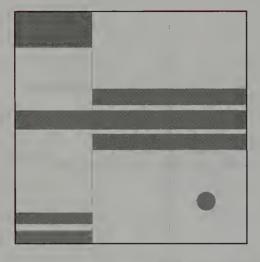
2. Similar to the work above, this composition has trapped inactivated white space. This white space is awkward and makes the composition feel as if the elements are floating toward the top.



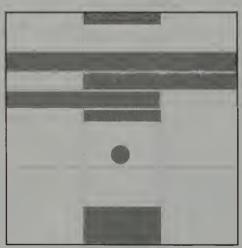
A single element, in this case the circle, is enough to activate the white space and anchor the composition.



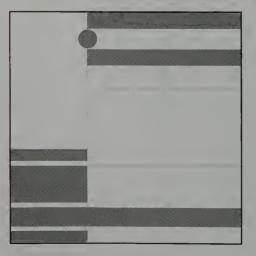
Multiple elements are activating the white space, and the circle creates tension and attracts attention.

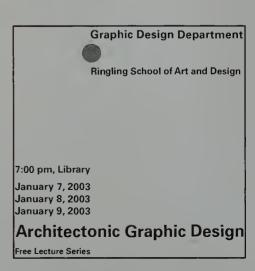




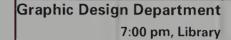














January 7, 2003 January 8, 2003 January 9, 2003

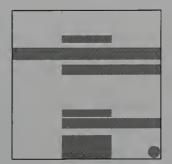
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7:00 pm, Library
Ringling School of Art and Design

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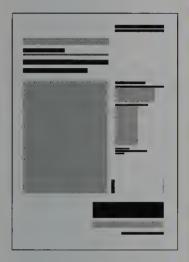




Jan Tschichold, at the young age of twenty-three, wrote a special issue of a printing trade journal entitled *Elementare Typographie*. Through this journal Tschichold introduced his philosophy and the work and ideas of El Lissitzky to the professional world. In 1928 the book *Die Neue Typographie: The New Typography* was published and became an influential milestone of communication design. This book analyzed typographic design, attempted to systematize the "new typography," and advocated

asymmetric composition with negative space and leading as important elements to the underlying structure.

The brochure for *Die Neue Typographie*, shown below, embodies the principles set forth by Tschichold and is a study in subtle contrast. The type is an unembellished sans serif set in a two-column overlapping grid. The columns are the same width as shown on the overlay and overlap to create a narrower right column with a shorter bold column near the bottom.



VORZUGS-ANGEBOT

Im VERLAG DES BILDUNGSVERBANDES der Deutschen Buchdrucker, Berlin SW 61, Dreibundstr. 5, erscheint demnächst:

JAN TSCHICHOLD

Lehrer an der Meisterschule für Deutschlands Buchdrucker in München

DIE NEUE TYPOGRAPHIE

Handbuch für die gesamte Fechweit und die drucksschenverbrauchenden Kreise

Das Problem der neuen gestaltenden Typographie hat eine lebhafte Diskussion bei sillen Beteiligten hervorgerufen. Wir glauben dem Bedürfnis, die aufgeworfenen Fragen ausführlich behandelt zu sehen, zu entsprechen, wenn wir jetzt sin Handbuch der NEUEN TYPOGRAPHIE herausbringen.

Es kam dem Vorfaser, einem ihrer bekanntesten Vertreter, in diesem Buche zunächst darauf an, den engen Zusammenhang der neuen Typographie mit dem Gesamtkomplex heuttigen Lebens aufzuzeigen und zu beweisen, daß die neue Typographie ein ebenso notwendiger Ausdruck einer neuen Gesinnung ist wie die neue Baukunst und allee Neue, das mit uneerer Zeit anbricht. Diese geschichtliche Notwendigkeit der neuen Typographie belogt weiterhin eine kritische Darstellung der eiten Typographie. Die Entwicklung der neuen Meterei, die für alles Neue unserer Zeit geistig bahnbrechend gewesen ist, wird in einem reich Illustrierten Aufsatz des Buches leicht faßlich dargestellt. Ein kurzer Abschnitt, Zur Geschichte der neuen Typographie "leitet zu dem wichtigsten Teile des Buches, den Grundbegriffen der neuen Typographie über. Diese werden klar herausgeschält, richtige und falsche Beispiele einander gegenübergestellt. Zwei weitere Artikel behandeln "Photographie und Normung".

Der Hauptwert des Buches für den Praktiker besteht in dem zweiten Teil "Typographische Heuptformen" (siehe das nebenstehende Inhaltsverzeichnis). Es fehlte bisher an einem Worke, das wie dieses Buch die schon bei einfachen Satzaufgaben auftauchenden gestalterischen Frsgen in gebührender Ausführlichkeit behandelte. Jeder Teilabschnitt enthält neben eilgemeinen typographischen Regein vor allem die Abbildungen aller in Betrecht kommenden Normblätter des Deutschen Normenausschussee, alle andern (z. B. postalischen) Vorschriften und zahlreiche Beispiele, Gegnebeispiele und Schemen.

Für Jeden Buchdrucker, insbesondere jeden Akzidenzsetzer, wird "Die neue Typographie" ein unentbehrliches Handbuch sein. Von nicht geringerer Bedeutung ist es für Reklamefachleute, Gebrauchsgraphiker, Kauffeute, Photographen, Architekten, Ingenieure und Schriftsteller, siso für alle, die mit dem Buchdruck in Berührung kommen.

INHALT DES BUCHES

Worden and Weese der neuen Typographte Das neue Waltbild Ols alte Typographie (Rückbilck und Kritik) Dis naue Kunsi Zur Geschichte dar nauen Typographia Ole Grundbegriffs der neuen Typographie Pholographie und Typographia

Typographische Keuptlermen
Des Typosignat
Des Geschäftsbrief
Orichüllen ohne Fenster
Fensterbrieffüllen
Old Positierts
Old Positierts
Old Positierts
Old Besuchsteate
Old Besuchsteate
Varbachen (Karten, Ollitter, Prospekte, Kataloge)
Des Oldpüllen
Des Des O

Bibliographie Verzeichnie der Abbildunger Register

Des Buch enthält über 125 Abbildungen, von denen etwe ein Viertel zweifarbig gedruckt ist, und umfaß gegen 200 Seiten euf gutem Kunetdruckpepler. Es erscheint im Formet DIN A5 (148×210 mm) und ist biegsam in Genzielnen gebunden.

Preie bei Vorbestellung bis 1. Juni 1928: 5.00 RM durch den Buchhandel nur zum Preise von 6.50 RM

Bostoilecheln umstehend 📺

Jan Tschichold, 1928

El Lissitzky was closely tied to the Bauhaus and the Bauhaus masters, including Jan Tschichold, László Moholy-Nagy, and Theo van Doesburg. He was a prolific writer, lectured widely, and is credited with inspiring a generation of typographic experimentation. He pioneered the experimental exploitation of the letterpress type case by using rules, space bars, and ornaments as elements of composition and images.

The pages from *The Isms of Art* represent an approach to a complex communication problem of designing a book in three languages. Lissitzky chose to use a highly structured grid system of columns and heavy rules, which function as elements of organization and emphasis. In addition, the rules were true to the constructivist and the suprematist movements in art and design that focused on nonrepresentational geometry and primary color as pure communication. The horizontal versus vertical stress of the heavy rules becomes the unifying device that organizes the information.

		111
D	IE KUNSTISMEN	1924 1923 1922 1921 1920 1919 1918
HE	RAUSGEGEBEN VON EL LISSITZKY UND HANS ARP	1916 1915 1914
LE	ES ISMES DE L'ART	1924 1923 1922 1921 1920 1919 1918
PU	BLIÉS PAR EL LISSITZKY ET HANS ARP	1916 1915 1914
T	HE ISMS OF ART	1924 1923 1922 1921 1921 1919 1918
PUI	BLISHED BY EL LISSITZKY AND HANS ARP	1916 1915 1914
1	EUGEN RENTSCH VERLAG ERLENBACH-ZÜNICH, MÜ	NCHEN UNO LEIPZIO

Title Page (above)

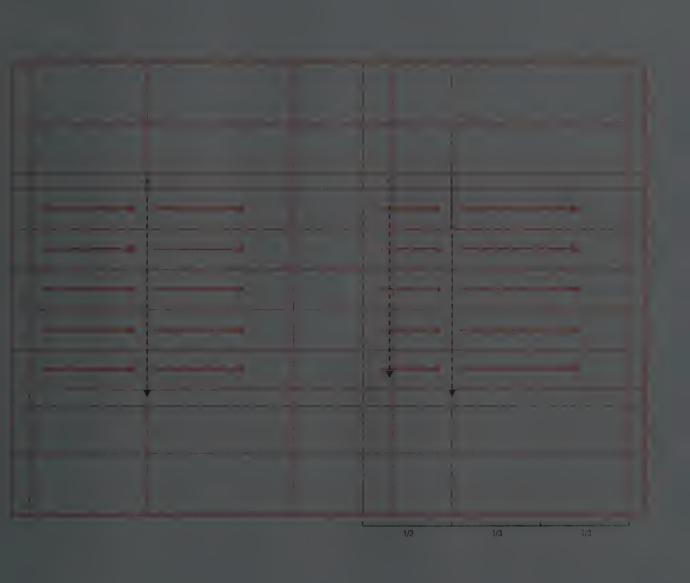
The organizational system on the title page is a horizontal system that divides the page into three visual fields, and the visual stress is horizontal.

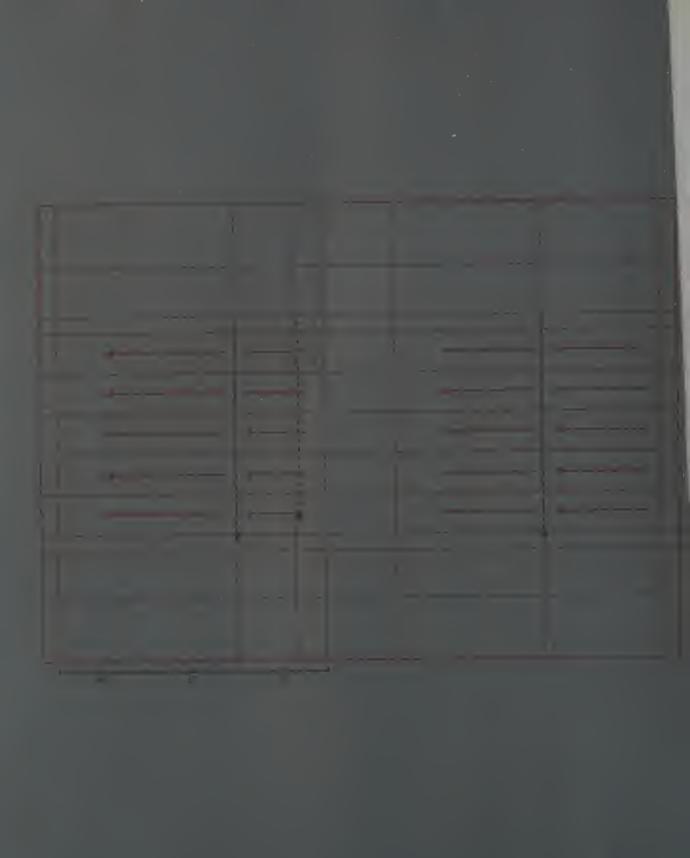
Text Page (right)

Conversely, the organizational system on the text page is a vertical system that divides the page into three vertical columns. The horizontal divisions still exist; the page is horizontally divided to separate the introduction by Malewitsch, and sections on cubism, futurism, and expressionism.



El Lissitzky, 1923

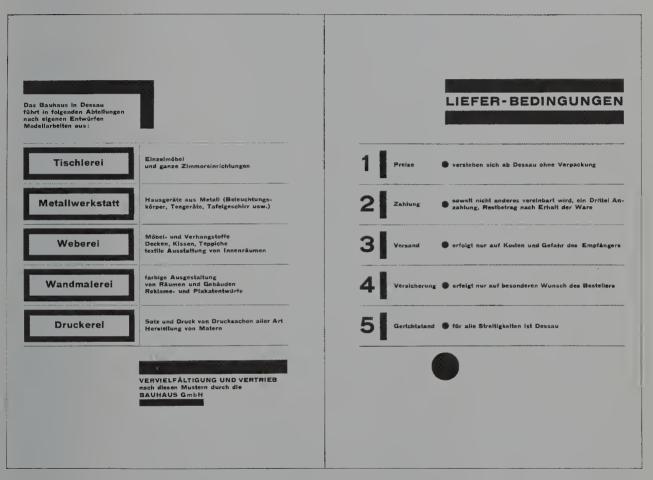




Spread from the Catalog of Bauhaus Products

Herbert Bayer was a student at the original Bauhaus in Thuringia, Germany, in 1921, where he studied under Wassily Kandinsky and, later, under László Moholy-Nagy. By 1925, along with former students Marcel Breuer, Joost Schmidt, and Joseph Albers, he was appointed a teacher at the new Bauhaus in Dessau. Strongly influenced by the "isms" of the time, he was even more inspired by the functional and rational approach to typography of the Bauhaus.

Bayer's design for the Bauhaus catalog reveals a sensitive approach to the use of nonobjective elements. The change in weight of the rules from extremely heavy to hairlines is a beautiful contrast. Rhythm and repetition play an important role as shapes are repeated to create both a visual organization of the text groups and a strong vertical stress that carries the eye down the page. Each page of the spread shown below ends with a heavy nonobjective element—a heavy horizontal rule on the left and a circle on the right.



Herbert Bayer, 1925

Theatre Am Hechtplatz Advertisement

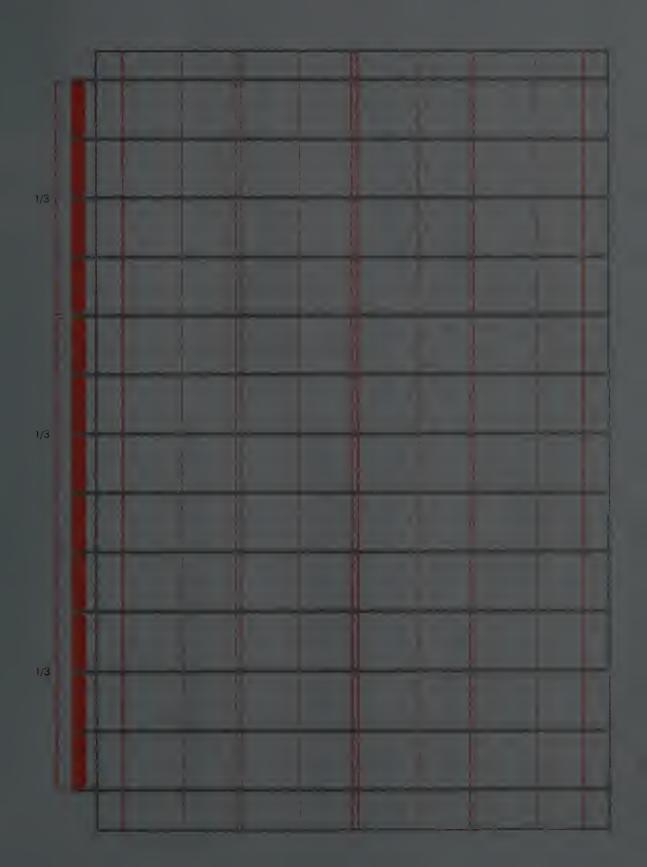
Below is the "before" version of the Theatre Am Hechtplatz patron list. On this page each patron has a small advertisement with a logo and descriptive text, resulting in a confusing, overwhelming page. On the "after" page (opposite page) a design system has been created that consolidates the information typographically. Each advertisement is separated and organized by a rule, and the descriptive text is organized through a common font and systemized placement of text.

The structure is defined as eight columns by twelve square visual fields. This structure is divided into one-third and two-thirds, with the top third holding the title and text and the bottom two-thirds holding the patron advertisements. The very top row of visual fields is reserved for the title. Each patron has either a four-column by four-visual-field space or a four-column by eight-visual-field space.





This is the original page before the redesign by Christof Gassner (opposite).





Theater am Hechtplatz

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ahn Zentimeter. Dies ist die helbfette choesen. Sie hat 60 Zenchen auf zeht 60 zenchen auf zeht 60 zer Abzidenggrotesk echt Punkt, hier mit lee ist ein 5-chriffmuster der halbfetten lee ist ein 5-chriffmuster der halbfetten Punkt, hier mit zen Eunkt durch in Schriffmuster der halbfetten der bei der die die hat 60 Zeichen auf 10 Zentimeter. Dies ein Schriffmuster der halbfetten Abzüdenz ei 60 Zeichen eur zeht Zentimeter. Dies ein 60 Zeichen eur zeht Zentimeter.

nkt, hier mit zwei Punkt durch chriffmuster der Anbteiten Akzidenz 50 Zeichen euf zehn Zenlimeter. Dies 10 Zeichen euf zehn Zenlimeter. Dies 10 zeichen und zehn Zenlimeter. Dies 10 zeich zeich Zenlimeter zeich zeich

out zehn Zentimeter Dies ist ein Schrift vereir Punkt durchandsseen. Sie hen zu groteste kent Punkt, hier mit zwei Punkt kindersgereite den Punkt, her mit zwei Punkt kindersgereite den Ut zu zu der der sich des der Schrift von der Schrift von der Schrift von der Schrift vereir der Schrift durch zu der Schrift vereir ve

het 50 Zeichee auf zehn Zenttmater, Dies Punkt, hier mit zeel Punkt durchechossen, ust ein Schriffmuszer der Aktidenzgrotesk 60 Zeichen auf zehn Zenflemerter. Dies ist mit zwei Punkt durchschossen. Sie hat 50 der habbitten Aktidenzgrotesk sicht Punkt punkt durchschossen. Sie hat grotesie sich Punkt, hier mit zwei Punkt Aktidenzgrotesk acht Punkt, hier mit zwei zehn Zenilderer. Dies ist die habbiette schossen. Sie hat 50 Zeichen auf zehn mit zwei Punkt durchschossen. Sie hat 60 Zeichen suf zehn mit zwei Punkt, hier mit zwei Punkt nie zehn zenilderen. Sie hat 60 Zeichen suf 10 Zeichen suf 10 Zeichen suf 10 Zeichen suf 10 Zeichen auf 10 Zeichen a

Eugen Scotoni AG

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Knuchel & Kahl

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Kowner

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Eugen Hechler Sohn

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Otto Gamma

Akzidenzgrotesk

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8 Punkt, hier mi ein Schr hat 60 Zeichen

Lehmann & Cie. AG

ER ESS Möbel

Ernst Wyss & Co.

Akzidenzg

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Sessler & Co.

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Meynadier & Cie. AG

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Prodecor AG

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at ein achritimuster 10 Zeichen euf sit ewei Punkt dur

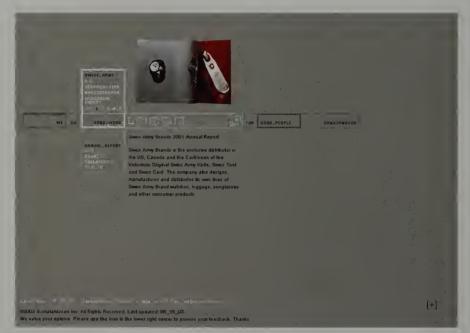
ein Schriftmuster

Christof Gassner, c. 1960

SamataMason Web Site

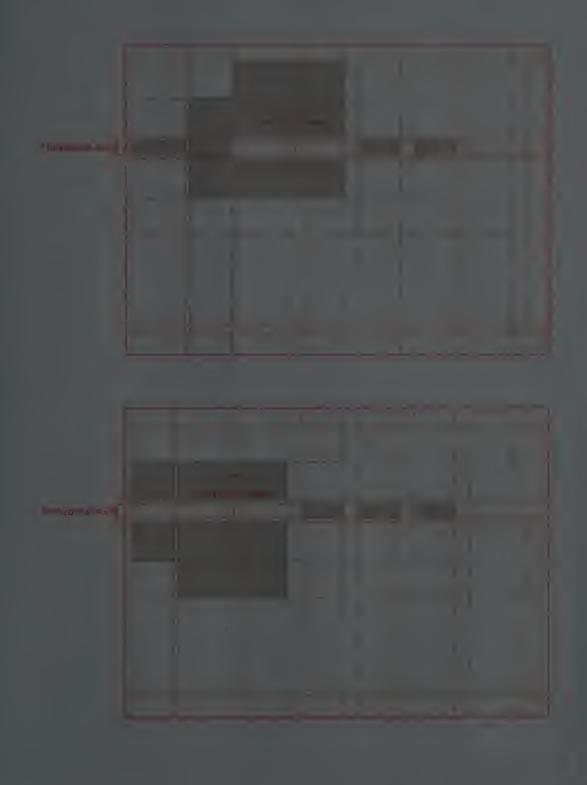
The SamataMason Web Site structure is extremely flexible and permits a wide range of variety. Central to the structure is a horizontal axis that holds the text, icon, and the firm's motto, "We do good work for good people." In addition, this axis holds the user's navigational controls for viewing supplementary images. Images and text can appear above or below the axis in either a square or rectangular format.

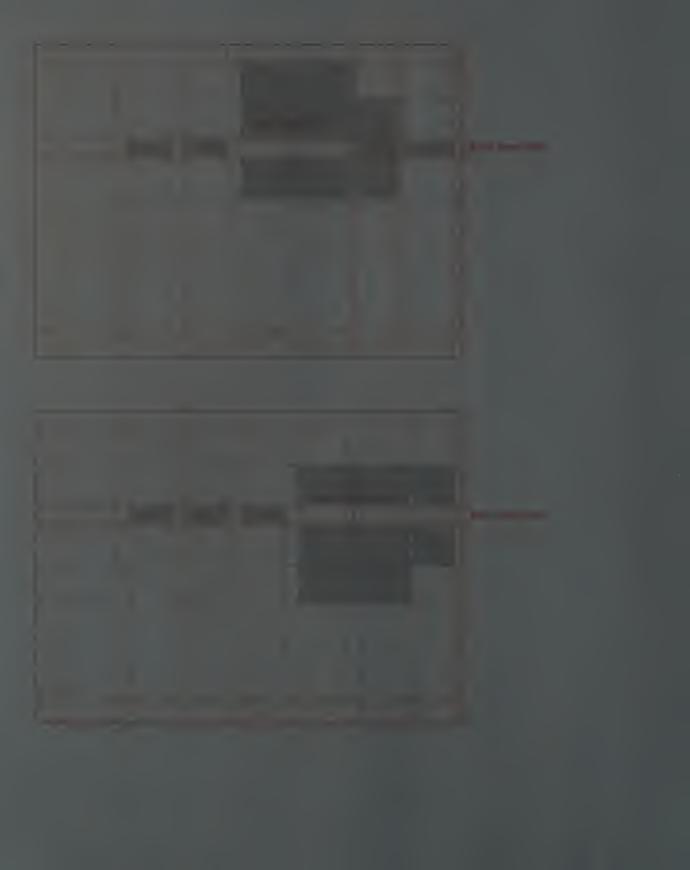
The warm-gray background allows text and images to be highlighted in either white or black, again giving flexibility in content organization and the way the site is read. This gives order to the space and directs the user's attention where intended. The images are splashes of color that attract the viewer's eye.



Design Firm SamataMason, Dundee, Illinois

Art Directors and Designers Dave Mason, Kevin Krueger, 2001









Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies Graphic Program

These are two of a series of posters for the Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies (IAUS). The posters promote changing lectures and exhibitions on a variety of topics. Since the topics changed dramatically, the design system became an identity for the IAUS during 1979 and 1980 and allowed for variations within the structure.

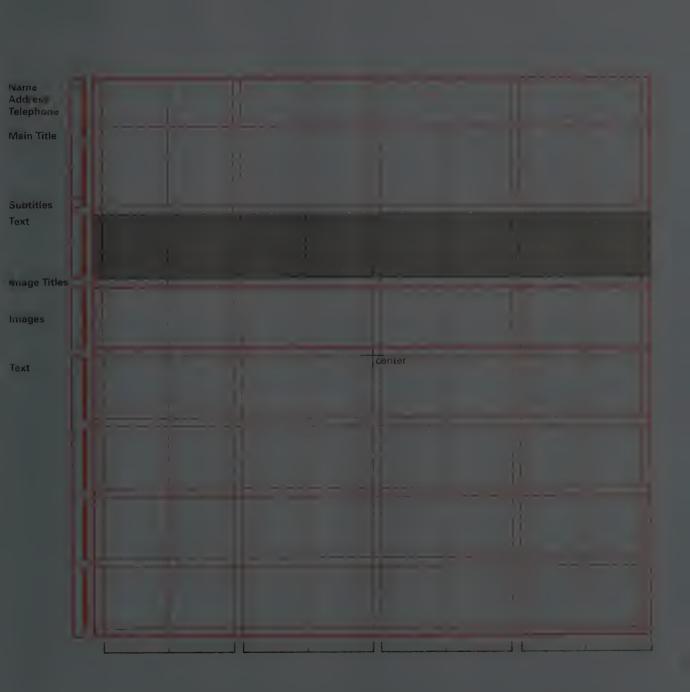
The structure consists of four main columns subdivided to create eight vertical columns and eight horizontal square visual fields.

The rows of visual fields are separated by a black rule about the same width as the column gutter. The top two visual fields are reserved for the heavy black rule, name and address, and a large red title of the newest exhibition. The next row of visual fields contains the main information in red text above and below a black separation rule. The row of visual fields just above the center is reserved for a horizontal band of images. The four rows of visual fields below the center contain descriptive text with the option of an image, as in the Austrian Architecture poster below.



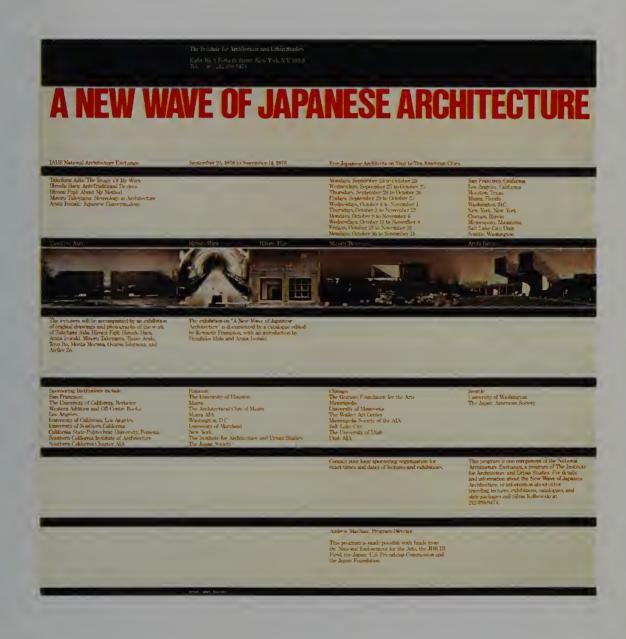


Vignelli and Associates, 1979-80





The posters use an economy of means by employing only two ink colors, red and black, that appear all the richer by the use of a duotone in the images. Economy is also present in the design system that enables the viewer to fluidly move from titles to text to images and readily access information.



Sotheby's is one of the largest auction houses in the world, with two New York City galleries on Madison Avenue and York Avenue. The Sotheby's advertisement system needed to be flexible and highly informative because the wide variety of auction merchandise changed weekly. With the design system in place, templates could be used to quickly change the information while retaining the systemized look of the advertisements.

The distinct and beautifully controlled hierarchy of information allows the viewer to see, at a glance, what will be auctioned that week at both galleries. The system fluidly moves from the most general information, the auction title and image, to the most specific, when and where the auction is held. The bold black horizontal rules emphasize the title, Sotheby's, and clearly separate and organize the categories of merchandise.

Fine Art Auctioneers

Since 1744

at 10:15 am.

Exhibition: Saturday, January 17 through

Thursday, January 22. Illustrated catalogue \$4.85 by mail. Order by sale no. 4527M. Shown: Charlotte E. Babb, Thenis, signed and dated 1878. watercolor on paper. 14 x 13 inches. (lot 228)



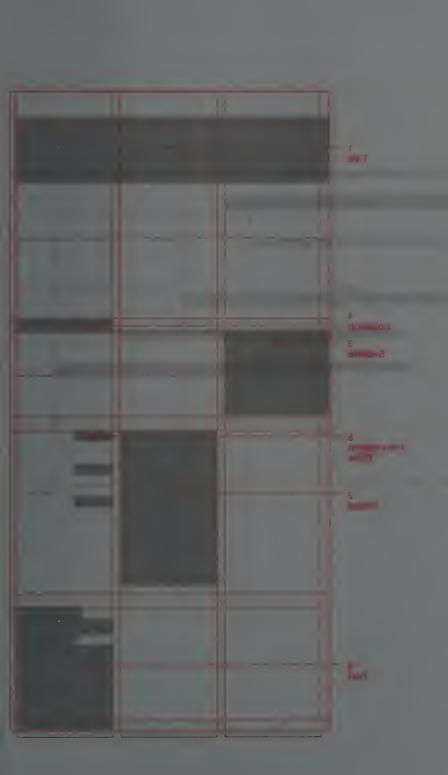
SOTHEBY'S New York 10021 1331 York Avenue. New York 10021 (212) 472,3400 Art, Judaica, Victorian International and Tapestries. American and European Paintings,

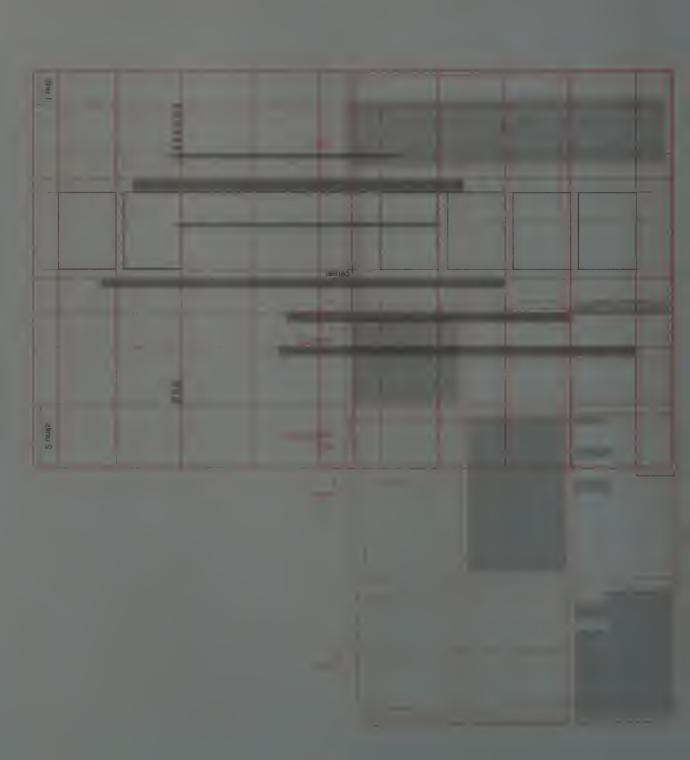
Madison Avenue Galleries Exhibition Galleries open Monday through Saturday 10 Catalogues available at both 980 Madison Avenue. galleries or by mail. Request by sale number and enclose to 5. Sundays 1 to 5. Tuesday evenings until 7:30. All check to Sotheby's. Dept. property on view until 3 pm NYC., 980 Madison Avenue York Avenue Galleries the day prior to sale. No New York 10021. For further Jewelry, Stamp or Coin exhibitions on Sundays or information, please contact the Subscription Department (212) 472.3414. Tuesday evenings. York Avenue Galleries Decorative Works of Illustrated catalogue S4. S5 by mail. Order by sale no. 4523Y. Auction: Friday, January 16 at 10:15 am (continuing all day). Furniture & Rugs Auction: Saturday, January 17 Exhibition: Friday, January 16. Japanese Prints at 10:15 am and 2 pm. Illustrated catalogue \$6.87 by mail. Order by sale no. 4524Y. York Avenue Galleries Auction: Friday and Saturday. January 23 & 24 at 10:15 am and 2 pm each day. including Silver, Objects of Exhibition: Saturday, January Vertu, Glass, Pottery and 17 through Thursday, January 22. Porcelain, Bronzes and Decorations, Furniture, Rugs Lecture: Sunday, January 18 at 2 pm in conjunction with this exhibition (open to the public). Illustrated catalogue \$10. S12 by mail. Order by sale no. 4526Y. Shown: Pair of Vienna vases and covers, late 19th century. Madison Avenue Galleries Auction: Friday, January 23

Vignelli and Associates, 1981-82

Drawings, Prints,

and Sculpture

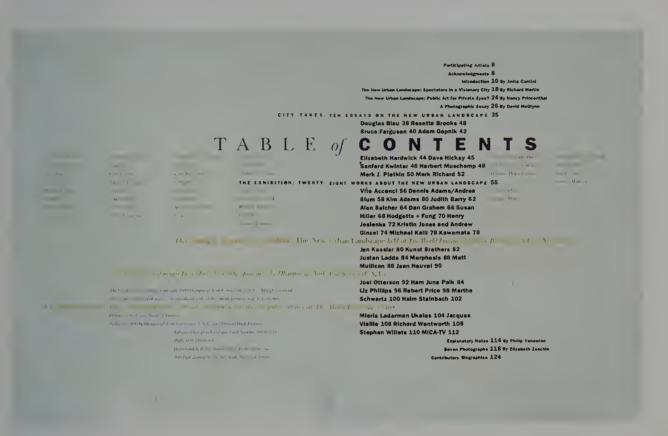




The contrast in texture of this spread by Drenttel Doyle Partners is immediately attractive. The title of the work is *The New Urban Landscape*, and the use of the entire spread for the table of contents speaks beautifully of the idea of the landscape.

The series of narrow columns of light text that move across the spread (shown on the overlay in black outline) create a rhythm

and repetition in the composition that give it a sense of order. The darker texture created by the bold text of the right page flows from top to bottom and is interrupted by long lines of text that span both pages. These long horizontal lines (shown on the overlay in light gray) serve both to communicate content and to unify the two pages as a single composition.



Drenttel Doyle Partners, 1988

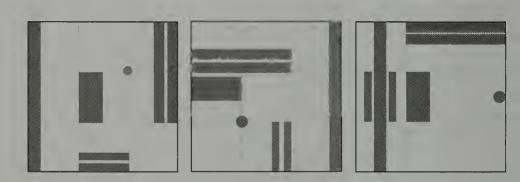


Horizontal/Vertical Composition

The second in the series of exercises is the more complex, horizontal/vertical composition. The thumbnails for this set of compositions involve all of the visual theory mentioned previously and considerably more decisions regarding the choice or horizontal or vertical placement for each element.

The same visual principles of grouping, edge and axial alignment, and the law of thirds apply in this series. The resulting compositions are livelier due to the contrast in direction of the elements and variations in white space. Eye flow becomes an important consideration as text takes the place of the rectangle elements.

When substituting text for the rectangle elements, the question arises as to whether the text should read from top to bottom or bottom to top. The direction of reading depends on the composition and the way that the eye moves around it. Often the circle becomes a pivot point for the eye as it revolves around the composition. It should be noted that when surveying the spines of books in a library, there is an overwhelming number of books whose spine titles read top to bottom.



Organizing the Approach to the Project

Because the first series of exercises were organized to guide the student through a thorough investigation of project variables, the organization of the second series occurs more naturally. The student has been sensitized to the nuances of composition, and it is not necessary to focus on specific compositional theory during the phases. The complexity of the project increases as each of the elements are used either horizontally or vertically.

Again, the longest element, the rectangle that spans all three visual fields, controls the composition. The major approaches

still include top, bottom, and interior positions as well as the vertical positions of left, right, and interior. Compositional stability is most readily achieved with the longest rectangle placed near a perimeter edge: top, bottom, left, or right. When the longest rectangle is in this position it anchors the composition to the format and gives a sense of stability. Likewise, when the longest rectangle rests in the interior of the composition, either horizontal or vertical, the composition is less stable and more asymmetric.

Emphasis:

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

Horizontal/Vertical Composition

Rotation of Composition

Each composition can be rotated to produce three additional compositions.

Series 1, 2, 3, 4

Emphasis: • Grouping

• Negative Space

Perimeter Edge

• Axial Alignment

• The Law of Thirds

• Circle Placement

• Leading

• Reading Direction

All compositional aspects are emphasized with the addition of reading direction. Reading direction is determined by the composition as a whole.

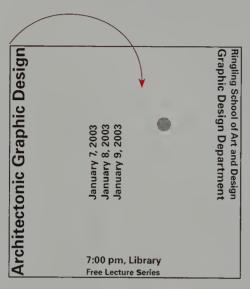
Series 1, Long Rectangle in Top Position

Series 2, Long Rectangle in Bottom Position

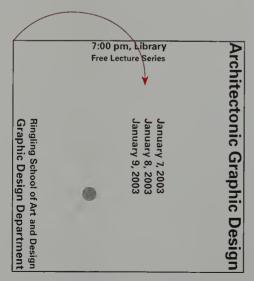
Series 3, Long Rectangle in Left or Right Position

Series 4, Long Rectangle in Interior Position

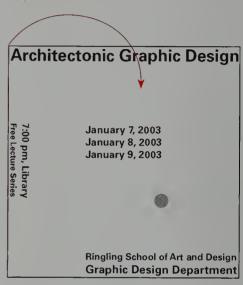
Because the gray rectangle compositions are made with nonobjective elements, they can easily be rotated. This rotation exercise is interesting in determining where the visual weight of the longest line is the most comfortable and in seeing how the hierarchical order shifts with changes in position. Lines of text that are upside down after rotation are changed to read right side up.



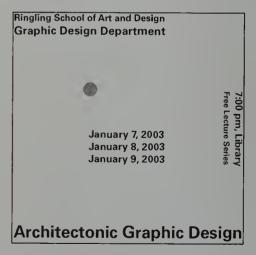
1. Original Composition



3. Third Composition Rotated clockwise, 90° from second |composition. Lines of text that are upside down are turned right side up.



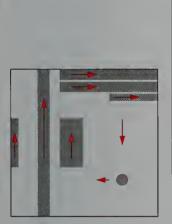
2. Second Composition
Rotated clockwise, 90° from original composition. Lines of text that are upside down are turned right side up.

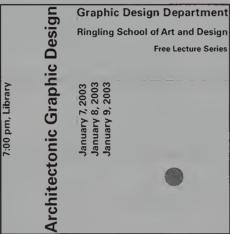


4. Fourth Composition
Rotated clockwise, 90° from third composition.
Lines of text that are upside down are turned right side up.

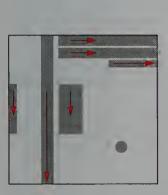
Reading Direction

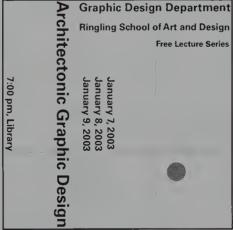
Decisions regarding the direction of text, whether it will read top to bottom or bottom to top, should be made to be in concert with the other elements. In the top example, the vertical text reads bottom to top, which creates a comfortable clockwise reading order. In the lower example, the vertical text guides the eye off the page; there is a struggle to return to the top of the page and read the remainder of the message.





Clockwise Reading Direction Vertical lines of text are oriented so that all elements read in a clockwise direction. This is visually comfortable for the reader.





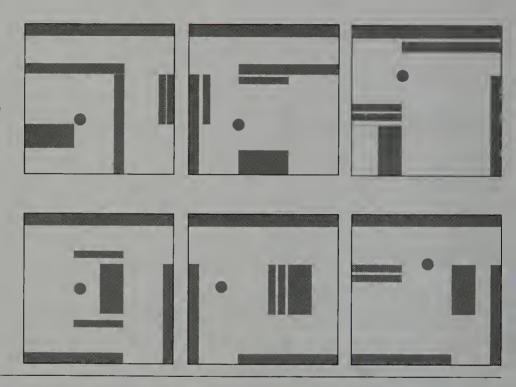
Contrasting Reading Direction
Vertical lines of text are oriented
to be in contrast with one another.
This is visually uncomfortable for
the reader as the eye struggles to
move from one direction of text
to the other. However, due to the
brevity of the visual message,
contrasting reading directions are
not so uncomfortable that they
should be disregarded.

Long Rectangle in Top Position Thumbnails

With the long rectangle in the top position as a horizontal starting point, any or all of the other elements can be placed vertically. Since the two medium-sized rectangles, two units wide, are the next largest elements, attention is given to formulating their role in the composition by splitting their placement: one horizontal and one vertical, both horizontal, and both vertical.

The same goals of compositional cohesiveness that were present in the first series of compositions—grouping, negative space, perimeter edge, axial alignment, the law of thirds, circle placement, and leading—are also present in this series.

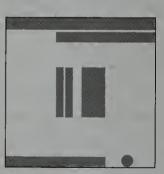
Medium Rectangles,
One Horizontal, One Vertical
Because the rectangles are
arranged in contrasting directions, the negative spaces are
more complex, and grouping
and interior alignment become
very important.



Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal Because both rectangles are arranged in the same direction, the negative spaces are fewer and simpler.







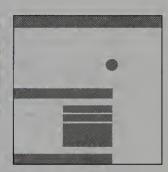
Long Rectangle in Top Position Thumbnails

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal (continued)

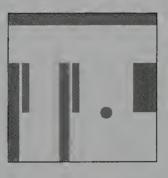


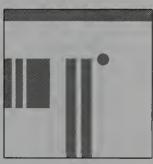


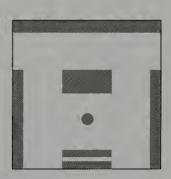


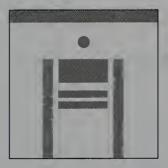
Medium Rectangles, Both Vertical

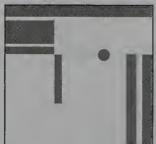
A pleasing compositional arrangement is more difficult to achieve because the eye moves off of the bottom of the page where the vertical rectangles touch the bottom edge of the format. When this occurs the placement of the circle and the small one-unit rectangles can be arranged to lead the eye back into the composition.



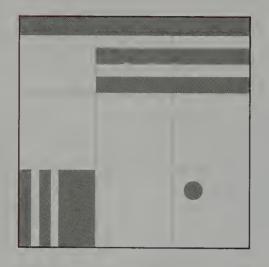


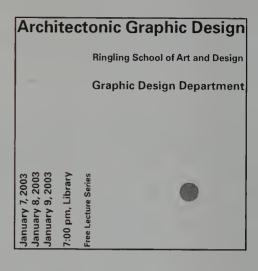


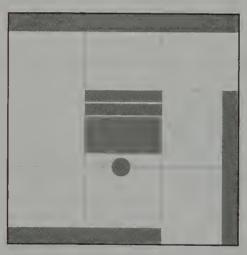


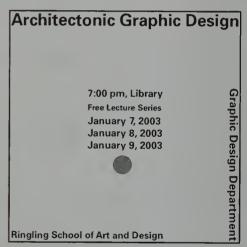


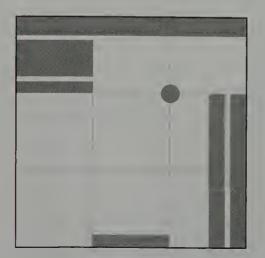


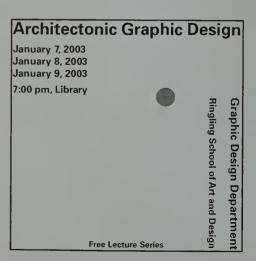








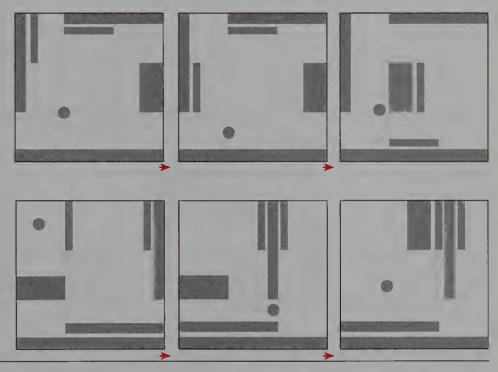




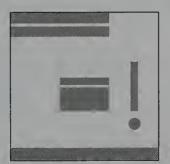
Long Rectangle in Bottom Position Thumbnails

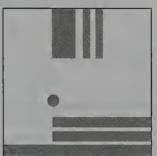
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

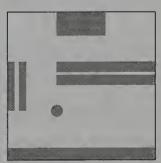
Medium Rectangles,
One Horizontal, One Vertical
When contrasting directions
are used for similar elements,
grouping and interior alignment
become very important. Each
thumbnail example on the left
is followed by two variations
on that composition.



Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal Because both rectangles are arranged in the same direction, the negative spaces are fewer and simpler.





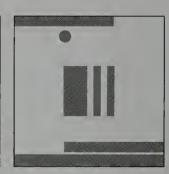


- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

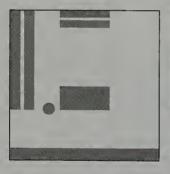
Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal (continued)

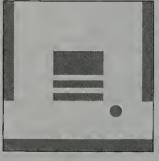


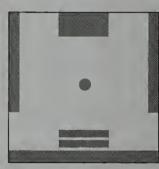


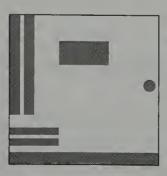


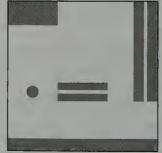
Medium Rectangles, Both Vertical A pleasing composition is more difficult to achieve in this arrangement, and, frequently, the small one-unit rectangles must be placed in the same direction, all vertical or all horizontal, for unity.

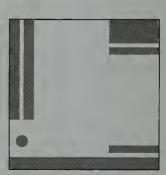


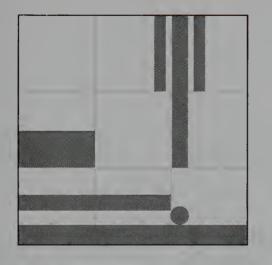




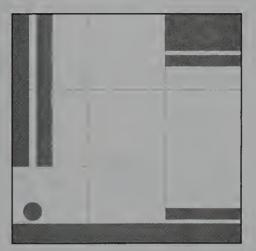


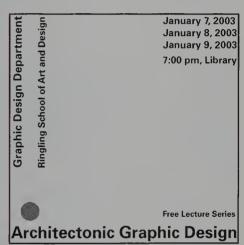


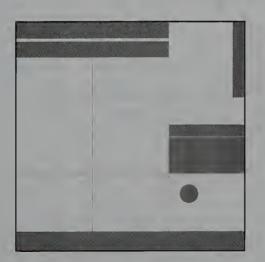


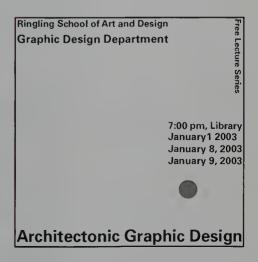








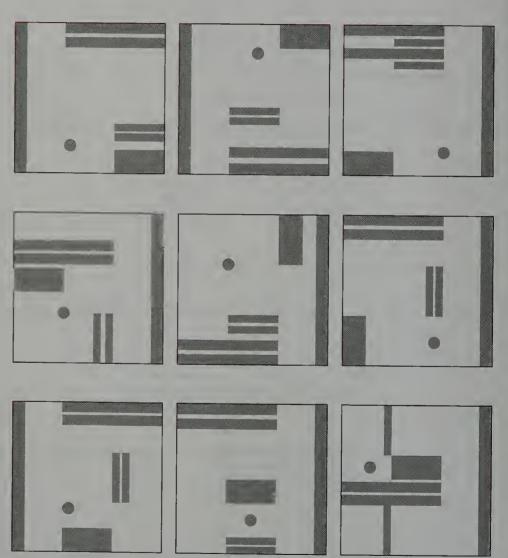




Long Rectangle in Left or Right Position Thumbnails

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

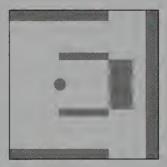
Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal Because both rectangles are arranged in the same direction, the negative spaces are fewer, simpler, and compositional unity is readily achieved.

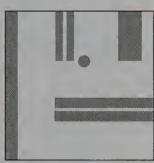


Long Rectangle in Left or Right Position Thumbnails

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

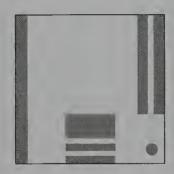
Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal (continued)



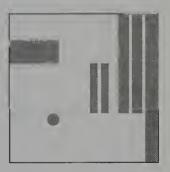




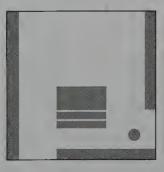
Medium Rectangles, Both Vertical Because both rectangles are arranged in the same direction, the negative spaces are fewer and simpler.



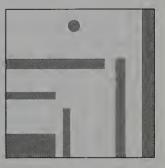


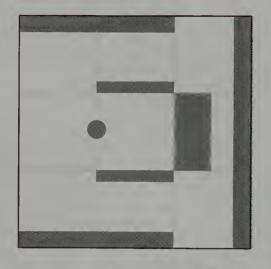


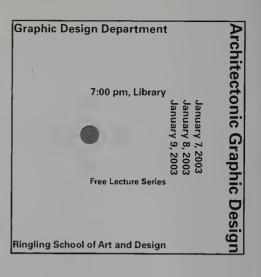
Medium Rectangles,
One Horizontal, One Vertical
The simplest composition is
achieved with the medium
rectangles arranged against
the right and bottom edges.
When the medium rectangles
occupy space in the interior of
the composition, the result is
more complex.

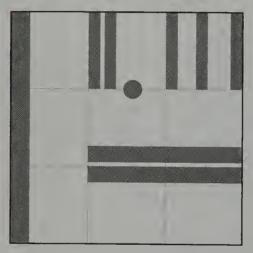


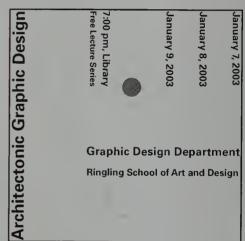


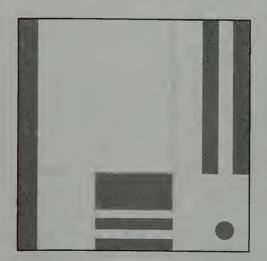


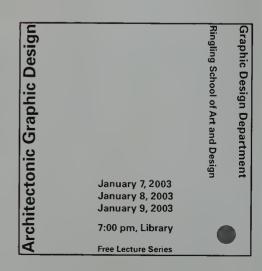










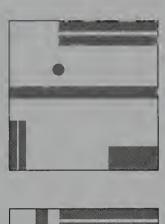


Long Rectangle in Interior Position Thumbnails

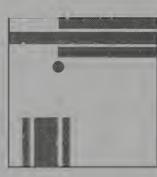
The least comfortable position for the longest rectangle is in the exact center of the format. This position divides the space equally and is less interesting than the asymmetric arrangements. Shifting this interior position creates a more interesting proportion.

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

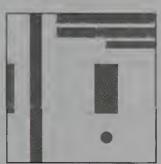
Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal Because both rectangles are arranged in the same direction, the negative spaces are fewer, simpler, and compositional unity is readily achieved.

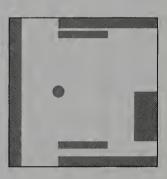


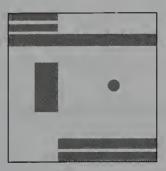


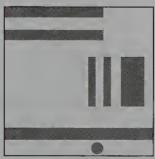


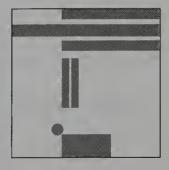








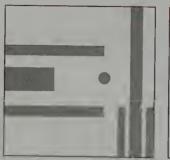


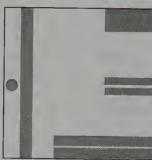


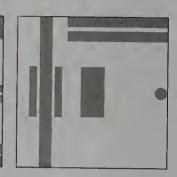
Long Rectangle in Interior Position Thumbnails

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction

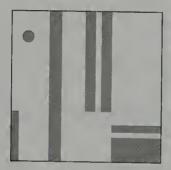
Medium Rectangles, Both Horizontal (continued)

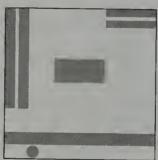


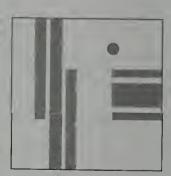




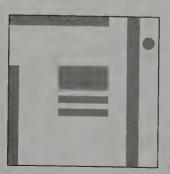
Medium Rectangles, Both Vertical Because both rectangles are arranged in the same direction, the negative spaces are fewer and simpler.

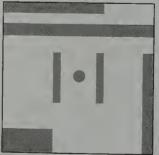


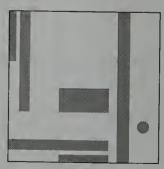




Medium Rectangles,
One Horizontal, One Vertical
The simplest composition is
achieved with the medium
rectangles arranged against
the edges. When the medium
rectangles occupy space in
the interior of the composition,
the result is more complex.



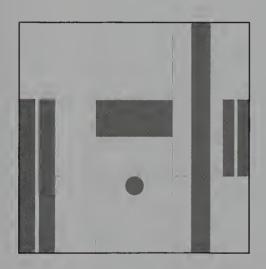




Long Rectangle in Interior Position Type Replacement

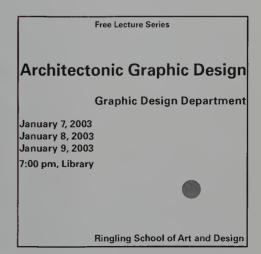


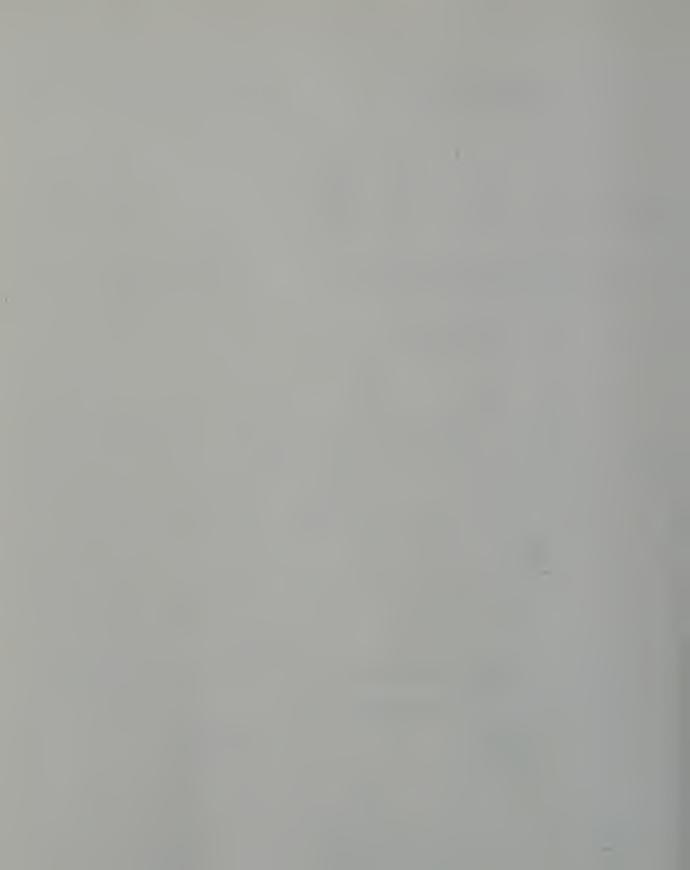


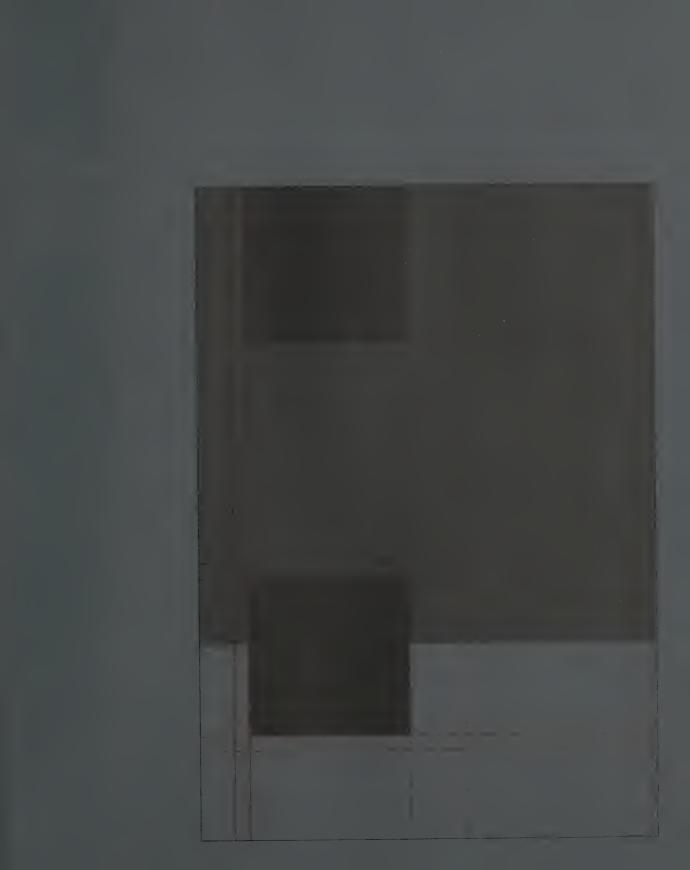














Both the color and design are striking in Richard P. Lohse's Zürcher Künstler im Helmhaus poster. The colors are a play on the complimentary contrast of red and green. Instead of a primary green, a pastel green is activated with a saturated bright red. The vertical text rests in a background window created with a white rectangle and is repeated horizontally in the foreground. The heavy red rule acts as a frame for the foreground text and marries the two text blocks together.



Nike ACG Pro Purchase Catalog

These are pages from a catalog of seasonal products for outdoor-industry professionals and athletes. The typography appears on the vertical in a band that spans the spread. The band is punctuated by solid vertical rules that change color and reverse out the product name. The descriptive text follows the vertical rule, with size and pricing information in bold. The rules and text have the option to flow across the gutter from the left page onto the right page. The images float in between bands of text as vignettes.

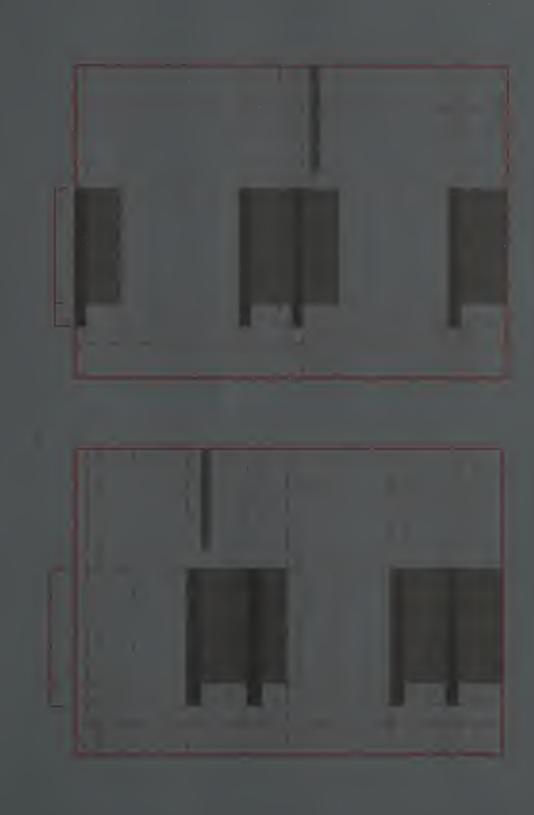
Design Firm Nike Inc., Beaverton, Oregon

Creative Director Michael Verdine

Designer Angelo Colletti, 2002













Program for Zurich University's 150th Anniversary

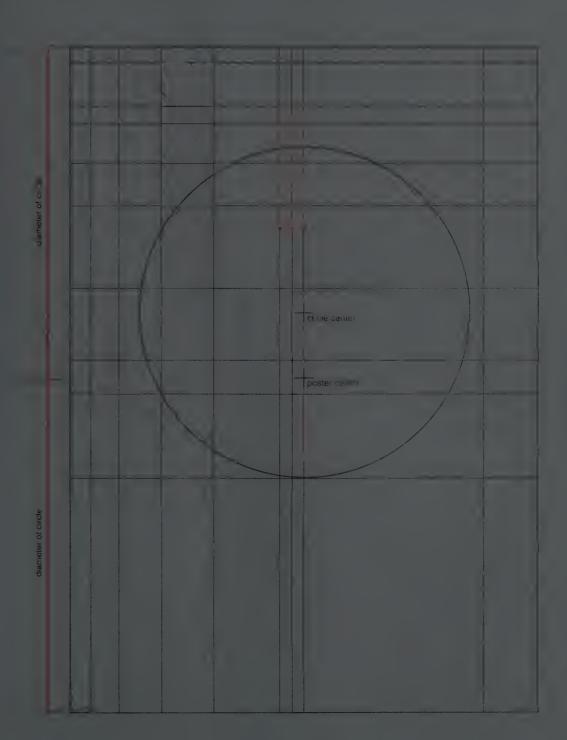
Siegfried Odermatt and Rosmarie Tissi, Odermatt & Tissi, use classical structures of typographic organization in fresh and innovative ways. The color is bright and eye catching and the compositions always cohesive. The poster for the 150th Anniversary of Zurich University is only two colors, blue and black, printed on white paper but seems rich and more lively—irregular shapes that are tailored around the typography pop out of the

page. The extreme thicks and thins of the vertical Bodoni type contrast the blunt shapes. The vertical type creates the grid lines that determine the flush-right alignment of the white shapes and flush-left alignment of the horizontal black text. The placement of the umlauts next to the A and inside the U is a delightful detail.





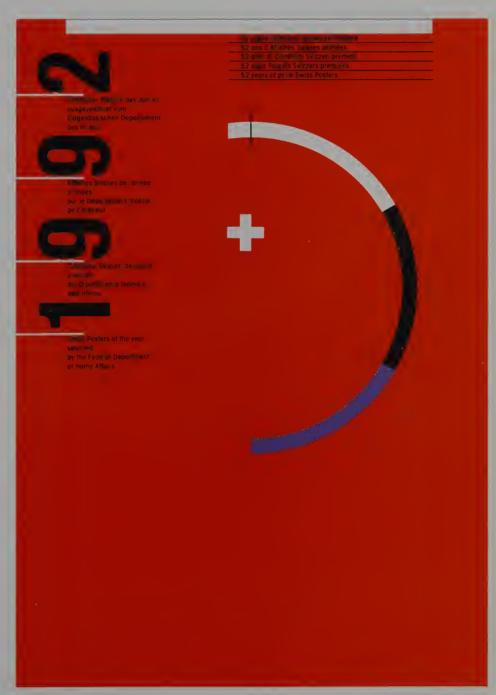
Odermatt & Tissi, 1983





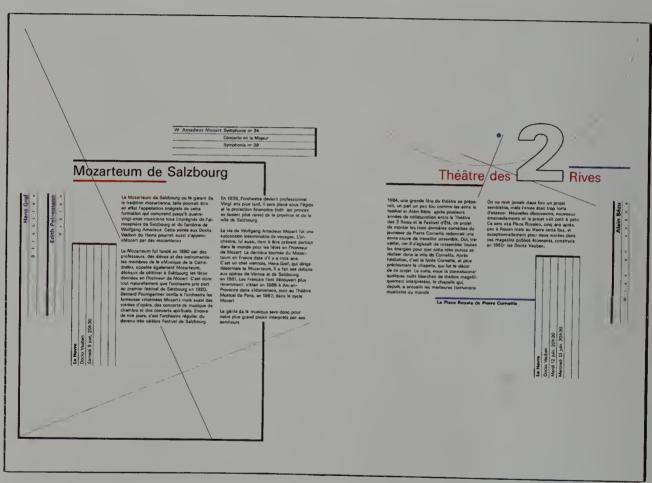
The Best of Swiss Posters of the Year 1992, also by Odermatt & Tissi, has some delightful and subtle nuances. The Swiss cross in white aligns with the arc at top and bottom as well as the left edge of the text at the top of the poster. The diameter of the circle is one-half the height of the poster. The thin repetitive rules at the top and the heavier white rules at the left create

rhythms as the eye moves down the page and returns to the top by the arc. Compositional unity is achieved as the eye moves horizontally, vertically, and in a circle with the Swiss cross as a pivot point. The function of the Swiss cross is similar to the circle in the previous compositional exercises.



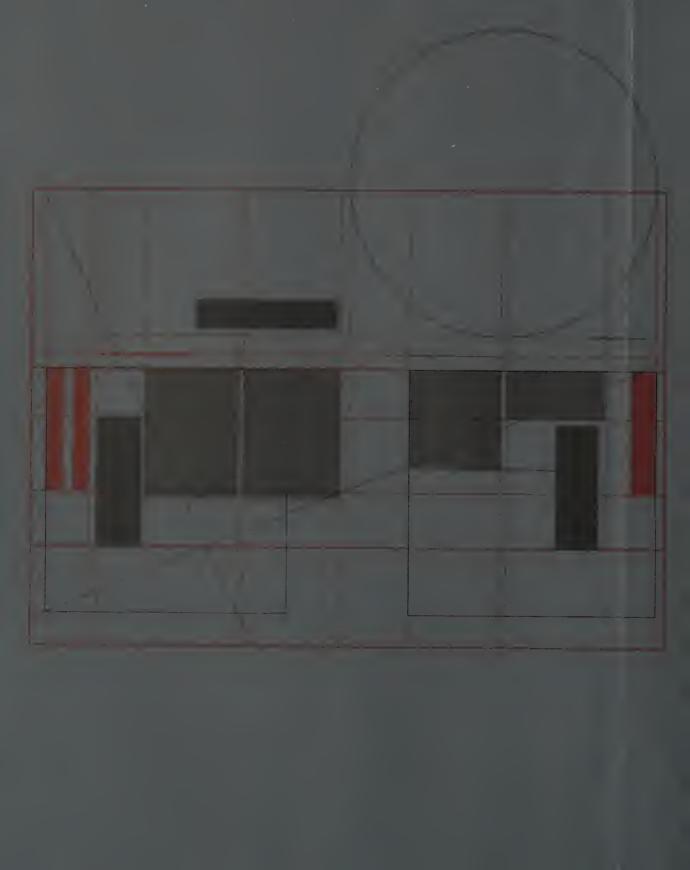
Festival d'été (Summer Festival), Program Spread

This spread, although complex in direction, nonobjective elements, and text, reads quite clearly. The pages are separate, yet are part of a whole. The compositional unity is due to the use of a similar grid on both pages and the alignment of elements from page to page. The four columns of text have a similar line length and a common top horizon. The rules align on both pages and the vertical text is set inside a series of rhythmical rules that connotate a musical staff.



Philippe Apeloig, 1990







Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture and Planning Posters

This poster is by Willi Kunz for Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture and Planning. The poster announces a new graduate-degree program in historic preservation. The square photograph of an architectural detail occupies the foreground and is in contrast to the rectangular format. The nonobjective elements, the circles and wavy lines, echo the details found in the photo.

The aesthetic is architectonic and appropriate for a school of architecture. The vertical lines of type act as columns in contrast to the square photograph and the green graphic field. These lines of text align with the horizontal shadow of the photograph and with the three vertical hairlines in the top black rule. There is a purposefulness to each compositional element and a direct relationship to other elements within the poster.





Diagonal Composition

The most dynamic and the most complex compositional direction is the diagonal. The three-column by three-row grid structure does not easily accommodate the diagonal direction because of the scale of the elements. Reducing the scale of the elements by 15 percent allows the elements to fit within the format and have more compositional flexibility.

The reduced 3 X 3 diagonal grid is placed in the format but, as the designer begins to compose, the alignment of edges and corners takes precedence over a formal fixed structure. While the structure is still used for organization and alignment, it is less important than in the previous compositions.

There is an opportunity in this composition to place elements at 45° angles or at 30°/60° angles. In addition, the rotation of elements can be in a clockwise direction or a counter-clockwise direction, and, therefore, the decision-making process is more complex.

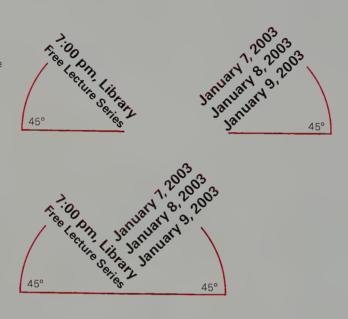
The focus is on creating an alignment for each element that has a direct relationship with another element. The most visually cohesive compositions have multiple alignments of elements and, as with the previous compositions, no element is without a partner. The exception to this is the use of an anomaly or an element whose position and/or rotation is in direct contrast to the other elements—diversity within unity.

Rotating 45°
When the composition elements are reduced in scale by 15 percent (far right) and the positions are readjusted, they fit more comfortably in the format.

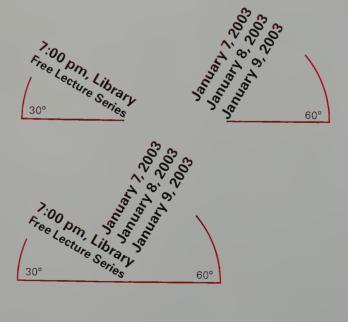




45° Diagonal Elements may be placed at a 45° diagonal rotated clockwise or counter clockwise.



30°/60° Diagonal Elements may be placed at a 30° diagonal or 60° diagonal.



Organizing the Approach to the Project

The diagonal compositions are the most complex of the series. Elements can be composed in a single direction or contrasting directions, and the negative spaces that are created are triangles. Placement of the 3 X 3 grid structure in the square format is a variable, and the opportunity exists to create tensions with the perimeter of the format.

Compositions with elements strictly in one direction, such as the 45° diagonal and the 30° diagonal below, have a sense of harmony because all of the elements read in a single direction. Compositions with elements that have an opposing diagonal have heightened visual interest because of the contrast in direction, such as the 45°/45° diagonal and the 30°/60° diagonal.

Emphasis:

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction
- Edge Tension

Diagonal Composition

Grid Placement

Each composition can be placed near a format edge to create tension.

Series 1, 2, 3, 4

- Emphasis: Grouping
 - Negative Space
 - Perimeter Edge
 - Axial Alignment
 - The Law of Thirds
 - Circle Placement

 - Leading
 - Reading Direction
 - Edge Tension

All compositional aspects are emphasized with the addition of edge tension. Edge tensions may be created by placing elements near the edges.

Series 1, Single Direction 45°





Series 2, Contrasting Directions 45°/45°





Series 3, Single Direction 30° or 60°









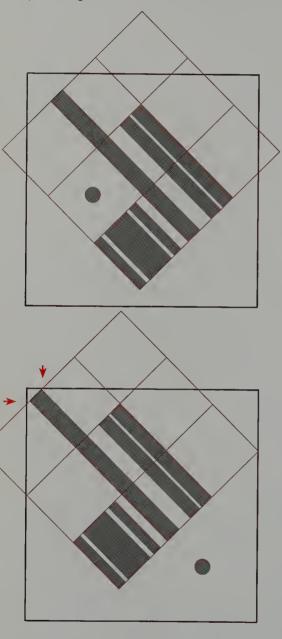
Series 4, Contrasting Directions 30°/60°





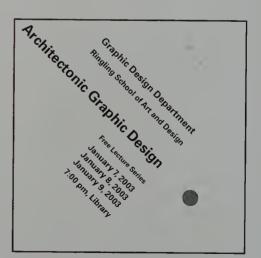
Since the grid and elements are reduced to 85 percent and placed on an angle, there are options as to where the grid and elements are placed inside the square format. Tensions may be created by placing elements near the edges and by the positioning of the circle.

Because of the dynamic qualities of the diagonal, when placed close to an edge, there is movement in the composition. The circle can enhance this dynamic quality by becoming either a stopping or starting point.

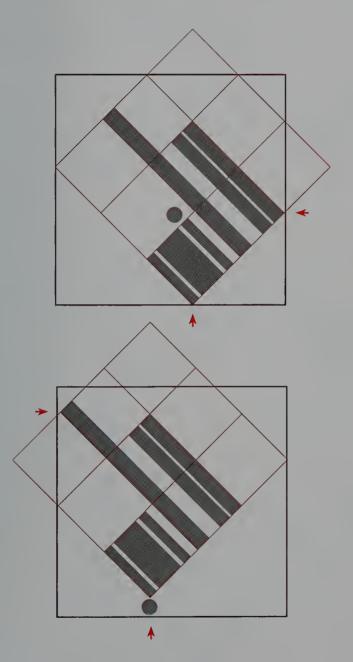




No Tension Composition is placed in a square format and is floating, with white space at all four edges.



Tension at Upper Left Corner





Tension at Right and Bottom Edge



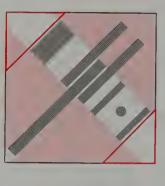
Tension with Circle at Bottom Edge

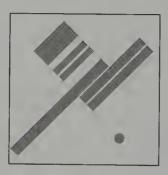
Single Direction 45° Thumbnails

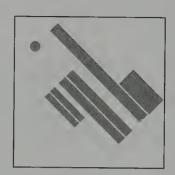
The rectangle elements of a 45° composition point toward the corners of the format, and the resulting negative spaces are primarily symmetrical 45°–90°–45° triangles (example below). These triangles are anchored to the format because their sides rest on the perimeter edges. The resulting compositions are harmonious due to the repetition of the triangle and the anchoring to the format.

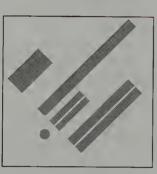
When the rectangles are arranged on a 45° diagonal, the first decision is whether the rectangles will be rotated in a clock-

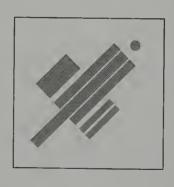
wise or counter-clockwise direction. There is no compositional advantage to either choice and both directions yield equally valid results. However, different reading directions occur when lines of text are substituted for the gray rectangles. Lines that are rotated 45° clockwise read from upper left to lower right (opposite page top row). Lines that are rotated 45° counter clockwise read from lower left to upper right (opposite page center row). Because most reading begins in the upper left corner of the page, it is slightly easier to read compositions that are rotated clockwise.

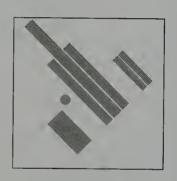




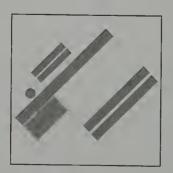


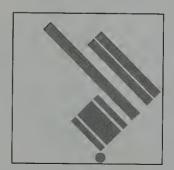








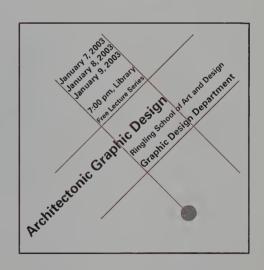




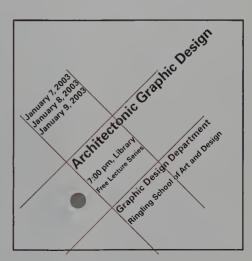






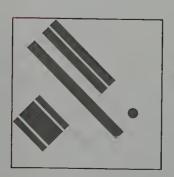














Contrasting Directions 45°/45° Thumbnails

Contrasting direction compositions combine rectangles that are rotated clockwise and counter clockwise. The compositions are more complex, interesting, and livelier because the negative spaces are divided by elements moving in two directions. Negative spaces consist of implied triangles and rectangles that frequently intersect.

- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction
- Edge Tension

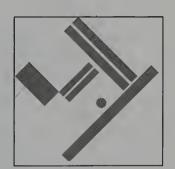








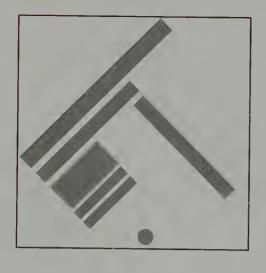


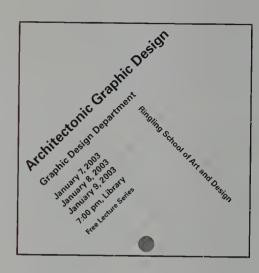


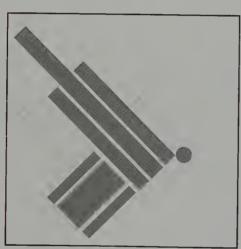


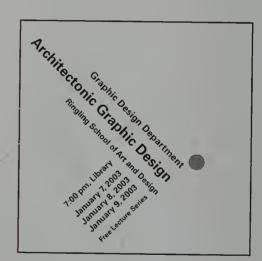


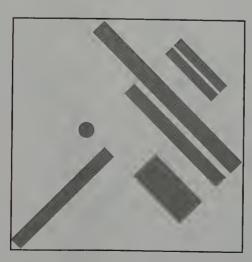


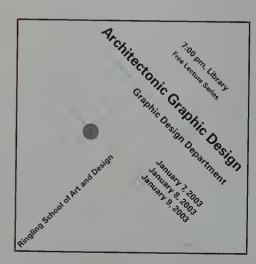






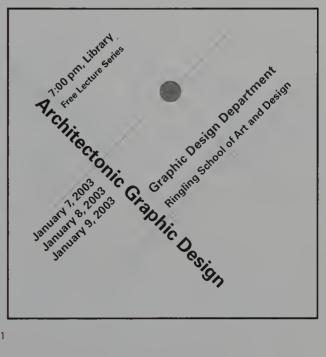


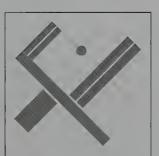








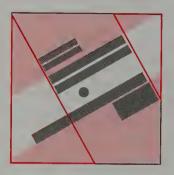




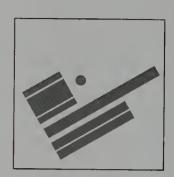
Single Direction 30° or 60° Thumbnails

Instead of the symmetrical triangles of negative space found in the 45° compositions, the triangles created in the 30° and 60° compositions are 30°-60°-90° right triangles. These right triangles are more dynamic because the vertex angle is narrower and they are asymmetric.

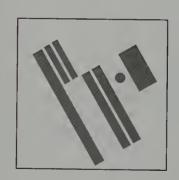
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction
- Edge Tension

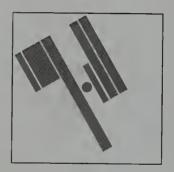




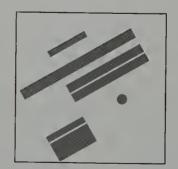


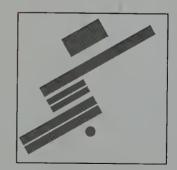




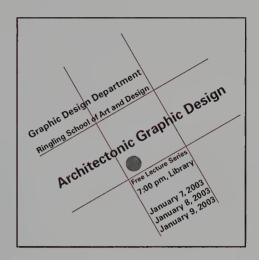


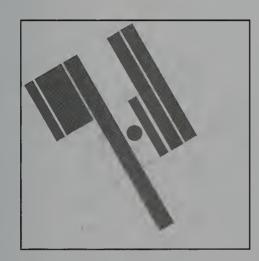






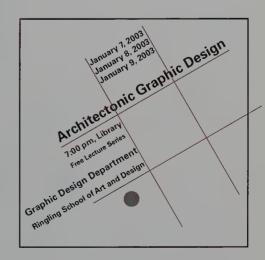




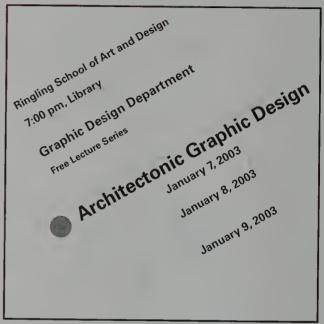


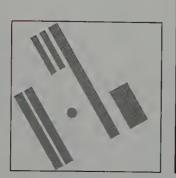


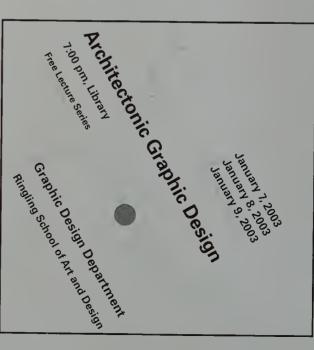












Contrasting Directions 30°/60° Thumbnails

Contrasting direction compositions combine rectangles that are rotated 30° or 60° clockwise and counter clockwise. Similar to the 45° compositions, the results are often more complex, interesting, and livelier because the negative spaces are divided by elements moving in two directions at two different angles. Negative spaces consist of implied triangles and rectangles that frequently intersect or overlap.

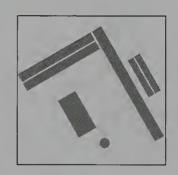
- Grouping
- Negative Space
- Perimeter Edge
- Axial Alignment
- The Law of Thirds
- Circle Placement
- Leading
- Reading Direction
- Edge Tension











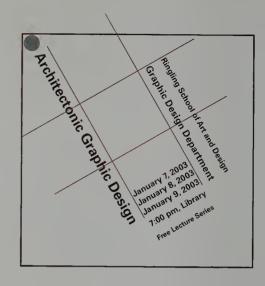


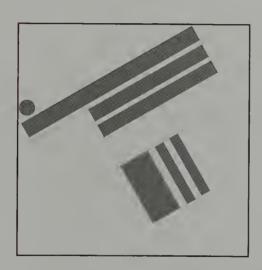


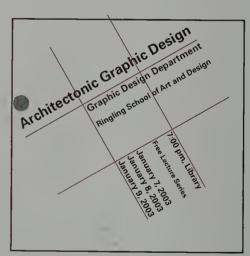




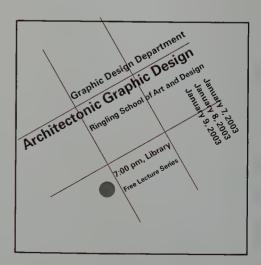






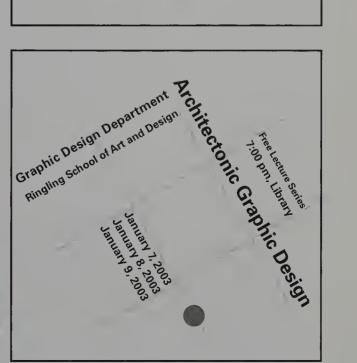






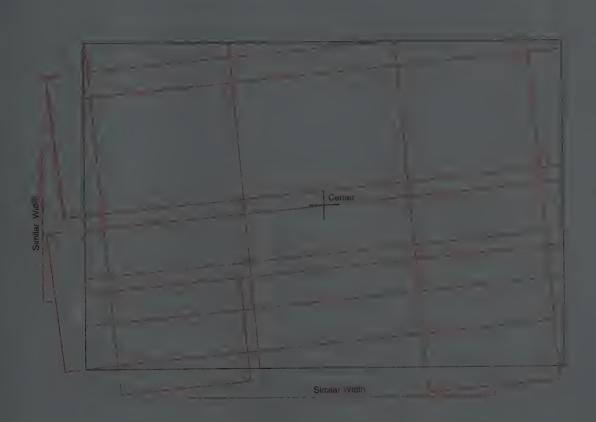


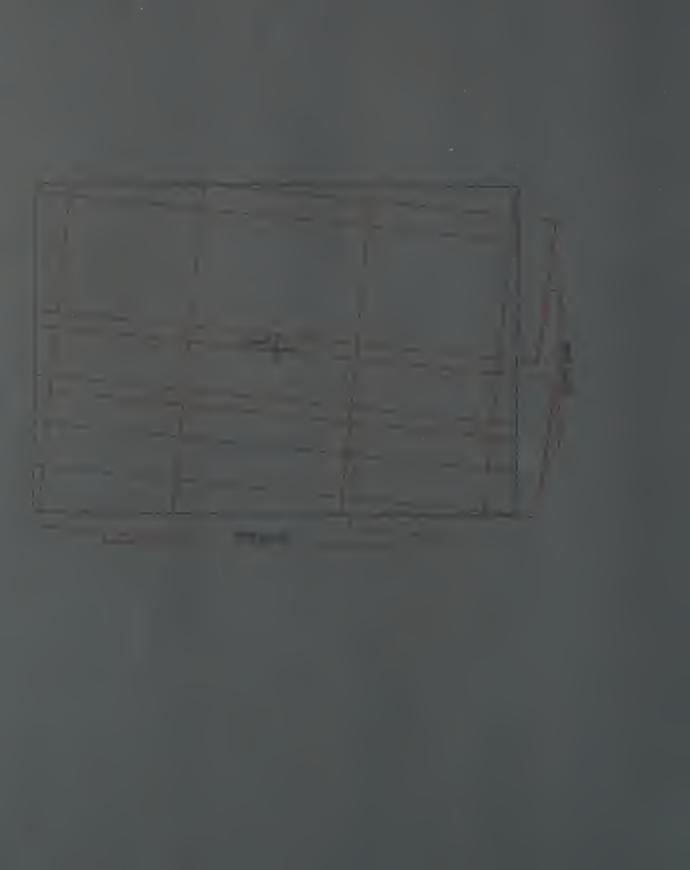












Kandinsky Poster

Herbert Bayer was a student of Wassily Kandinsky at the Bauhaus and produced this poster for an exhibition of Kandinsky's paintings on his sixtieth birthday.

Since the poster was almost certainly produced with letterpress, it must have been composed horizontally. Through digital image manipulation, the poster was rotated to the horizontal and appears below the original. While the horizontal version is still appealing, the dynamic character of the original diagonal poster is heightened with the comparison.

The use of primary color, sans serif typography, and rectangular red rules as devices of organization and emphasis are in keeping with constructivist principles. The use of the diagonal makes this poster unique and outstanding. Since the poster was produced by letterpress with a photo engraving, the work was probably composed in the horizontal/vertical letterpress lock-up system and rotated 7.5° when printed.



Herbert Bayer, 1926

Horizontal Version The original Kandinsky poster (above) has been digitally manipulated to a horizontal format for comparison purposes.



Page from Reklama Mechano Page from The Next Call

Henryk Berlewi was a Polish designer who was profoundly influenced by a lecture series given by El Lissitzky in Warsaw in 1922. He moved to Berlin and began working on a series of typographic experiments that employed geometry, and primary colors, and were composed with "mechanical constructivism." *Reklama Mechano* is a page from a booklet of works from Berlewi's advertising agency of the same name. The pages were two-dimensional works that meshed geometric, mathematical compositions with informational text.

H. N. Werkman was also fascinated by printing and typography because "printing offers more possibilities than painting. It enables me to express myself more freely, and also more directly." This resulted in fine art experiments more akin to painting than to the functional communication that was influential at that time and today.





Abstracted Version
The original version is reduced to a series of rectangles on the yellow ground.

Henryk Berlewi, 1924



H. N. Werkman, 1924

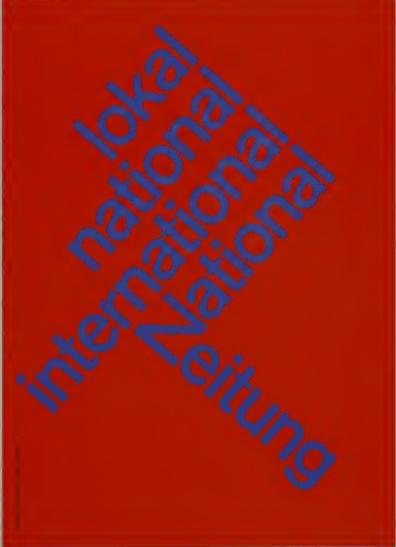
National-Zeitung Poster Series

The stark simplicity of Karl Gerstner's *National-Zeitung* poster is an excellent example of the Swiss international style. This style, begun in the 1950s, is similar to earlier Bauhaus works in that it focused on asymmetry, functional sans serif typography, a high level of visual organization, and an absence of decorative imagery.

Gerstner's poster for the newspaper, National-Zeitung, clearly and simply states the range of news from local, national, and

international sources. The diagonal grid is sharpened by turning the word "Zeitung" ninety degrees and allowing the N to also function as a Z. Repetition and alignment of the letter forms in the words create a pattern. The alignment of the letter "I" at the end of the four words forms a long rule that enhances the diagonal. The first I in the word "lokal" and the letter "i" in the interior of the other three words also align and enhance the crisp organization. Finally, the dot on the first I of "international" is near the left edge of the poster and creates visual tension.







Karl Gerstner, 1960

Title Page Studies for the Freiburg Municipal Theatre

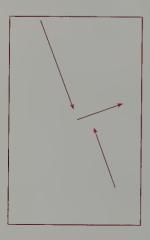
These variations in diagonal grid design by Emil Ruder appear in his book *Typography*. Ruder taught typography at the Allegemeine Gewerbeschule in Basel, Switzerland, and advocated functional readability and systematic typography structures in his courses. The examples show some of the variations possible within a harmonious diagonal grid.

Similar to the exercises in this book, the study is limited to communicating the same message with one type face, one weight, and one size of type. The variations occur in composition and all compositions are organized on the same 20° diagonal. Because of the rectangular format, there is flexibility in the length of the lines in the compositions. The groups of text can be near any edge and tensions between the text and edges are readily created. The lines are broken into one, two, or three words, and the reading direction is carefully controlled.

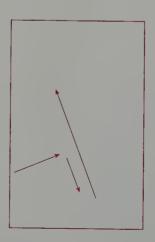


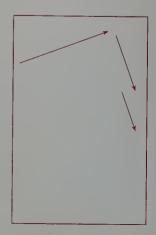
Emil Ruder, 1977

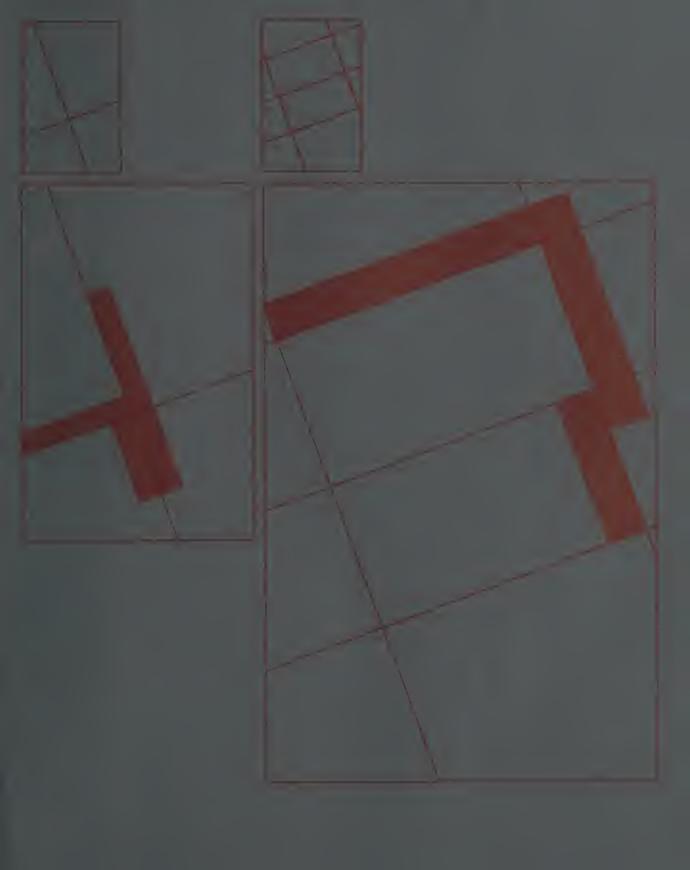


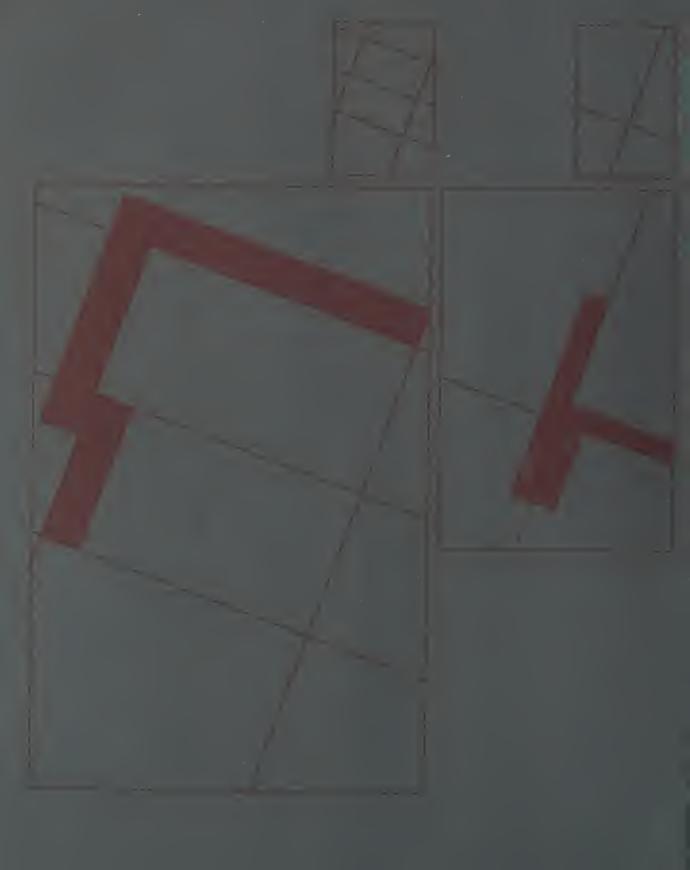












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Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture and Planning Lecture and Exhibition Posters

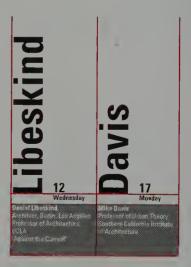
Willi Kunz was born and educated in Switzerland and, since 1970, has made the United States his home. In his book *Typography: Macro + Micro Aesthetics*, he chronicles his own work and approach to typographic composition as well as his approach to teaching typography. Kunz writes, "Typographic design is realized on two aesthetic scales: macro (explicit and obvious) and micro (subtle, sophisticated, perhaps only subconsciously perceptible)."

Columbia Architecture Planning Preservation Although complex, this poster communicates very clearly. The first visual analysis of this poster does not seem to bring much coherence into the design structure because of the variation in forms, angles, and color. However, reducing the poster to three levels, as Kunz does with another poster in *Typography*, begins to reveal insight into the structure.

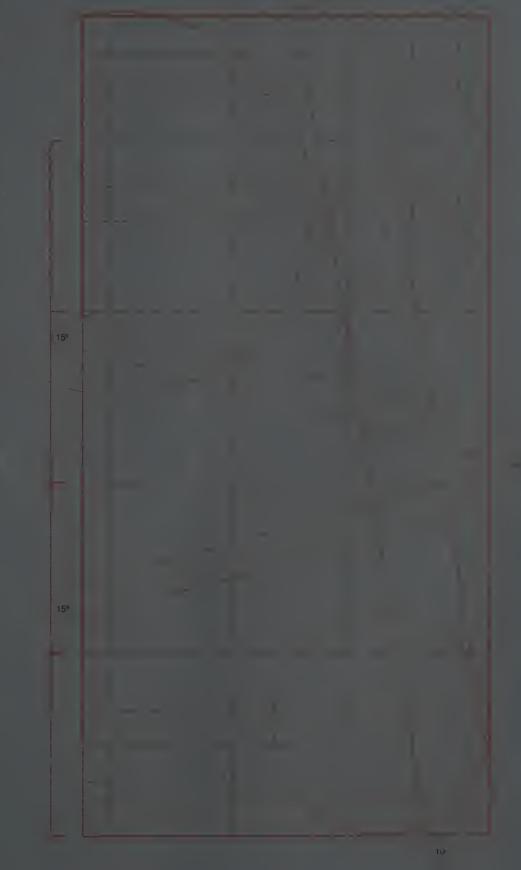
The first layer holds a texture of multiple fine rules that are shaped at the top and bottom with a pattern of obtuse triangles down the middle. This layer serves as the compositional glue that connects the other layers. Each layer of the poster is a cohesive composition on its own and, when combined, the layers support and unify each other.

The second layer consists of the brightest solid orange elements, the rectangles and a circle. The horizontal rectangles flow down the page with changes in angles and an increase in length. The two long, narrow orange rectangles at each edge stabilize the composition. The two parallel vertical rectangles are echoed in a smaller version near the bottom.

The third layer consists of the typographic information. Facts are grouped according to content and, even with the changes in the angle, are easy to read. Each group has a distinct texture, with the more important information in bold. The four groups of text containing the lecturer's name, date of presentation, and biographical information are arranged in the same manner. This system allows the information to be easily read and understood. It is this diversity within unity that makes the composition so harmonious.



Group Systemization Each group of names is organized with a common system of size, weight, and color.













Typographic Hierarchy

All visual messages have a hierarchal order to the information presented, that is, an order of reading the information according to importance. It is essential for the designer to determine a logical hierarchal order for all elements within a message before beginning design. Knowledge and understanding of the content of the message is essential for this process. Once the content has been organized, the designer can rationally make visual decisions that support that order.

In this series of projects, students select a historic date and develop a title and paragraph of descriptive copy. Each selection must have a title, day, year, and description paragraph. Using only one type face, size, weight, slope, and color, the student explores the variability of text element position in relationship to hierarchy by consciously ordering the content of the message.

Visual Message Content

Title Identification of the AIDS Virus

Day April 23

Year 1984

Text Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Kathy Azada, 1996

As the variables of the history project are investigated, the essential elements of managing text blocks are discovered. Initially, an auto lead at 20 percent of the type size, the default leading mode on the computer, is the only variation in leading employed. Through repetition and experimentation, the visual variety of texture and the subsequent changes in meaning and readability through texture change is apparent.

Sans serif faces such as Helvetica and Univers 65, which is used in the examples below, require leading for readability due to their very large x-height. The large x-height diminishes the space between lines making the text more tightly leaded and more difficult to read. The same is true of very widely leaded sans serif faces—the space becomes so generous that the eye needs to focus on the text more carefully.

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

8/9.6 Auto Leading

8/7.5 Negative Leading Negative leading yields a very dense texture and readability is diminished.

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

8/12 Wide Leading

8/15 Extra Wide Leading Wide leading yields a very airy texture.

Alignment

The designer can choose the standard paragraph alignments such as flush left, flush right, centered, or justified that are a part of every text processing software. The designer can also combine alignments or choose a variation within an alignment.

Flush left, rag right alignment is often thought to be the most readable form of alignment. This alignment provides the reader with proportional spacing throughout the text lines and avoids the changes of spacing that can occur in justified text. The reader also has a vertical left edge to return to on the next line of type, which enhances the rhythm of reading.

Justified text makes for a firm rectangular texture of type that is texturally pleasing to the eye. The computer attempts to justify each line and when a word cannot be broken by hyphenation the result is uneven word spacing (below right).

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Flush Left Alignment

Flush Right Alignment

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Centered Alignment

Justified Alignment

The light red rectangles are the width of normal word spacing and show the uneven and excessive word spacing caused by justification.

Constraints:

- One Type Face
- One Size
- One Weight
- Flush Left or Flush Right or Justified

Variables:

- Position
- Leading
- Word Space
- Letter Space
- Alignment

Identification of the AIDS Virus

April 23

1984

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Variation 1, Hierarchy 1st Order: Title 2nd Order: Day 3rd Order: Year 4th Order: Text

Identification of the AIDS Virus

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

April 23, 1984

Variation 3, Hierarchy
1st Order: Title
2nd Order: Text
3rd Order: Day
4th Order: Year

Identification of the AIDS Virus

April 23

1984

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Variation 2, Hierarchy 1st Order: Title 2nd Order: Day 3rd Order: Year 4th Order: Text

Identification
of the
AIDS
Virus

April 23

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Variation 4, Hierarchy
1st Order: Title
2nd Order: Day
3rd Order: Year
4th Order: Text

1 9 8 4

Identification of the AIDS Virus

April 23

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Variation 5, Hierarchy
1st Order: Year
2nd Order: Title
3rd Order: Day
4th Order: Text

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Identification of the AIDS Virus

Variation 7, Hierarchy 1st Order: Year 2nd Order: Text 3rd Order: Title

4th Order: Day

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's

April 23 1984

Identification of the AIDS Virus

natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

Variation 6, Hierarchy 1st Order: Day 2nd Order: Year 3rd Order: Text 4th Order: Title

Identification of a virus thought to cause Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS) was announced by federal researchers on April 23, 1984. The disease destroys the body's natural immune system and is considered to be ultimately fatal. By the date of discovery, AIDS was estimated to have killed 4,000 Americans.

April 23, 1984

Identification of the AIDS Virus

Variation 8, Hierarchy
1st Order: Text
2nd Order: Day
3rd Order: Year
4th Order: Title

Rules and Nonobjective Elements

Just as type elements must make sense in terms of hierarchy—position, font, spacing, and column width—so, too, must nonobjective elements. Nonobjective elements are usually geometric shapes without meaning, such as the rectangular lines, called rules, shown in the examples below. There are three reasons to use nonobjective elements: 1. emphasis, 2. organization, or 3. balance. When nonobjective elements are used functionally, they enhance and support the meaning of the typographic message. When nonobjective elements do not

have a function, they become decorative elements and attract attention away from the meaning of the typographic message.

When rules are used as nonobjective elements, consideration is given to the compositional structure. In the examples, the rule length is determined by the line length. Variation in rule width is used to emphasize hierarchy, and the change from thick to thin creates rhythm and enhances eye flow through the page.

Contemporary American Photographers
The Museum of Modern Art

June 12-15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers

The Museum of Modern Art

June 12-15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers
The Museum of Modern Art
June 12–15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers

The Museum of Modern Art

June 12-15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers

June 12-15, 2001

The Museum of Modern Art

Contemporary American Photographers
The Museum of Modern Art
June 12–15, 2001

Rules and Nonobjective Elements

The circle is the most visually powerful geometric shape and the eye is inexorably attracted to it. Even very small circles command considerable attention and must be used sparingly and with care so as not to overpower the composition. Similar to rules, the changes in circle size and repetition create rhythm and directs eye flow. Larger circles can divert attention to a part of a word or to the entire word.

- · Contemporary American Photographers
- · The Museum of Modern Art
- June 12–15, 2001

- Contemporary American Photographers
- The Museum of Modern Art
- June 12-15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers
The Museum of Modern Art
June 12–15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers
The Museum of Modern Art
June 12–15, 2001

Contemporary American Photographers
The Museum of Modern Art
June 12–15, 2001



Case Study: Identification of the AIDS Virus

After the hierarchy exercises, an acute awareness of the order of importance of each element in the composition develops. The next phase of learning looks at the development of contrast within the composition. At this point there are many more options than constraints. The complexity of composition increases but so, too, does the dynamic vitality of the work.

The final phase of the project involves the combination of words and images. Found images are used to enhance and emphasize meaning with the focus, again, on maintaining a hierarchy within the composition.



















Visual Message Content

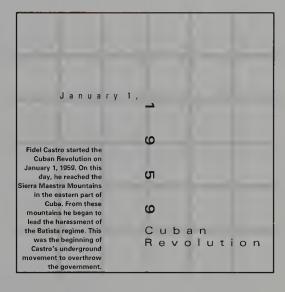
Title The Beginning of Communism in Cuba

Day January 1

Year 1959

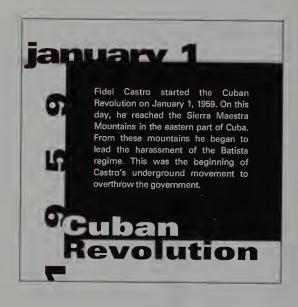
Text
Fidel Castro started the Cuban Revolution on January
1, 1959. On this day, he reached the Sierra Maestra
Mountains in the eastern part of Cuba. From these
mountains he began to lead the harassment of the
Batista regime. This was the beginning of Castro's
underground movement to overthrow the government.

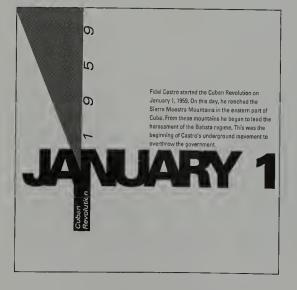
Pedro Perez, 1996

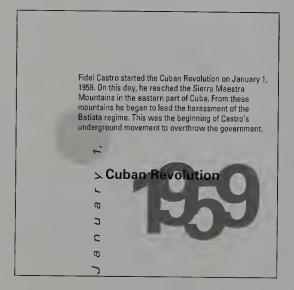


Fidel Castro started the Cuban Revolution on January 1, 1959. On this day, he reached the Sierra Maestra Mountains in the eastern part of Cuba. From these mountains he began to lead the harassment of the Batista regime. This was the beginning of Castro's underground movement to overthrow the government.

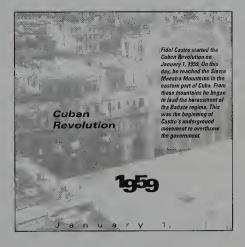
1959

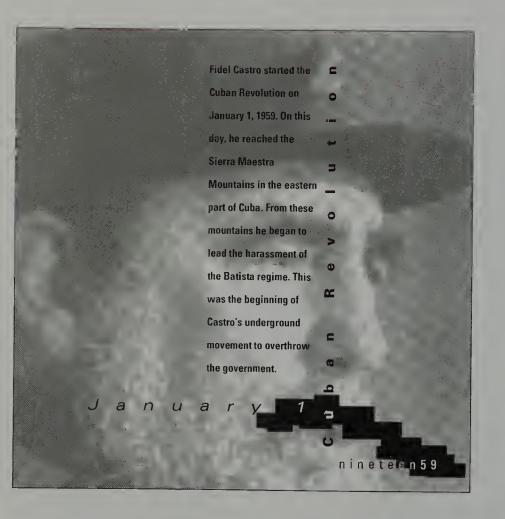


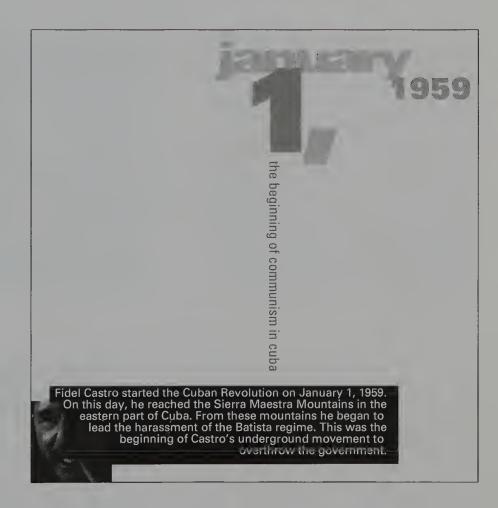












Visual Message Content

Title Levi's Become Fashion

Day September 16

Year 1946

Text After Levi Strauss introduced rough canvas pants for miners during the gold rush, jeans became the trousers for tough work. During World War I, the demand increased, since people were looking for a sturdy, comfortable garment. In 1946 Levi's introduced jeans in the retail market that were characterized by a red label on the rear right-side pocket.

Christina Archila, 1997

9	Levi's Become Fashion 1 9 4 6
_	After Levi Strauss introduced rough
O	canvas pants for miners during the gold rush, jeans became the trousers
Q	for tough work. During World War I, the demand increased, since people
Ε	were looking for a sturdy, comfortable garment. In 1946 the Levi Strauss Co.
O	introduced jeans in the retail market
+	that were characterized by a red label on the rear right-side pocket.
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1	9	4	. (6	d		
S e p	t e	m	b e	r	1	6	After Lev Strauss introduced rough canvas pants for
Fashi							gold rush, jeans became the trousers for tough work. Dur-
ome							demand increased, since people were looking for a sturdy,
Levi's Become							comfortable gar- ment. In 1946 Levi's introduced jeans in the retail market
Levi							that were character- ized by a red label on the rear right-side pocket.





















Visual Message Content

Title "If the glove don't fit, you must acquit."

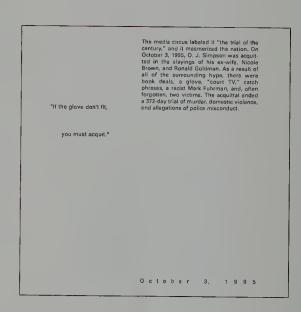
Day October 3

Year 1995

Text The media circus labeled it "the trial of the century," and it mesmerized the nation.
On October 3, 1995, O. J. Simpson was acquitted in the slayings of his ex-wife, Nicole Brown, and Ronald Goldman. As a result of all of the surrounding hype, there were book deals, a glove, "court TV," catch phrases, a racist Mark Fuhrman, and, often forgotten, two victims. The acquittal ended a 372-day trial of murder, domestic violence, and allegations of police misconduct.

John Pietrafesa, 1998









Acknowledgments

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Kathy Azada Jana Dee Bassing		merly & Frey AG Berne, 1991.
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Lora Kanetzky James De Mass,		ed, ed. <i>Karl Gerstner, Review of Graphic Design Etc.</i> Ostfildern- z Verlag, 2001.
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Best Swiss Poste Odermatt		
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Nike ACG Pro Pu Shellie Anderson	Ischi	Chold, Jan. Asymmetric Typography

Program for Zurich University's 150th Anniversary, Siegfried Odermatt

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Index

A	single direction 30° or 60°, 83–84
alignment, 99	single direction 45°, 77–78
Apeloig, Philippe	Die Neue Typographie, 35
Festival d'été, 68	Drenttel Doyle Partners
Archila, Christina, 112–15	The New Urban Landscape, 45
axial alignment, 18–21, 24–26, 29–31, 47,	E
50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 59–60, 73, 79, 82, 85	
axial relationships, 12	edge tension, 73, 79, 85
Azada, Kathy, 97, 104-6	F
7,2200,70117,07,1010	Festival d'été, 68
В	Freiburg Municipal Theatre, 92–93
balance, circle, 14-15	
Bauhaus products, catalog of, 37	G
Bayer, Herbert	Gassner, Christof
Bauhaus products, catalog of, 37	Theatre Am Hechtplatz, 38–39
Kandinsky poster, 89	Gerstner, Karl
Beginning of Communism in Cuba, 107–11 Berlewi, Henryk	National-Zeitung, 91
The Next Call, 90	grouping, 10–11, 18–21, 29–31, 47, 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 59–60, 73, 79, 82, 85
Reklama Mechano, 90	33-34, 30 37, 33 300, 73, 73, 62, 63
The Best Swiss Posters of the Year 1992, 67	Н
	hierarchy
C	proportion, 9
case study	hierarchy, typographic, 97–117
Beginning of Communism in Cuba,	alignment, 99
107–11	compositions, 100–1
Identification of the AIDS Virus, 97, 104–6	leading, 98
"If the glove don't fit, you must	rules and nonobjective elements, 102–3
acquit," 116–17	horizontal composition, 17–33
Levi's Become Fashion, 112–15	critique
circle and composition, 14–15	long rectangle in bottom position, 26
circle placement, 18–21, 24–26, 29–31	long rectangle in interior position, 31
Colletti, Angelo	long rectangle in top position, 21
Nike ACG Pro Purchase catalog, 64–65	organizing the approach to the project, 18 thumbnails
Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture and Planning, 69, 94–95	long rectangle in bottom position
Columbia University, Graduate School of	24–25
Architecture and Planning, lecture	long rectangle in interior position
and exhibition posters, 94–95	29–30
Columbia University, Graduate School of	long rectangle in top position, 19–20
Architecture and Planning posters, 69	type replacement
constraints and options, 8	long rectangle in bottom position 27–28
D	long rectangle in interior position
diagonal composition, 71–87	32–33
direction and contrast, 72	long rectangle in top position, 22–23
grid placement, 74–75	horizontal/vertical composition, 46–61
organizing the approach to the project, 73	organizing the approach to the
thumbnails	project, 47
contrasting directions 30°/60°, 85	reading direction, 49
contrasting directions 45°/45°, 79	rotation of composition, 48
single direction 30° or 60°, 82 single direction 45°, 76	thumbnails long rectangle in bottom position
type replacement	53–54
contrasting directions 30°/60°,	long rectangle in interior position
86–87	59–60
contrasting directions 45°/45°, 80-81	long rectangle in left or right

long rectangle in top position, 50–51 type replacement long rectangle in interior position, 61 long rectangle in left or right	program for Zurich University 150th anniversary, 66 organization, circle, 14–15
position, 58 long rectangle in top or bottom position, 56 long rectangle in top position, 52	Perez, Pedro, 107–11 perimeter edge, 12, 18–21, 24–26, 29–31, 4 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 59–60, 73, 79 82, 85 axial relationships, 12
Identification of the AIDS Virus, 97–101, 104–6 "If the glove don't fit, you must acquit," 116–17	Pietrafesa, John, 116–17 pivot point, circle, 14–15 project elements and process, 7 proportion of elements, 9
Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies Graphic Program, 42–43 The Isms of Art, 36 K Kandinsky poster, 89 Krueger, Kevin	R reading direction, 47, 49, 76, 92 Reklama Mechano, 90 rotation of composition, 48 Ruder, Emil Freiburg Municipal Theatre, 92–93 rules and nonobjective elements, 102–3
SamataMason, 40 Kunz, Willi Columbia University, Graduate School of Architecture and Planning, 69, 94–95 L law of thirds, 5, 13, 18–21, 24–26, 29–31, 47, 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 59–60, 73, 79, 82, 85 leading, 18–21, 24–26, 29–31, 47, 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 59–60, 73, 79, 82, 85, 98, 100 Levi's Become Fashion, 112–15 Lissitzky, El The Isms of Art, 36 Lohse, Richard P. Zürcher Künstler im Helmhaus poster, 63 M Mason, Dave SamataMason, 40–41	S SamataMason Web Site, 40–41 Sotheby's Graphic Program, 44 space activator, circle, 14–15 starting or stopping point, circle, 14–15 T tension, circle, 14–15 Theatre Am Hechtplatz, 38–39 Tschichold, Jan Die Neue Typographie, 35 typographic hierarchy, 97–117 V Verdine, Michael Nike ACG Pro Purchase catalog, 64–65 Vignelli and Associates Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies Graphic Program, 42–43 Sotheby's Graphic Program, 44
National-Zeitung, 91 negative space, 11, 18–21, 24–26, 29–31, 47, 50–51, 53–54, 56–57, 59–60, 73, 79, 82, 85 negative space and grouping, 11 The New Urban Landscape, 45 The Next Call, 90 Nike ACG Pro Purchase catalog, 64–65 nonobjective elements, 102–3	W Werkman, H. N. The Next Call, 90 wild-card element, circle, 7 Z Zürcher Künstler im Helmhaus poster, 63 Zurich University 150th anniversary, 66

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Odermatt & Tissi

67

The Best Swiss Posters of the Year 1992,





In her best-selling *Geometry of Design*, Kimberly Elam revealed how proportion, symmetry, and other geometrical systems underlie many of the visual relationships that make successful design. In *Grid Systems: Principles of Organizing Type*, the third book in Princeton Architectural Press's Design Brief series, Elam brings the same keen eye and clear explanations to bear on the most prevalent, and maybe most subtle and least understood, system of visual organization: the grid.

Kimberly Elam is chairperson of the Graphic and Interactive Communication Department at the Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida. Her book *Geometry of Design* has become a standard reference work for students and practicing designers.

Grid Systems strips the confusion from the mystery of designing with a grid...[It] will surely become a required textbook in typography classes everywhere."

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