

# Still Life

...is a style of artwork. ***What kind of art do you think it is?***



**Still life** is simply a painting or drawing of objects = the **subject matter** is inanimate objects rather than living things, such as in portraits.

***What are the subject matters in these paintings?***  
***Which is a still life?***



**Sometimes still life paintings are groups of natural objects: food, flowers, fruits, vegetables for example.**

**Sometimes they are paintings of groups of objects made by people, for example: cooking pots, bottles, clothing, household objects**

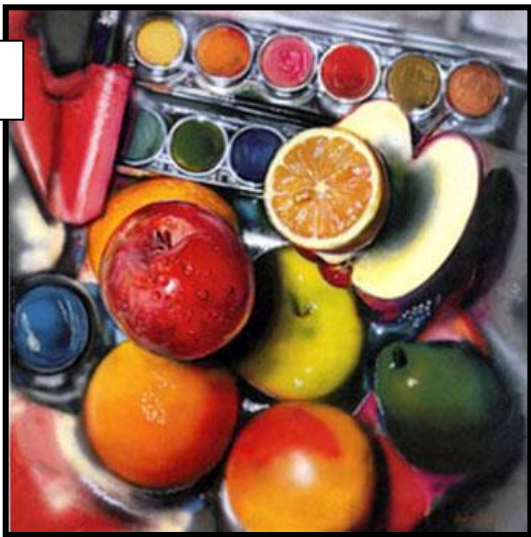






Colour

Realistic Detail

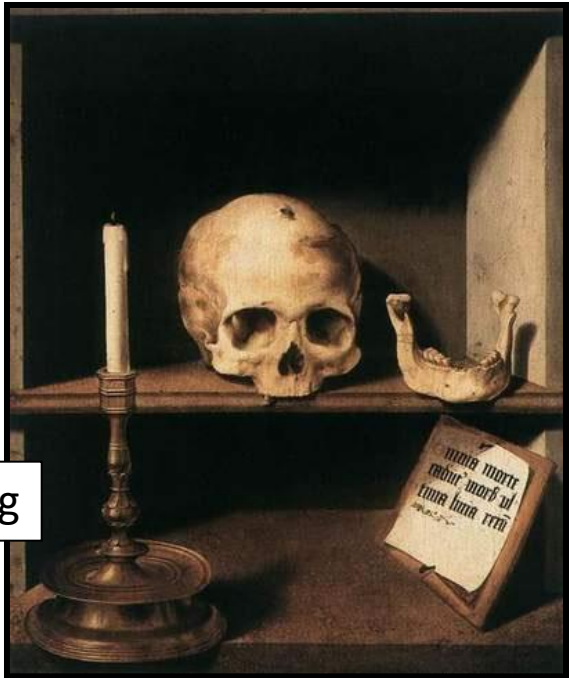


When you paint or draw a still life, you will see things your own way; one person might be fascinated by the **detail** ... another might notice the **shapes** more ... and another person might be more interested in the **colours**. Other people inject huge **meaning** and **symbolism** into their still life artwork.



Shape ...  
... Negative space

Hidden meaning



**Still life is an important type of art. We can tell a lot about how people lived from still life paintings prior to the invention of the camera! Do you think the people who lived in these houses were rich or poor? What clues are there?**



**'Still Life' by Paul Cézanne**  
1883-87



**'Still Life with Drinking Horn' by Willem Kalf**  
Approx. 1653



# Vincent Van Gogh

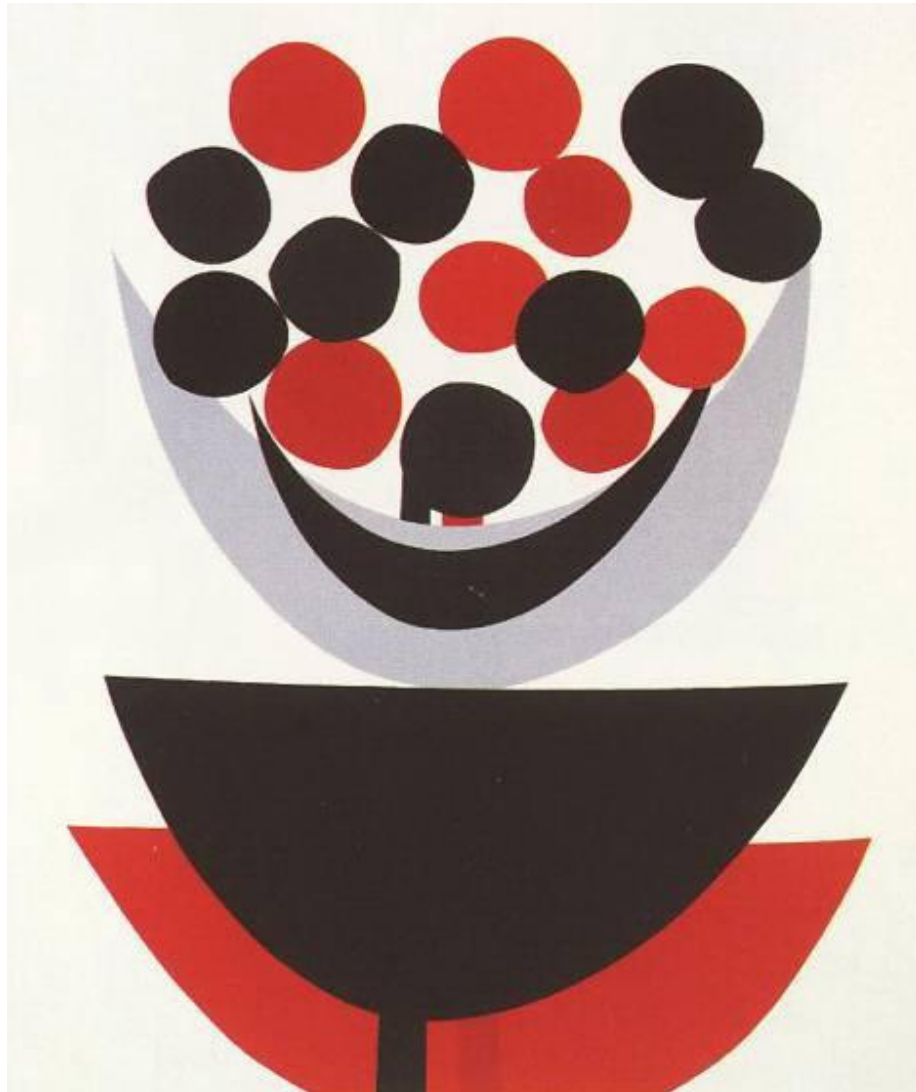
*Sunflowers 1888*



This painting is from almost 150 years ago



Tom Wesselmann (American, 1931-2004)  
1963. Oil, enamel and synthetic polymer paint on composition board. Whereas this painting is from 57 years ago. Some are very realistic.



Terry Frost - Life is just a bowl of cherries  
Whereas others are more abstract