



SURREALIST LANDSCAPE

Surrealism: A style of art in which dreams, fantasy, and the human mind are sources of ideas for the artist.

The Surrealist artists sought to channel the unconscious as a means to unlock the power of the imagination. Disdaining rationalism and literary realism, and powerfully influenced by psychoanalysis, the Surrealists believed the rational mind repressed the power of the imagination, weighting it down with taboos. Influenced also by [Karl Marx](#), they hoped that the psyche had the power to reveal the contradictions in the everyday world and spur on revolution. Their emphasis on the power of personal imagination puts them in the tradition of [Romanticism](#), but unlike their forbears, they believed that revelations could be found on the street and in everyday life. The Surrealist impulse to tap the unconscious mind, and their interests in myth and primitivism, went on to shape many later movements, and the style remains influential to this day.



Above: Erik Johansson "Go Your Own Road" and "Cut and Fold"

Elements of Surrealism

- Disorientation - Odd vantage points, abnormal proportions, levitation, enlarged details
- Unexpected Juxtaposition – Things that don't usually go together
- Anatomical Surprises – Human or animal features in unnatural places
- Animated Inanimate Objects – Giving life to non- living objects
- Metamorphic Creatures - Merging objects into one, swapping character traits between objects
- Association of Complementaries - This looks like something else, identifiable shapes used in unnatural circumstances, borrowing characteristics

Your Surrealistic image should:

- Include at least 3 of the elements of surrealism
- Include at least one of your own original digital photographs and/or scanned images
- Display a basic knowledge of the functions of Adobe Photoshop
- Display good craftsmanship and attention to detail

Students will:

(1) use two-dimensional and three dimensional media, techniques, tools, and processes to communicate an idea or concept based on research, environment, personal experience, observation, or imagination;

- (2) use effective control of media, techniques, and tools when communicating an idea in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional works of art;
- (3) apply various subjects, symbols, and ideas in works of art.

Objectives: By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- (1) analyze surreal artworks and identify the elements of surrealism,
- (2) demonstrate an understanding of the elements of surrealism by creating an artwork that makes use of at least three elements of surrealism
- (3) demonstrate skill in the use of digital art processes including Adobe Photoshop, digital cameras, and scanners by using these technologies to create an artwork that incorporates all three of these into a single cohesive work that shows technical skill and a good attention to craft, (4) demonstrate an ability to combine seemingly unrelated elements into a cohesive composition.

LINKS:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2750431/It-s-sew-cold-Turning-autumn-winter-needle-thread-neat-idea-laying-roads-artist-creates-fantastic-surreal-landscapes.html>



<http://www.theartstory.org/movement-surrealism.htm>