

Composition IV, 1911

Composition IV is the fourth of a series of paintings by Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky. The paintings he entitled *Compositions* explore the artist's attempts to represent the structure and form of music through the medium of painting.

The painting measures 62 $\frac{7}{8}$ x 98 $\frac{5}{8}$ inches, and it is in the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia. It was made using oil paints on canvas.

Style and Composition

Apart from his artistic work, Kandinsky was also a prolific writer, and he explained in great detail what he was trying to achieve in these compositions. He did not want his paintings to be representational. Instead, he used an abstract style to convey emotional and spiritual meanings.

Composition IV is a symphony of confused shapes and colors. Many of the shapes evoke ideas of musicians and musical instruments. The artist had become frustrated working on it. While he was out, fellow artist Gabriele Münter tidied his studio, and turned the painting sideways. When he saw it, Kandinsky then realized this was what he had been trying to achieve.

Composition VII, 1913

The Russian artist Wassily Kandinsky, who spent most of his working life in Germany, produced a series of paintings he titled *Compositions*, giving each of them a number. *Composition VII* is one of these works. It was painted in 1913, and the artist described it his most complex painting.

The painting is large, measuring 78.25 by 119.1 inches, and it is in the State Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow. It was created using oil on canvas.

Style and Composition

With *Composition VII* Kandinsky had moved from representational painting to purely abstract works. The theme of these abstract works was inspired by the artist's quest to explore musical concepts in the form of painting.

Composition VII can rightly be described as an orchestration or symphony of form and color. The painting is a multicolored work that is designed to appeal to the senses and evoke an emotional response. The painting exists as an object of visual and emotional appeal, and does not need to be interpreted.

On White II, 1923

On White II by Wassily Kandinsky is a colorful and imaginative abstract painting on white canvas. This was Kandinsky's most famous painting where various abstract geometrical shapes were used to create a noticeable appearance. He listened to music while creating this and his other pieces, which evoked emotions to come out on the canvas. The two main colors used are black and white, but the bright colors will capture anyone's attention.

Long black points cut through the triangles, squares and other geometrical shapes of various bright colors. This painting is said to represent life and all of the opportunities that are available. The black inside of it represents death and how all of those opportunities can be taken away in an instant. This piece was painted with oil in 1923. It is currently housed in the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, France.

Yellow-Red-Blue, 1925

Yellow-Red-Blue by Wassily Kandinsky is an abstract oil painting on canvas. It was created in 1925 in Alten / Dessau-Alten, Germany. It was made with beautiful bright colors and features a variety of different shapes.

Shapes and Colors

The primary colors on the painting feature squares, circles and triangles and there are abstract shapes mixed in with these. There are also straight and curved black lines that go through the colors and shapes. This is to help provoke deep thought in the person viewing the piece.

Impressions

This painting can actually be divided in half with how different each of the sides are. The left side has rectangles, squares and straight lines in bright colors while the right side features darker colors in various abstract shapes. These two sides show different influences and are meant to create varied emotions in the viewer.

Where is it now?

This painting is currently housed at the Musée National d'Art Moderne, Centre Georges

Pompidou, Paris, France. It is 127 x 200 cm in size and many prints of it are replicated throughout the world.

Composition X, 1939

In the late 1930s, Wassily Kandinsky was painting modernist abstract art when most of his contemporaries were still exploring the worlds of impressionism and cubism. As a result, he was somewhat isolated from the greater art community.

Cry for Help?

In *Composition X*, some say they can see Kandinsky's loneliness, or perhaps a yearning for a more vibrant circle of artistic cohorts. On the other hand, he may have been just diligently following his personal artistic vision.

Abstract Art in the Eye of the Beholder

But like all abstract art, what one takes away from it, or brings to it, is highly personal and always open to broad interpretation.

Composition X at first glance looks like a collection of festive party favors, ribbons, greeting cards, confetti and more exploding across and black background. Looking closer, however, one discovers more intriguing forms. For example, in the upper left corner is a large bulbous mass of brown-red inside of which appear to be futuristic cityscapes and arcane hieroglyphics. It hints at something larger, greater, and mysterious.

Color Scheme

The colors are mostly pastel but some primary reds and yellows create an important balance. Some art observers claim an intense contemplation of *Composition X* will bring the viewer into a kind of synchronization or resonance of soul.

Ahead of its Time

It's clear, however, that with works such as *Composition X*, Wassily Kandinsky was heralding a style that would soon have its day and come into much greater favor throughout the art world. This work, completed in 1939, would seem more at home in the late 1940s and 1950s. It's possible that Kandinsky was simply seeing further ahead in time than others.

Source: www.totallyhistory.com/