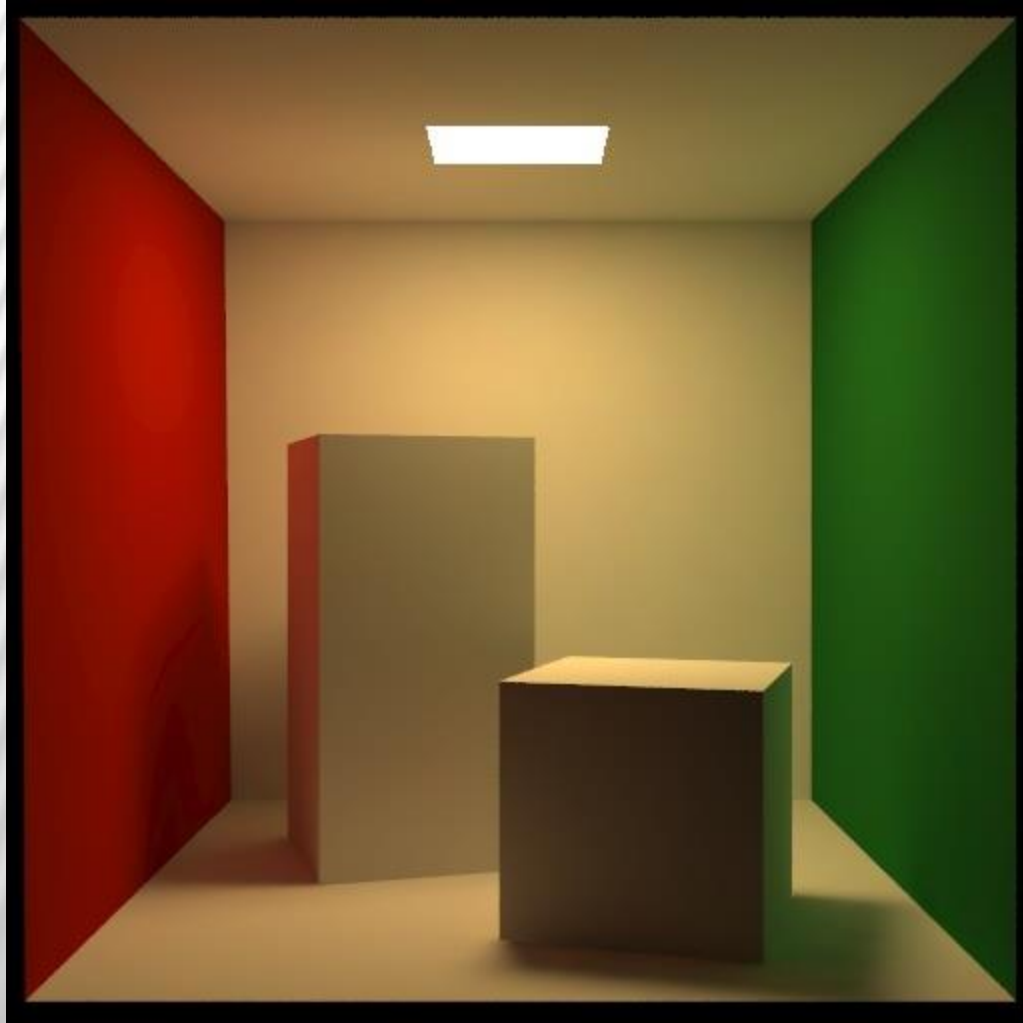


The Elements of Art:

FORM

FORM

WHAT IS FORM?

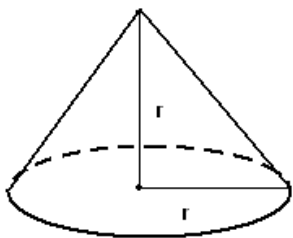


A way of describing an object in regards to shape, volume and mass; another way to think about it is you're describing the 3-Dimensional aspects of objects and the space they take up.

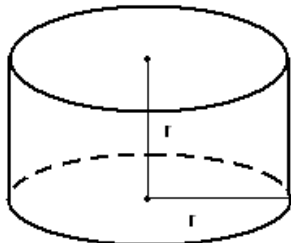
HOW TO DESCRIBE A FORM:

There are three things we need to know to be able to describe a form well:

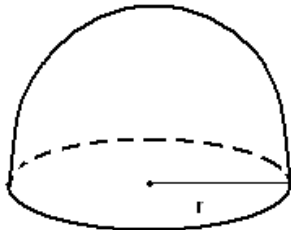
1. Shape
2. Volume
3. Mass



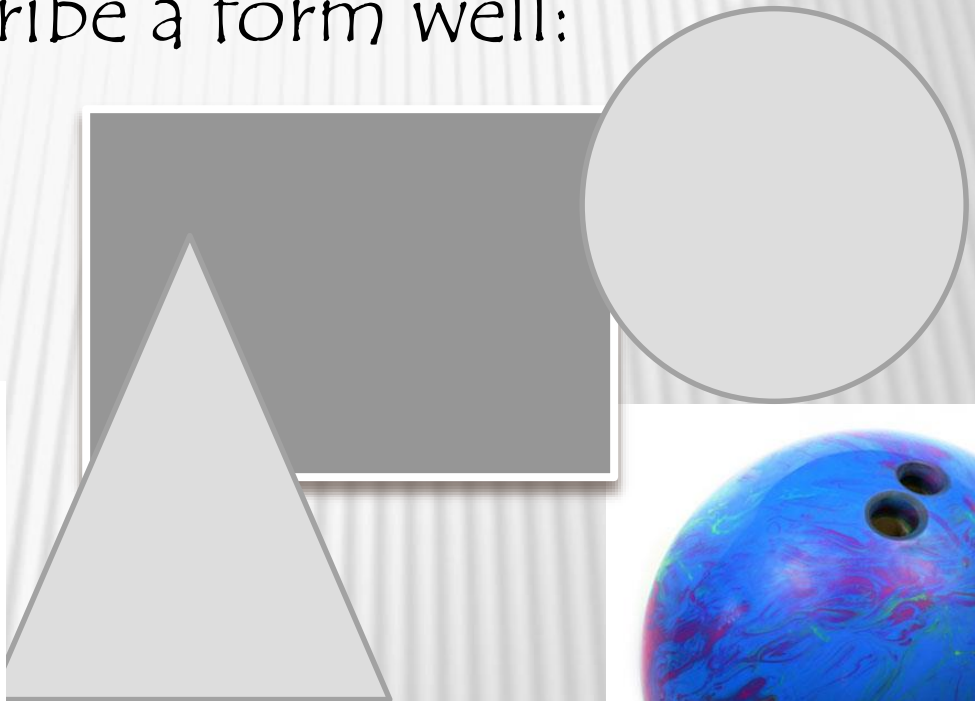
(a)



(b)

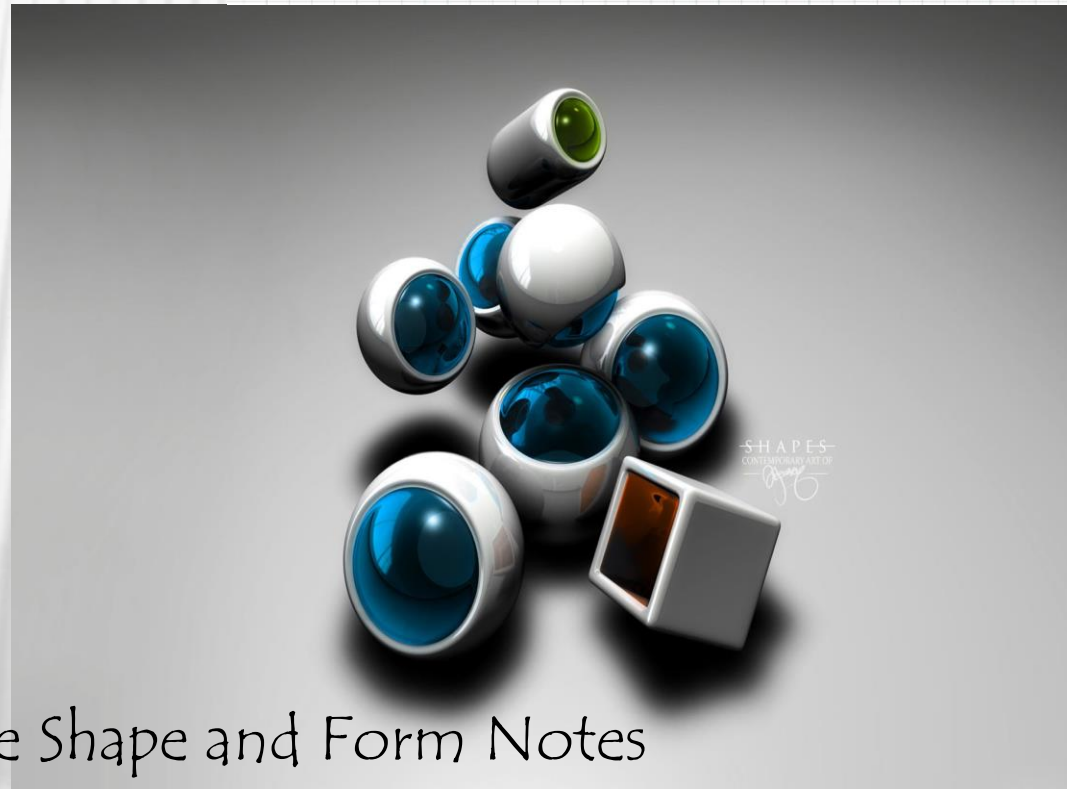
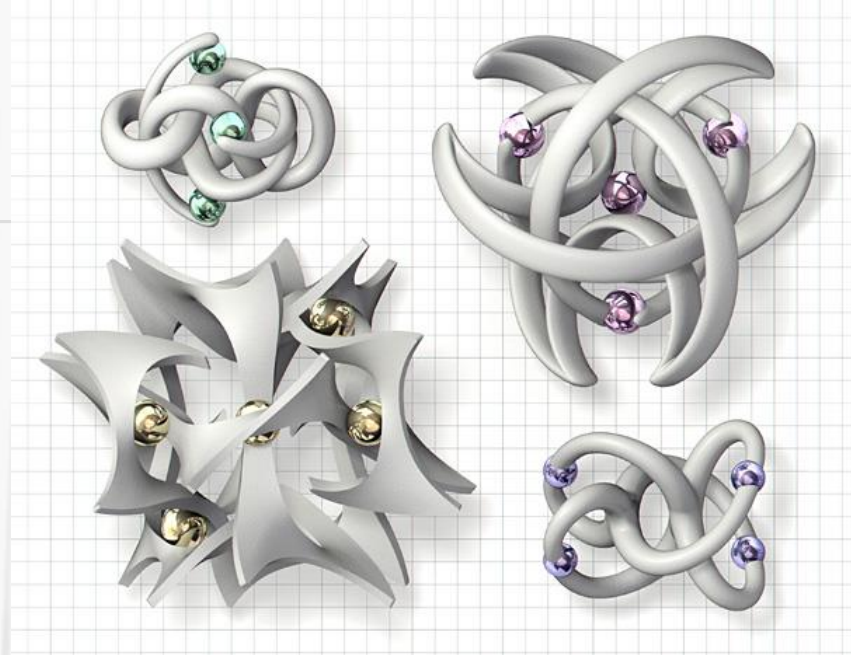


(c)



SHAPE

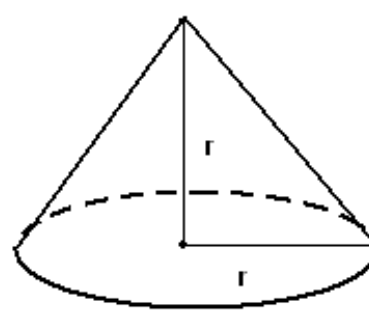
- An area that is contained using a line or combination of 2-D shapes, and identified because of change in color or value;
- Objects can be described using 2-D and/or 3-D.
 - Geometric/Regular Shape/Forms Examples:
 - Square/cube
 - Circle/Sphere
 - Circle + rectangle/Cylinder



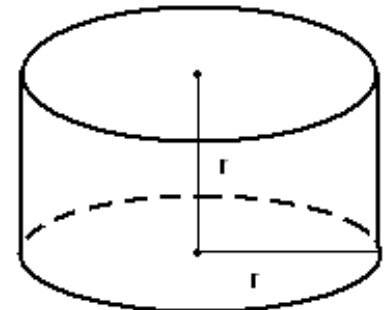
Want more examples see Shape and Form Notes

WHAT IS VOLUME

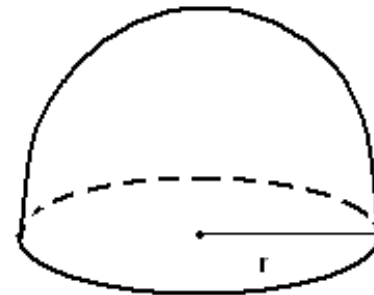
The amount of 3-D space an object occupies. How much room there is for the object to contain something in it.



(a)



(b)



(c)

WHAT IS MASS?

The property of an object to have weight and gravitational force. In other words how much an object weighs or looks like it weighs.



MASS VS. VOLUME FOR FORMS

One emphasizes weight, and the other emphasizes space



OTHER WAYS OF DESCRIBING FORM:

Geometric

Organic

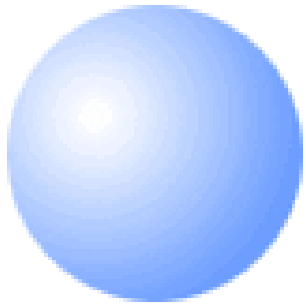
Non-objective

Realistic

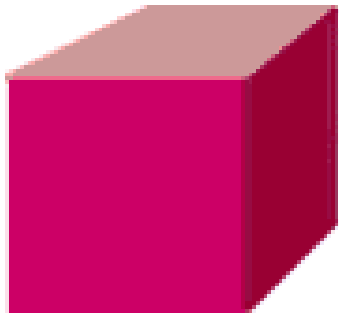
Abstract

Architectural

Curvilinear



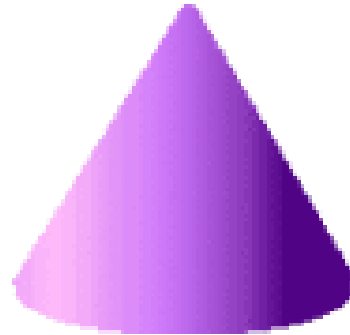
sphere



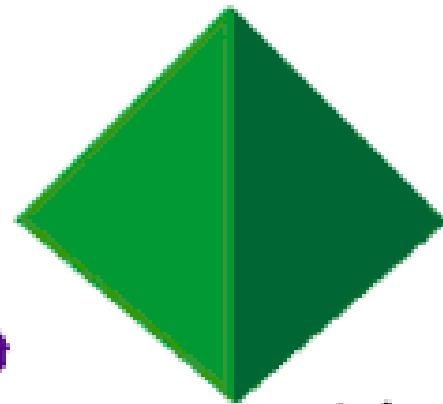
cube



cylinder



cone



pyramid

GEOMETRIC FORM

Forms that are based on basic geometric shapes.
(examples: circle=sphere;
square=cube; etc.)



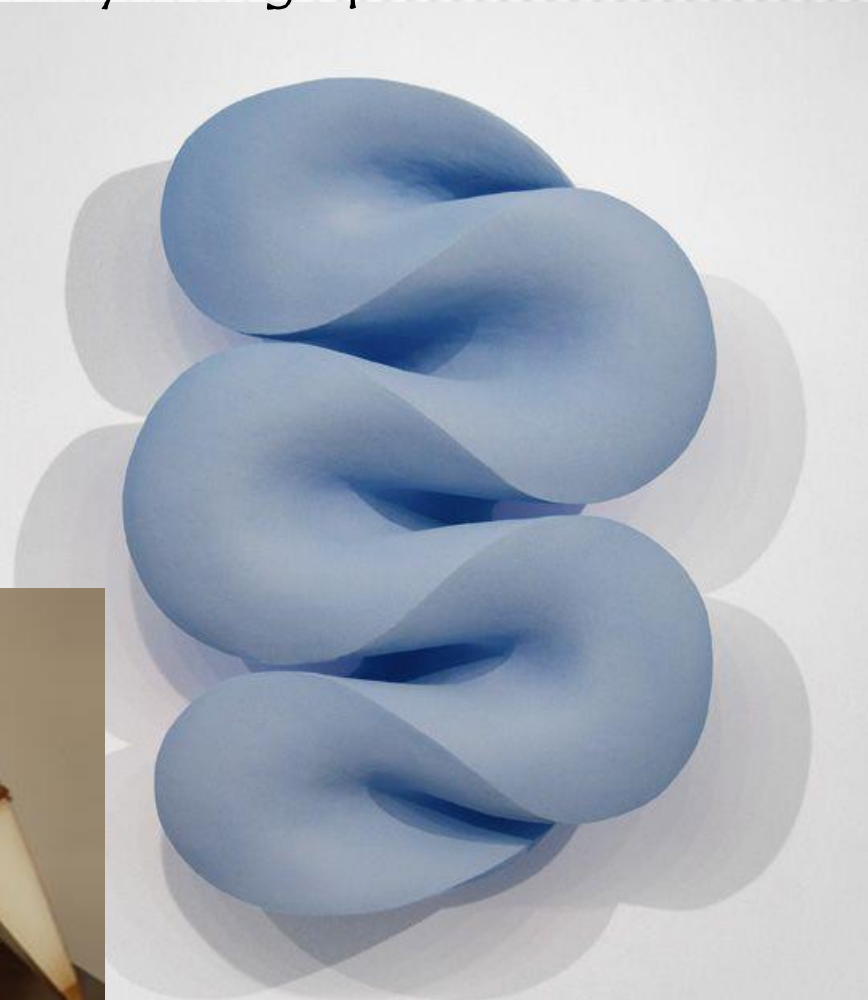
ORGANIC FORM

Forms that mimic, reference, or copy forms that exist in the natural world (anything that can reference nature: animal, mineral, vegetable).



NON-OBJECTIVE FORM:

complex forms made by combining
geometric shapes/forms
(Not indented to represent
anything specific)

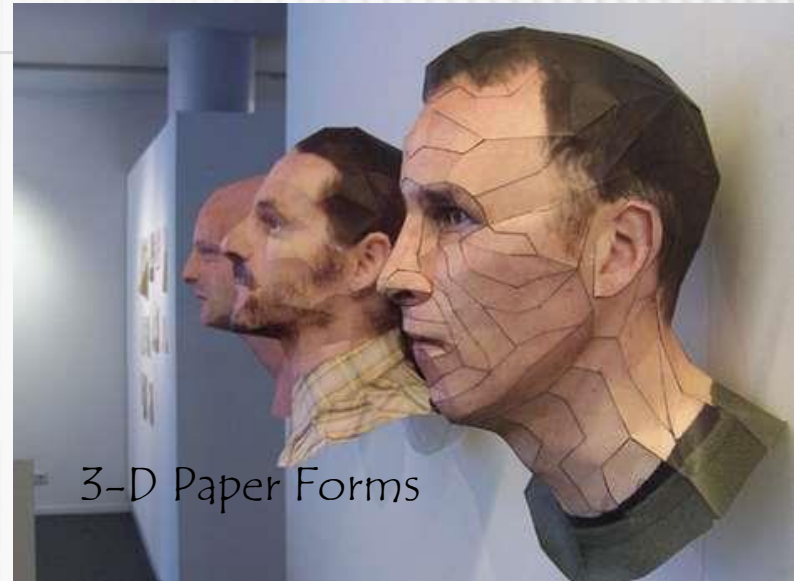


Ceramic Sculptures by Merete Rasmussen

REALISTIC FORM:

Intent to copy reality!

Forms that appear to be an accurate representation of objects that exist in reality.
(think photographs)

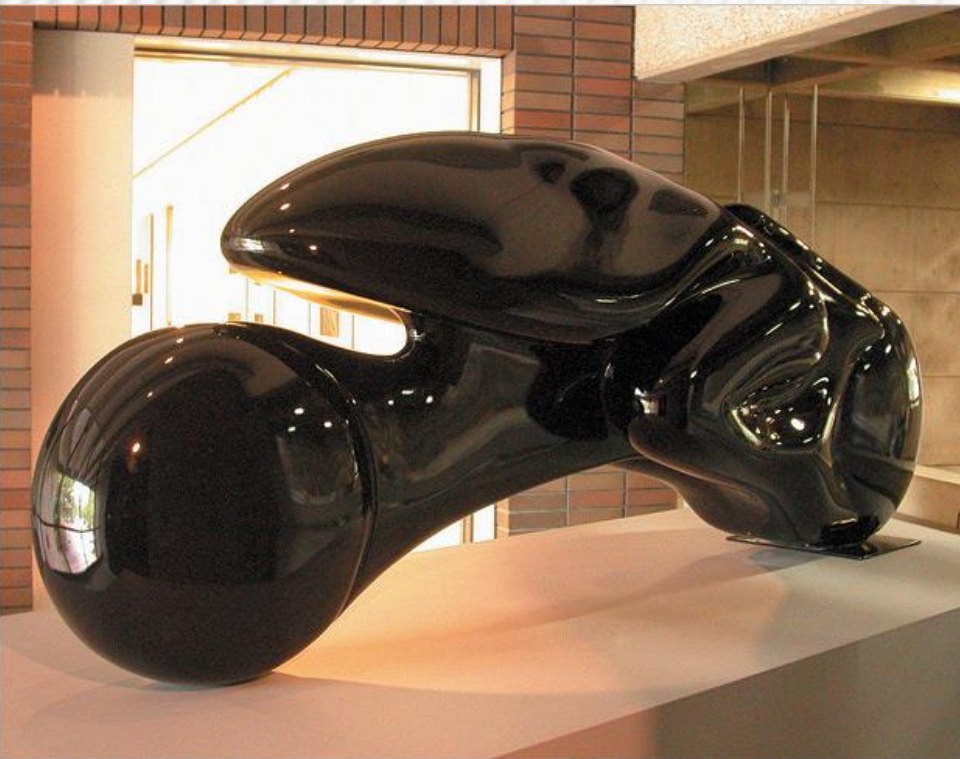


3-D Paper Forms



ABSTRACT FORM: GIVE THE IDEA OF REALITY

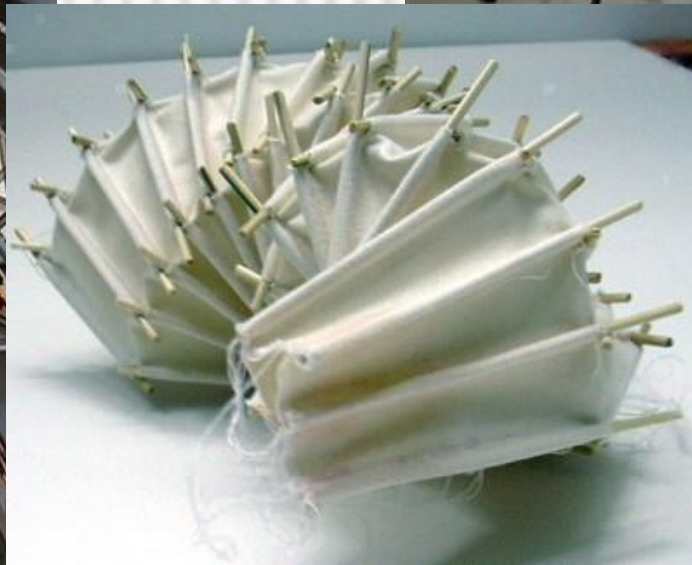
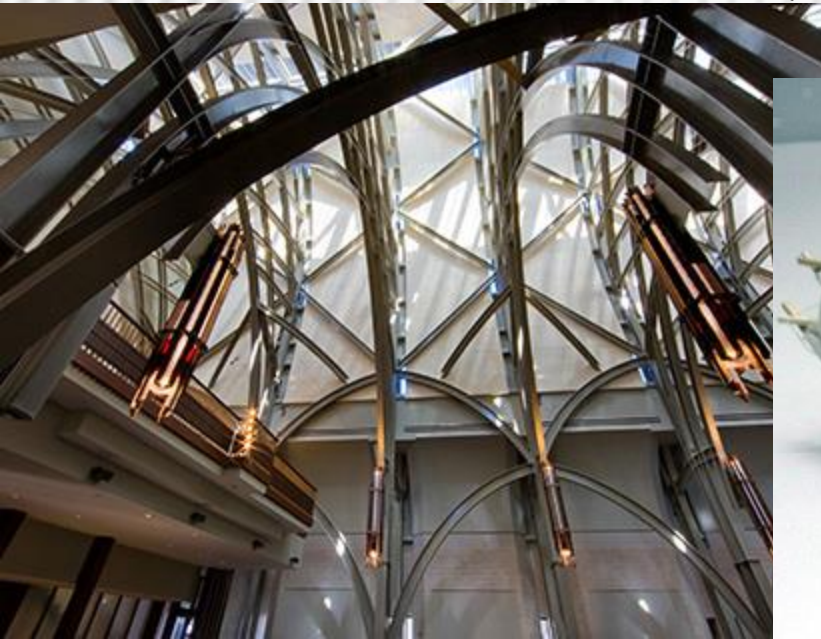
Basically they give the idea of reality. It may not look photo-realistic but you can tell it is supposed to be something specific. Think of it as "simplifying reality into a combination of simple forms".



ARCHITECTURAL FORM

Forms that reference/mimic articular elements. There *looks* like there is some kind of physical structure built into it. What can key you into whether or not a form is architectural or not it so answer these question:

Are there elements that have a structured repeated pattern that mimic columns or beams/framework for a building?



CURVILINEAR FORM

Forms that over emphasize curvy, 3-D shapes. It is very common in contemporary architecture.

