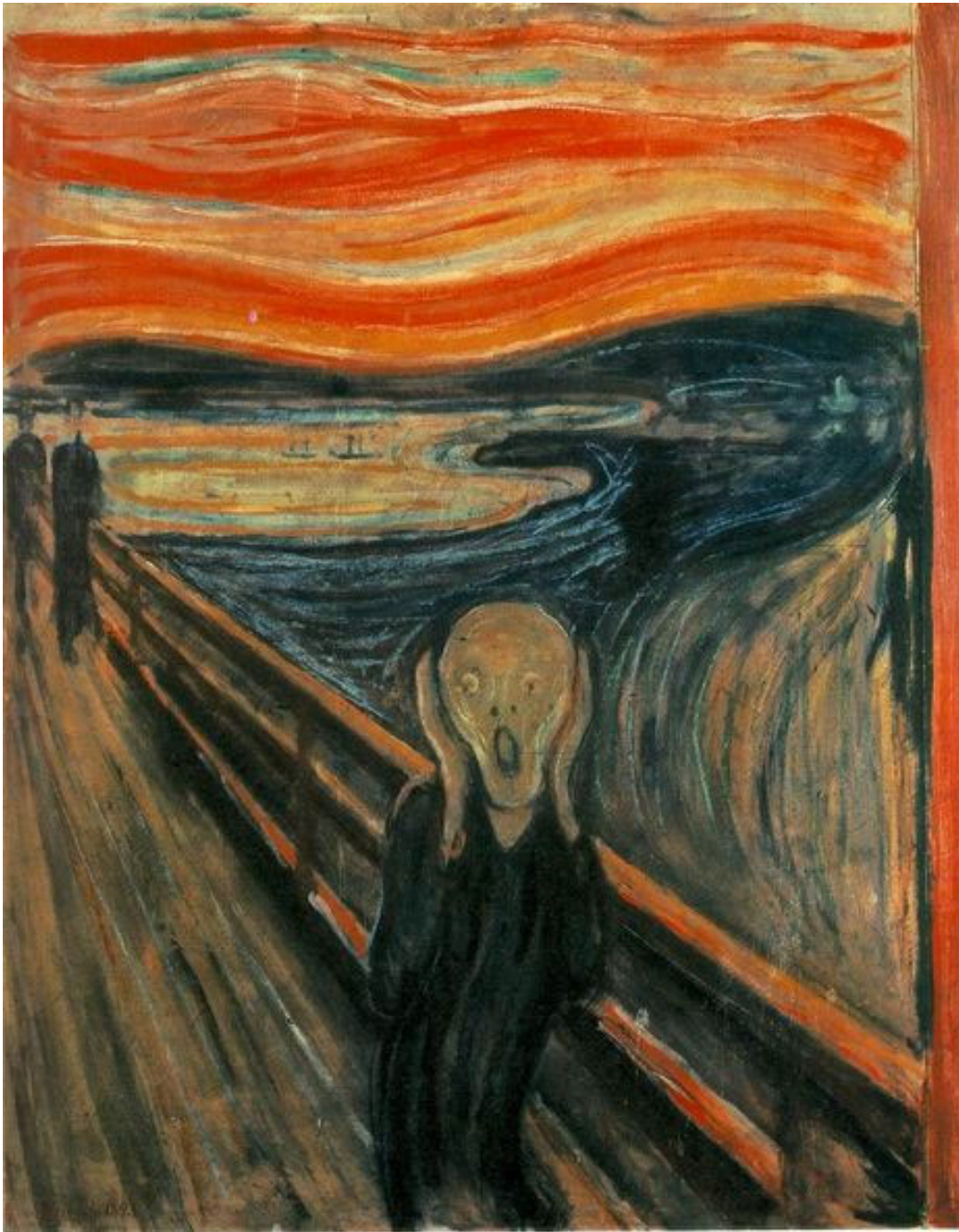
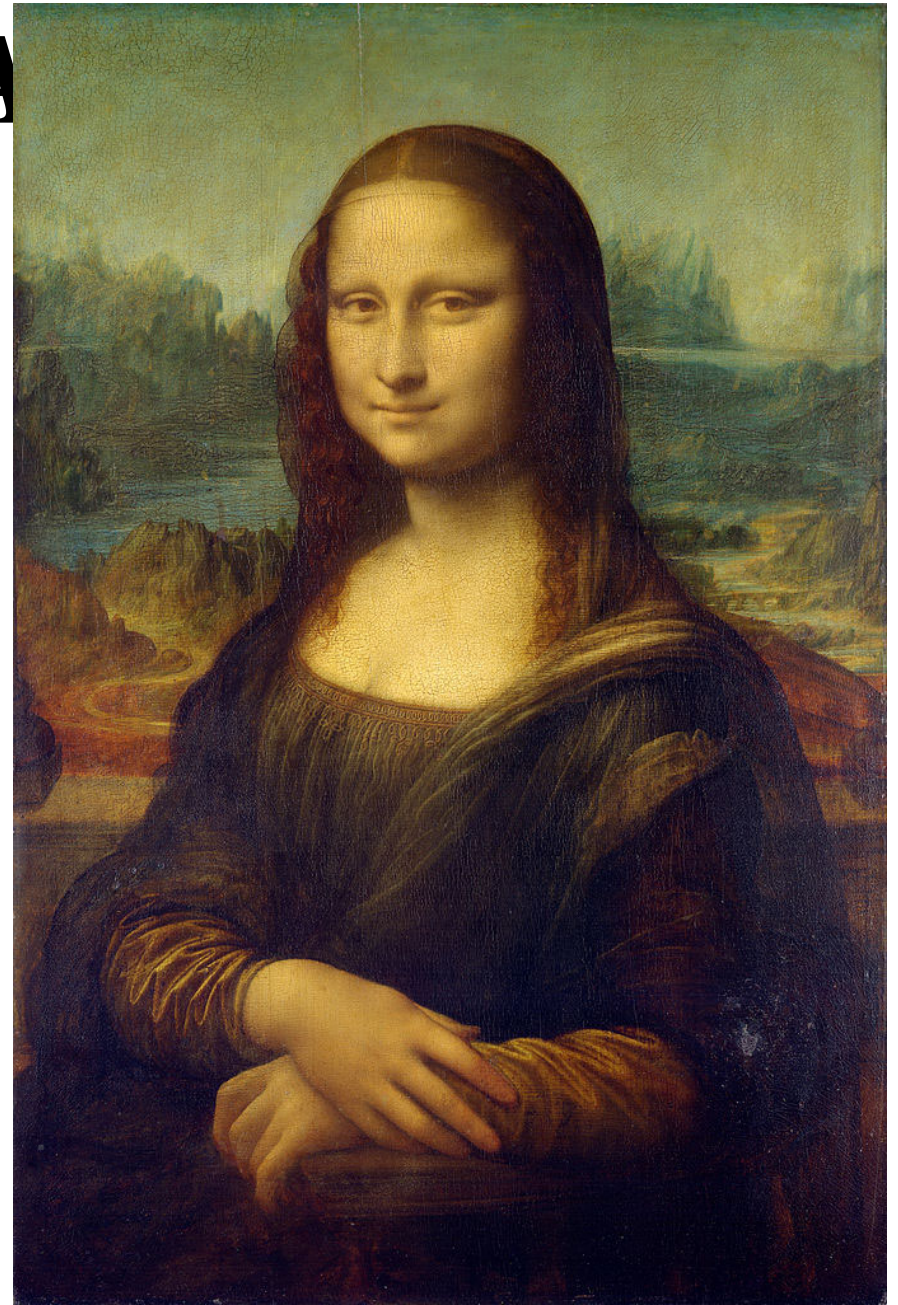




# Art and the Aesthetic



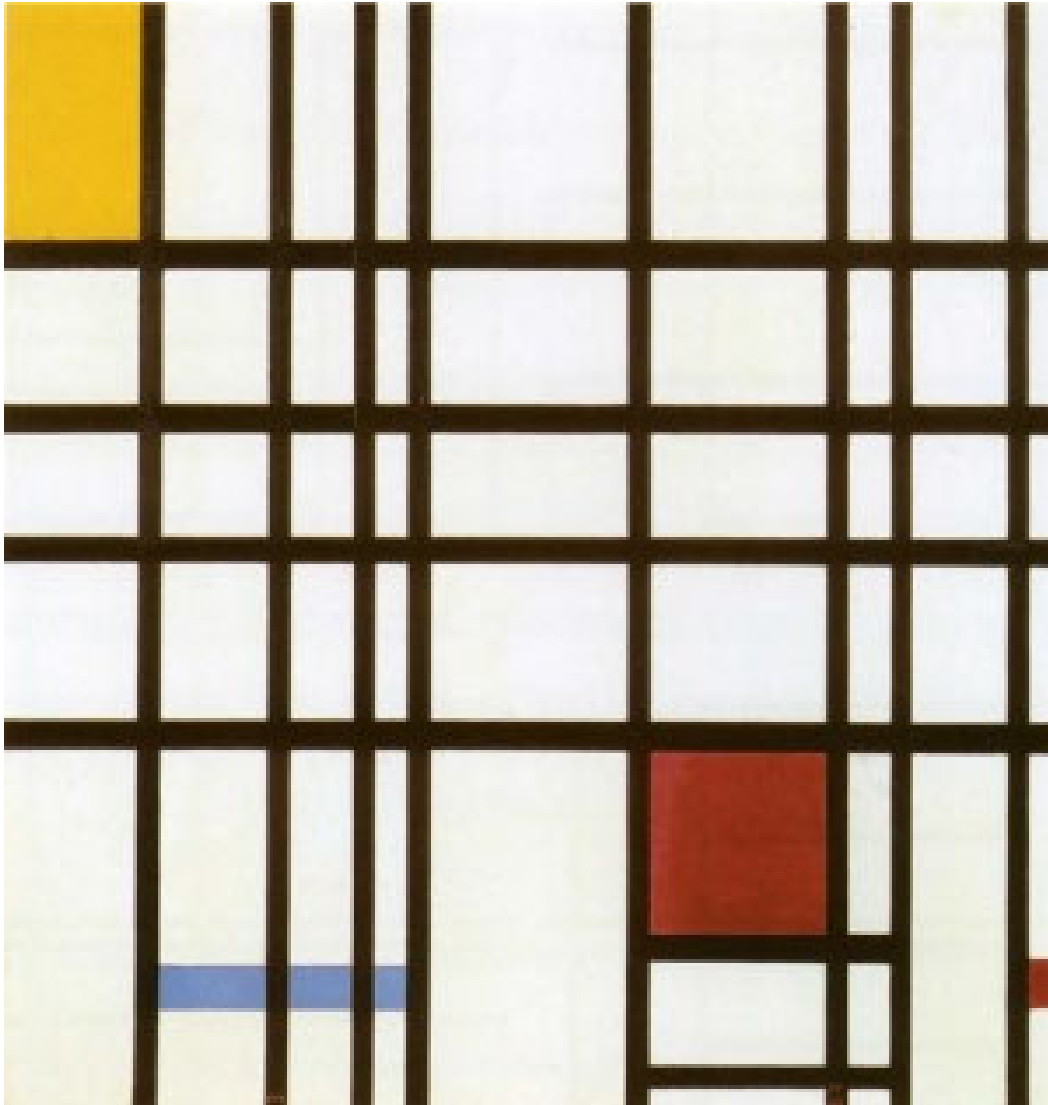
The Scream (Skrik)  
*Edvard Munch, 1893*



Mona Lisa  
*Leonard da Vinci, 1503*



# RECAP



Composition with Yellow, Blue, and Red  
*Piet Mondrian, 1937-1942*



Girl with Mandolin  
*Pablo Picasso, 1910*



From the Masses to  
the Masses  
*Zeng Fan Zhi, 1961*

Guernica  
*Pablo Picasso, 1937*

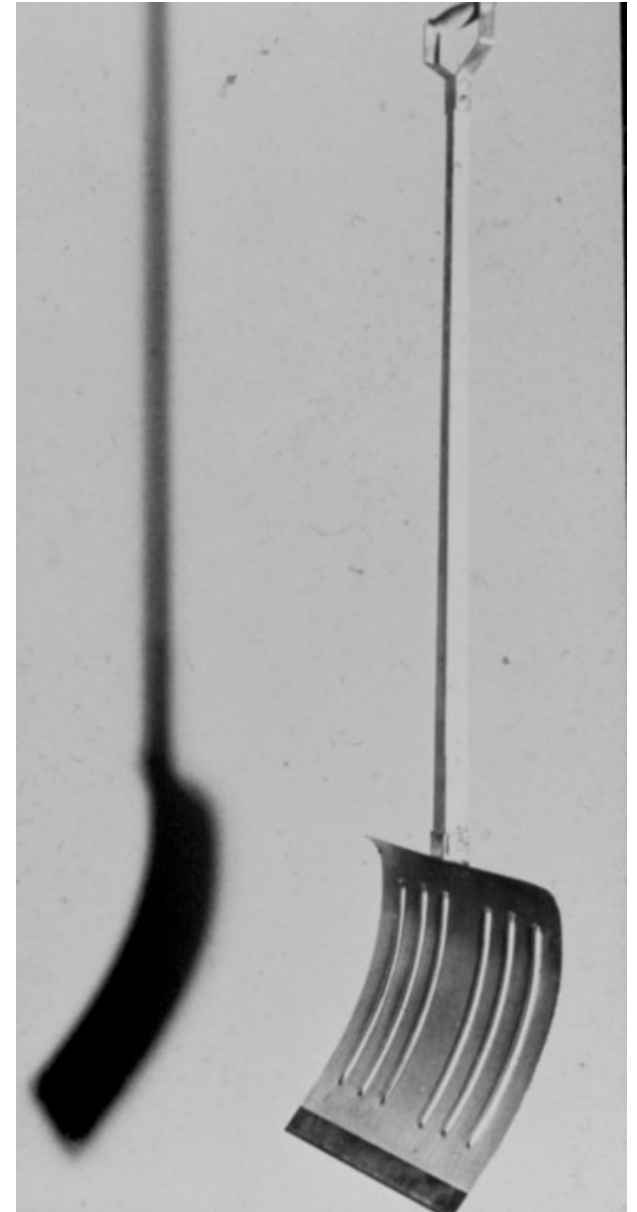




In Advance of a Broken Arm  
*Marcel Duchamp, 1915*

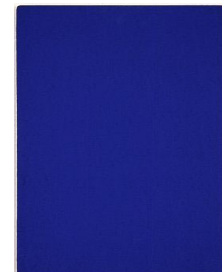
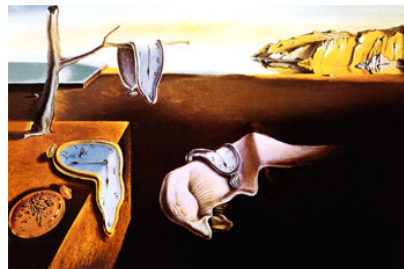
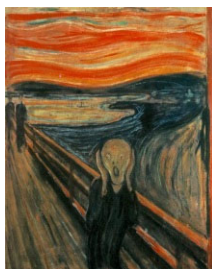


Starry Night  
*Van Gogh, 1889*



# RECAP

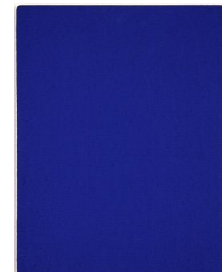
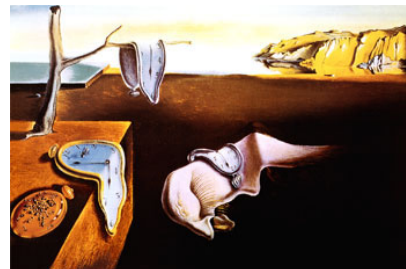
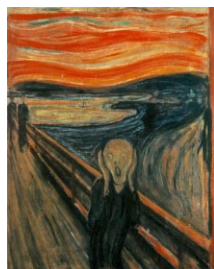
- Art Theories – not necessary to memorise!
- Useful to know a few + examples to highlight / illustrate issues
- What is art / good art? **X is art iff...**
- **X is beautiful iff...**
- What makes something beautiful/ not beautiful?
- What is the nature of art?





# K = JTB

- Knowledge claims in other AOKs seem obvious
- What knowledge claims are we dealing with in aesthetics?
- What *beliefs* do we even have about the aesthetic?



# “Art” / “Artistic”

- All civilisations possess some form of art
- Similarities in attitudes and ideas regarding skilfully created objects
- When ‘art’ isn’t the translated word, ‘craft’.
- So we can’t pinpoint the introduction of ‘art’ but it’s been around for a very long time
- “Art” seems to have been used to refer to skill, then broadened to include activities that required skill, then to products of such skill. [Recall Art Theory]





# “Aesthetic”



- Introduced by philosopher Alexander Baumgarten in mid-18th century
- He hoped for it to become a “science” of sense perception that would resemble a science of conception or logic
- Since perception is req’d for the experience of beauty, aesthetic would provide **a foundation for explaining and justifying human judgments about what is and what isn’t beautiful.**
- Founded a subject cognate with ethics, metaphysics, epistemology



# Opening Thoughts

- Is there a difference between the artistic and the aesthetic?
- Are there aesthetic objects that are artistic?
  - Paintings
  - Songs
  - Poems
  - Dance
- What about aesthetic objects that aren't artistic?





# Aesthetic?



















# Artistic & Aesthetic = Identical

- Anything regarded aesthetically will automatically be regarded as a work of art
- Sunsets, a child's laugh, standing on a mountaintop and gazing on the view





# **Artistic & Aesthetic = Not identical but intersect**

- Some aesthetic objects are not artworks
  - Sunsets, Seashells
- Some artistic objects are not aesthetic
  - Readymades



# **Artistic included in, but not identical to, the class of the Aesthetic**

- All works of art are aesthetic objects
- Not all works of art necessarily create an aesthetic experience, for example, when we look at a painting to determine how much we can sell it for
- Not all aesthetic objects are works of art





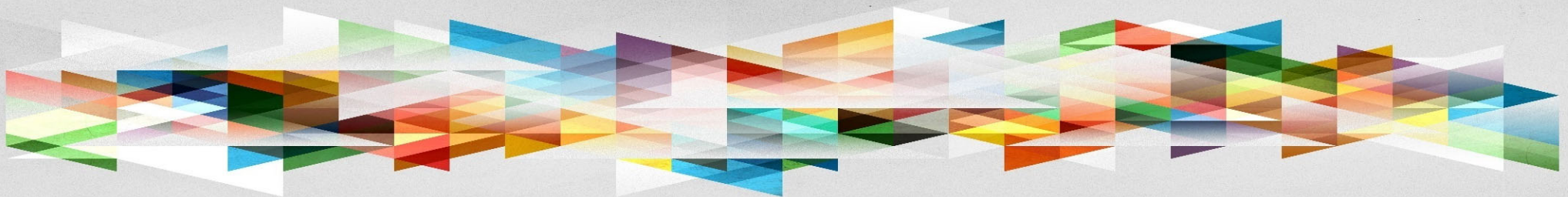
# Artistic & Aesthetic totally discrete

- No works of art are or should be viewed aesthetically, and vice versa
- *Hardly anyone takes this view*



# What's the point?

- What are our beliefs about the aesthetic?
- What is “the aesthetic”?
  - It is to do with beauty.
  - Is it in the same kind of category as the physical, mental, ethical, etc.?

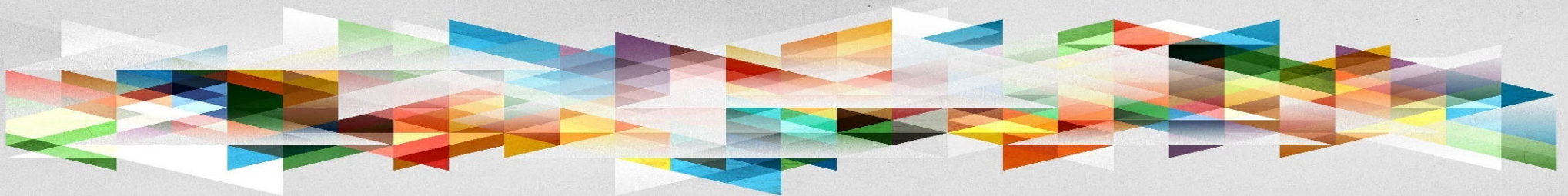




# Aesthetic... what?

Know what each of these mean:

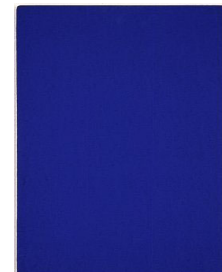
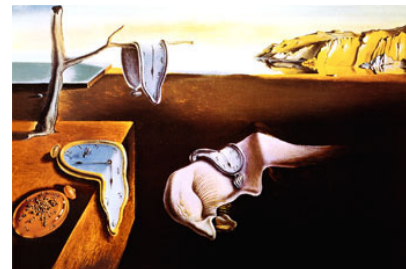
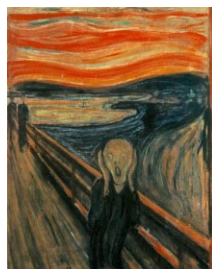
- Aesthetic Object
- Aesthetic Experience
- Aesthetic Value
- Aesthetic Emotion
- Aesthetic Judgement



# Aesthetics

#philosophy

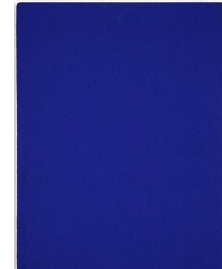
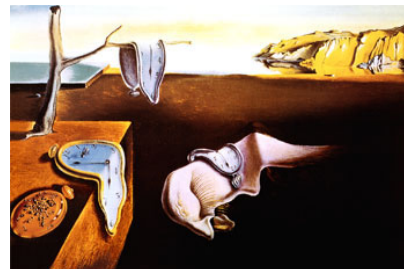
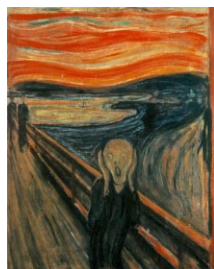
Aesthetics is a branch of philosophy dealing with the nature of art, beauty, and taste, with the creation and appreciation of beauty. It is more scientifically defined as the study of sensory or sensori-emotional values, sometimes called judgments of sentiment and taste.





# Aesthetics

- **Beauty**
  - What is beauty? What is its nature?
- **Taste**
  - Are there standards of taste?
- **Aesthetic Object**
  - An entity that possesses properties or elements associated with the aesthetic
- **Aesthetic Value**
  - The value that an object/event/state of affairs possesses in virtue of its capacity to elicit pleasure or displeasure when appreciated aesthetically.
  - Pleasure (=positive value) / displeasure (=negative value)



# Aesthetics

- **Aesthetic Experience**

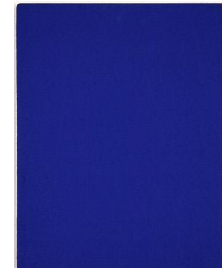
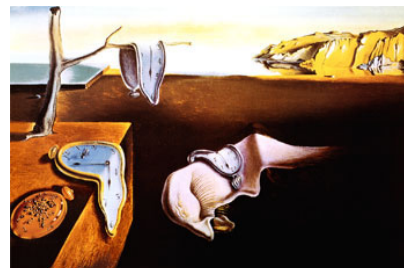
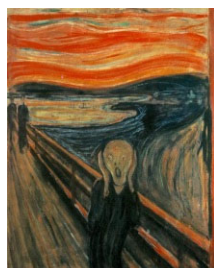
- Why do some things arouse positive reactions whereas others arouse negative ones?
- Why are we drawn to certain objects and repelled by others?

- **Aesthetic Emotion**

- What do we feel when we're immersed in an aesthetic activity?
- Beautiful, Sublime, Kitsch

- **Aesthetic Judgement**

- Are judgements about aesthetic objects about reason or taste?





# Compare AOKs

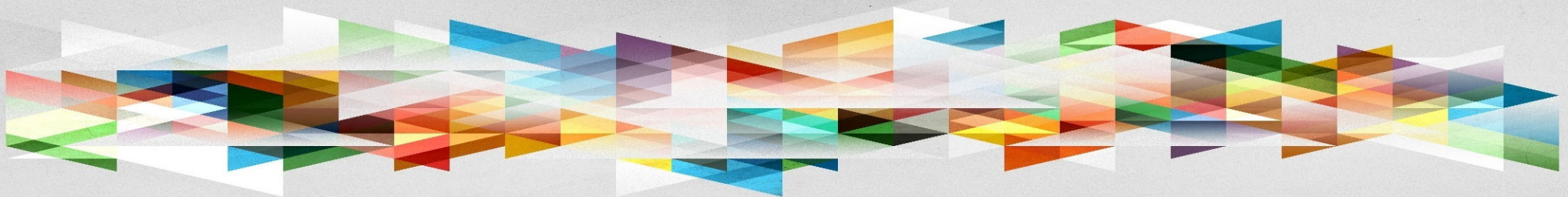
- **Ontology:** Realism / Anti-Realism
  - Scientific Realism: Universe is real, reflected in observable and unobservable entities and properties
  - Is beauty / the aesthetic realm real?
- Implication: Discovered or Constructed?



# Compare AOKs

- **Semantics**

- Moral Non-Cognitivism: “X is good” is not a truth-apt statement
- Is “X is art” a truth-apt statement?
- Can we say that AJs can be true / false?  
What kind of AJs can be true/false?





# Compare AOKs

- **Epistemology**

- How are our beliefs about the aesthetic justified?
- What kind of justification is necessary and sufficient?
- How do we know...?

