A (rough) classification of math-art

Luke Wolcott Lawrence University

A (rough) classification of math-art

... (roughly) based on the relationship between the math and the art

Luke Wolcott Lawrence University "about"

math about art, or art about math illustrative, literal pointing

the strength: gives us an excuse to look deeper, to appreciate

the truth: when we look, we find math in the world when we look, we find beautiful and artful math



Hiroshi Sugimoto



Bernar Venet

Mathematical Ideas in Ancient Indian Poetry

Sarah Glaz Department of Mathematics University of Connecticut Storrs, CT 06269, USA E-mail: Sarah.Glaz@uconn.edu

Abstract

Modern mathematics owes a big debt to India's contributions to the subject. Of particular importance is the decimal, place value number system that appeared in India during the Vedic period or soon after, circa 1300 BC to 300 AD, and made its way to Europe during the Middle Ages. That period of time in India also produced a heady mixture of poetic works: poems, songs, grand epics, biographies and books of instruction in verse covering millions.

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The calculus of Gothic architecture

Michael R. Huber*

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Muhlenberg College, 2400 Chew Street, Allentown Pennsylvania 18104, USA

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When you look at the facade of the Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, what do you see? The rectangular towers, classical Gothic arches, massive domes and stained glass rose windows of this famous cathedral offer excellent examples of areas for students to calculate via integration. Most modern calculus texts use simple examples of finding the area of an ellipse or circle when incorporating trigonometric substitution. This article describes an

"behind"

math used to generate or inspire art algorithmic art, music feels like there's something mathematical going on

the strength: mathematically interesting and aesthetically pleasant

the truth: mathematical algorithms encode interesting processes art creation = process + aesthetic selective pressure modernism: the power of math





Saul Schleimer and Henry Segerman Craig S. Kaplan



Bridges mathematical art exhibition 2012

"structuring"

math plays an organizational role, a frame not a recipe more abstract, conceptual, and about ideas enfolds material and context

the strength: conceptual richness whole is greater than sum of parts

the truth: humanism of math, not equations but ideas and life postmodernism: context! material!





Jorge Luis Borges



Tony Smith



Nathan Selikoff



Gordon Matta-Clark

"transcend and include"

is what we would like to see

contemporary mathematics and contemporary art contributing to mathematics and contributing to art transcending and unifying both

the truth: math and art are two manifestations of a certain way of processing, and perhaps understanding, existence.

the deepest is the connection between the artistic experience and the mathematical experience.





Elizabeth McTernan and Luke Wolcott



more info: www.forthelukeofmath.com