

# X4

## Week 7 Discussion: What moves you? Design? Aesthetics? Fashion OR Furniture OR both?

Post your analysis of this week's reading, lesson activity, film or otherwise. Sharing your impressions for the class.

Supply a point of inspiration. A URL. A picture. A drawing or artistic contribution that will both describe and express this juxtaposition of a question, BOTH for yourself and your fellow learners and classmates?

Please reply to one other student's post as well.

Once I started working for a paint company, I found myself noticing painted surfaces and walls more often. While paying more attention to the walls, I also began focusing on the color and how it looked in different parts of the room and in different lighting. Most people spend the majority of their day in multiple rooms, that have painted walls. But very few ever notice the color unless it is bright, bold, or maybe their favorite color, or least favorite color. Krause Chapter 10 really made me think of this. When I'm in a space I find myself trying to find the inspiration for the wall color, whether its a piece of art, furniture or textile.

I like to look online for inspiration, but I find it more challenging with color because of WYSIWYG. This can be especially difficult with selecting a color to paint a room because it can be an expensive mistake if you don't like how the color looks. The way a color looks online can be deceiving. Below are images of the same paint color, posted by consumers on various blogs, that look very different in all four images. It can be very difficult for consumers because they often don't know how to calibrate their screens or really understand why the color doesn't look in their home like it does in the image. This also happens with fashion and trying to buy clothes online. There are often numerous reviews saying something along the lines of "I love the cut but the sage color was more gray than green" or "the charcoal was more black than it looked in the photo." Accurately representing colors online in a time when people are

doing more online shopping than in-store, is a challenging consideration for retailers.



Well stated. Paint is SO difficult to predict without applying it in the space. I find myself in a buy/return cycle due to certain color choices because of how different the paint looks in person, in the space, depending on the time of day.

I am in the middle of designing our guest bedroom, which is painted with Benjamin Moore's Beach Glass - very similar to what you posted. All I want are a couple of accents in the same color and they are all either too blue or too green. That's part of what makes it so beautiful. :)

Paint can be tricky. Even if you find a color you like in one room it may not work in another due to changes in lighting. It does make finding the perfect color extra special.

I came across this problem when my upstairs neighbor flooded our ceiling (long story) and a water stain was left on our ceiling. I wanted to

find a white paint that would match the existing ceiling color, but realized that it would be virtually impossible to match the exact hue given the effect of shadows, the relative brightness of the light due to time of day, etc. I realized that the only way to get a true match would be to get a paint chip and bring it into a paint store. (I wasn't quite willing to tear a chunk out of the ceiling so I resolved the problem by using paint we already had that didn't match exactly but close enough. :)

I agree and love the example! I had the issue with the Gray hue as well when choosing a paint for my bedroom. I was hoping that I would go to the store and it would be one and done, I would pick a gray and it would be the perfect color and we could move on. But as you said, that's almost never the case and every color I found was either too brown or too purple. Definitely a trial and error and a bump in the road when working with paints!

An eye for beauty is never tired. I find myself always attracted to many beautiful works. It can be a simple aesthetic statement, or a well designed masterpiece. While we gain more knowledge of digital colors, we might find that we get more inspirations by just looking around.

I once read a book about luxury industry history that mentioned an architect whose name is Peter Marino. I was so impressed to learn that he designed so many luxury stores; mostly their flagship stores. He pretty much created the image of the luxury world. Barneys, Chanel, all LVMH brands, you name it. Mr. Marino's style is so successful that only a store designed by him is a luxury brand store. I got curious to learn more about him. Beside the fact that his fame started from the renovation of Andy Warhol's townhouse, and other amazing experience everyone dreams to have, Peter Marino designs many other kinds of buildings like hotel and residence as well. Peter Marino shows me how to combine the art of fashion and architecture and make them complement each other. They both move me to the most strength.

<http://www.petermarinoarchitect.com/work/projects> (Links to an external site.)



Chanel is Seoul



LV in Los Angeles

And when I thought gold, black and white is the color of luxury, the renovation of LV store in west London Peter Marino designed again refreshed my mind.





If a master like Perter Marino can be inspired by artworks of others, how can I not be inspired?

I totally agree! When I thought of luxury, I thought of more traditional colors. I work for LV in Atlanta and the new windows are a real attention grabber, and yet still luxury. I wonder how much of this shift is due to Virgil Abloh, who recently joined the house as Creative Director for Menswear.

My husband would say that I choose aesthetics over design, but my life's work (if I can be dramatic for a moment) is the search for both.

In my professional life, my job is to help others communicate, which is often through visual means. What my designers and I hate to hear is that we "make things pretty." When we're involved from the onset of an effort, we can help

our clients figure out how to communicate in a way that resonates with their audience, in a manner that is both effective and aesthetic. To me, that's the definition of good design.

When it comes to fashion, I am definitely aiming for professional presentation while also maximizing comfort. While I may have chosen form over function in college (weekend nights in the cold headed downtown wearing some tiny outfits and super uncomfortable shoes), I don't really have that luxury anymore. As a full-time (plus) professional, mom, wife, human... I need to balance between what looks good and gets me through the day.

Interior decorating is my passion and my personal style is glam, modern, luxe, farmhouse, and much in between. I am generally moved and inspired by elements and then find ways to work them into my design. For example, I was looking for examples of abstract paintings and found this image, which then drew my attention to the chairs, which I may or may not be trying to incorporate into my dining room. :)



And the painting may or may not have inspired what I created for my family room.



The compromise comes in the fact that I painted my own art (because I have children who would find a way to damage real art) and I don't buy the velvet chairs (because I have dogs, whose hair sticks to everything). I find ways to maximize both aesthetics and design/function because I have to. And now I love to. :) It's a personal challenge to create rooms that are both beautiful and useful... because we shouldn't have to choose one over the other.

I love this and totally agree! I'm constantly grappling with wanting to buy textured bedding and furniture but then having a quick reality check of the fact that I have two dogs that I encourage to sit with me. I think fabrics and textiles are getting more durable and having "pet friendly" options is becoming more of a norm. I enjoy the challenge and nothing feels better than when you finally find that bedspread, in the color, and feel that you want, that your dogs can't ruin. It takes a little longer, but definitely feels more rewarding to find the balance between design and function where you don't have to sacrifice either



Our guest room is the hardest, so far. I want white linen bedding, but it's the dogs' favorite perch to watch over their domain (perfect view of the backyard and beyond). I'm working on keeping the door closed so they can't get in there, but will I really be able to withhold from those sweet faces? Not likely.

When I was 17, I moved from France to the US for my father's business. He owns an Antiques Store in Atlanta called Provenance Antiques (<https://provenanceantiquesatlanta.com/> (Links to an external site.)) so I grew up surrounded by beautifully designed object. It is hard for me to dissociate design and aesthetics as I believe any designed item should be both. I get moved mostly by fashion but furniture are also very important to me. But if I have to pick one, it would be Fashion. My favorite designer is Pier Paolo Piccioli. In the Haute Couture Show SS 2019, his choice of color palette is astonishing through the whole presentation. The show ends with a beautiful "painting" of a small selection of the most colorful gowns.[Valentino | Haute Couture Spring Summer 2019 Full Show | Exclusive](#) (Links to an external site.)



Because colors change based on their context and environment, artists can use them to create illusions and elevate their work. Mary Jane Begin said that a color's meaning is best shown with context and that a color can look entirely different depending on what colors accompany it. This is shown not only in digital and analog art, but in the world around us. For example, most rooms in my home are the same shade of white. Due to differences in lighting and furniture, the color appears different in each room. In one room the walls appear bluer, in another greener, and in another, they have a pinkish tint. These changes are fascinating to observe and important to keep in mind no matter where you apply color.

Many things move and inspire me. Films, photographs, architecture, books, music, fashion, and seasons all provide me with an endless source of inspiration. In cinematography, the use of lighting to create strong visual contrast has influenced my photography, videography, and editing styles. The use of color in certain films, scenes, and wardrobes has inspired me to try new color combinations. Sometimes I take a photo or still from a film, place it in Illustrator, and use the eyedropper tool to transfer the colors into my

designs. Then I play with the palette to make it my own and create the mood I want.

The Lady from Shanghai (1947), The Big Combo (1955), Dark Passage (1947)

North by Northwest (1959), To Catch a Thief (1955), Vertigo (1958), Black Narcissus (1947)

When I first saw the Burberry February 2017 collection I was immediately moved. It marked the beginning of my love for Burberry and it made me realize how powerful fashion can be. The collected merged sculpture with fashion via textures, colors, and silhouettes. Neutrals, blues, and greens were joined together to create a collection that embodies early spring.

[The Burberry February 2017 Campaign \(Links to an external site.\)](#)



[The Burberry February 2017 Show Highlights \(Links](#)



[to an external site.\)](#)

I may have gotten carried away with examples....

I love that you've chosen stills from films. I think movies are an application where you can really sense the effectiveness of colors in creating particular moods and emphasizing a certain aesthetic. Burberry is also a favorite of mine!

I am moved by both fashion and furniture, and the ways fashion aesthetics can be translated to furniture and other household objects. An example is Marimekko, a Finnish company that started out specializing in fabrics for clothing with bright colors, like the famous bright red and pink "Unikko" design.





Marimekko has since moved into providing textiles of all kinds for upholstery, curtains, and other uses, and sells home goods in their bold designs too—some monochromatic rather than using bright colors, but all striking.



I think the Marimekko aesthetic across fashion and furniture can be read as a response to the usual simplicity of Finnish and other Nordic interior design - it's quite minimalist, based in natural wood tones and white space. And of course long winters in Finland are pretty colorless. So pops of bright and bold patterns in the environment - whether worn on bodies or taking space in homes - are welcome.

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These are absolutely gorgeous! I never heard of this company before, thanks for the introduction!

I am moved and inspired by so many different things. I would say that art, nature, fashion and architecture are probably the things that I am inspired by the most these days. One fashion designer I really like is Mary Katrantzou. Her pieces usually make such great use of color and shape, and are always so unique. Her recent collection was inspired by ancient Greek ideas and accomplishments and was even held at the Temple of Poseidon. It was fascinating to see those ideas in that context coming together for the show.









This week I found Begin's color deconstruction exercise to be quite interesting. I was surprised at how difficult it was. It's so interesting how our brains have trouble recalling colors when reproducing them.

These are interesting! I like how they represent things that are circular without being circular. Inspiration really can come from anywhere ...

this week was the article on Josef Albers and how he revolutionized visual culture and the art of seeing. The quote that really stood out to me was:

"Albers believed that in normal seeing, we use our eyes so much because the world is controlled by our vision, but we become so accustomed to it that we take things for granted. And when he talked about visual perception, he meant something much more profound than just the way we look at the world — he would stop and look at the world, look at the smallest object, smallest event, and see through it in a deep kind of way. ... He would see

magic, he would see something deeper. And he believed that the majority of people just missed the true reality — it was available for everyone to see, but nobody was looking. And that was where his notion of “to open eyes” really comes from.”

This one quote completely spoke to me and I think, greatly touched upon how we, as humans, live our life. We are constantly moving and rarely take a minute to take in everything around us, the people, the colors, the moods, etc. I think this quote completely ties back to artistry as a good artist is someone who can capture that. This is someone who can see the smallest detail of the world, and somehow make the focal point of a painting or sculpture - and then proceed to move people by it.

I, personally, am moved by design and aesthetics. The first thing I thought of when asked this question are wall murals - whether it be around a city or in an office building, I think murals provide a certain mood and feel of that space and can completely take it over. I attached below some specific murals I loved when visiting LA this past March.





These murals are beautiful! I love that they have some similar colors in their palettes (blue, white, pinks) that remind me of LA. You're right, just seeing these works, evoke the mood of a specific place. Thanks for sharing!

This is an interesting thought- what moves you? When we started this course, one of callouts that I made early on was that I appreciate saturated, blocks of color. As an amateur stained glass artist, Tiffany will always be awe-inspiring. Deeper than that, he had an attention to detail around texture and color, which ties directly into this session.

Unfortunately, I don't think this image does his work justice. The mottled opaque glass, mixed with the translucent pieces, irregular shapes and sizes of accent glass, all add both context and texture to the pieces you are looking at.



Because of the limitation of colored glass making, (it's both costly to make and to sell), stained glass artists from the beginning of the craft had to rely on acid etching, silver staining and host of other glass treatments to achieve the overall look they were going for.

These treatments augmented the glass and created textures, shading and altered the hue and saturation of the colored glass.



So to answer the question, glass and colored glass inspire me. Being able to use glass and allow it's texture and shape to manipulate light to create a rich tapestry, regardless of whether it's monochromatic or varied, will always leave me staring for hours.

Artist Daniel Maher is another stained glass artist who masterfully uses a variety of glass shapes and textures to create a one of a kind piece. In a recent exhibit, he showed his "Graveyard" series, which uses various household items to create a rich tapestry of color, texture and jewel-like works that I find truly breath taking.





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These pieces are lovely. I also admire stained glass and Tiffany's work with it. There are two stained-glass domes here in Chicago. The first time I saw them I was immediately struck by how beautiful and detailed they are.

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Thank you for sharing this Daniel - I am also really moved by stained glass. I think the process to create such pieces is so intriguing and the output is so beautiful!

This is such a difficult question to answer! I get visual inspiration from so many things... nature, words, the perfect lighting, music, other people's inspiration

One things that moves me a lot is seeing where the inspiration process of some of my favorite fashion pieces come from. I think it's amazing that

creative works can capture the essence of something beautiful in nature, for example, in a totally different form.

Here's some examples from a magazine I subscribe to called Wallpaper. (The article is called Demon Seed: Phantasmagoric frocks reflect floral forms with devilish delight — Niedermaier + Kountoure).





I always marvel at the hidden connection that appears when you juxtapose the source of an inspiration with the end artwork. If I just see the flower, for example, I would have never saw a dress like the one that was designed! In my opinion, this is an extension/application of what Josef Albers was saying. To take a close up image of a flower and envision a dress... that requires seeing something simple in a much more profound way.

What has struck me the most from this week's readings and videos has been the quote in the Josef Albers article "In order to use color effectively it is necessary to recognize that color deceives continually [...] one and the same color evokes innumerable readings. Instead of mechanically applying or merely implying laws and rules of color harmony, distinct color effects are produced-through recognition of the interaction of color-by making, for instance, two very different colors look alike, or nearly alike".

I find this to be both daunting and inspirational – yes, there are millions of possible combinations one can use or wrongly use in a piece of art, however this sole possibility is so intriguing! I personally have not used a paintbrush since I was in primary school and had art class, but learning about color and it's different properties, combinations, mixtures really makes me want to do all these explorations by myself. I liked also what Jane said in her video that the best way is to experiment yourself!

There are many things that inspire me, move me – nature, decorated room, fashion, paintings, sculptures, music... however I think that what really inspires or moves from these things is, how was such thing created? The imagination, creativity, sublimeness of something...

I was recently in Warsaw and when visiting the royal castle there was a particular room that really struck me – with an immense ceiling painting being the only colorful thing in the room that stood out. The walls where all painted in white, with gold signets around.



I would say that I value aesthetic over design. Aesthetic is what catches your attention and creates the initial impact. Design on the other hand, can be understood as the challenge to make something beautiful, functional. One of the principals of good design by the German designer Dieter Rams states that, "The aesthetic quality of a product is integral to its usefulness because products we use every day affect our person and our well-being. But only well-executed objects can be beautiful." The environment around us does effect our moods, and having objects that are aesthetically pleasing create a positive impact. I think it is very true that only good design can be beautiful –

the harmony of a space or an object when designed well instantly improves the space and function around us.

Fashion and furniture are closely linked from a trend perspective in my opinion. I feel fashion design has a larger following than furniture design and the colors, styles and trends created by that world, ultimately become a bit of our everyday life and culture. These popular styles and colors find their way into the world of furniture design, especially the textile industry. I've always found it fascinating how a fashion designer can translate their clothing into furniture. The furniture industry is full of fashion brands that dabble in the furniture and textile design. One of the first examples and still the best of this, is Giorgio Armani and Armani Casa. His streamlined elegance and use of luxurious materials translated well into the furniture brand.





I find myself to be moved many things such as nature, design, photographs, architecture, art, and murals. I've chosen some photos of things I've seen in the past year that I have been particularly moved by. You really can't beat the colors in nature and this sunset was one that I saw a few weeks ago:

The next two were both taken at the Chihuly Museum in Seattle, both pieces were very colorful, and looking at the photos after learning more about color in this class I can look at them more critically.

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The last photo is of a mural I saw when I was traveling in Santander, Spain last spring. I loved the texture of the painting, and especially the color.



My favorite reading from this week was 'The Magic and Logic of Color', in particular, the quote, 'Practical exercises demonstrate through color deception (illusion) the relativity and instability of color. And experience teaches that in visual perception there is a discrepancy between physical fact and psychic

effect...'. I really enjoyed reading about his thoughts on the fact that we rarely see color as it really is, as well as his opinion on theory and practice.

The picture of the last painting you posted is beautiful. I also love the color and texture.

Chihuly's work is very colorful and beautiful too and I love the outdoors are incorporated into the exhibitions. I wish I had gone to see the exhibition that was at the Botanical Gardens in NY! It reminded me a little of another artist's sculpture (below) I saw once at Storm King Art Center (Lynda Benglis).



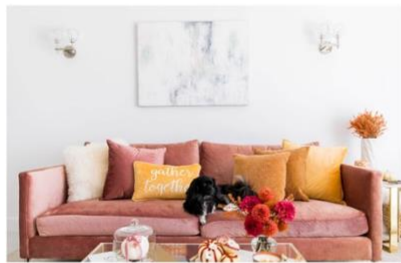
Both design and aesthetics are very important so choosing between the two is hard. At heart I am a practical person who likes quality and durability but I love beauty. No matter how functional a handbag, a piece of outerwear, a chair or cabinet is, I won't purchase it unless I like the style, color, material, etc. So, in thinking about the purchases I make, aesthetics has an edge over design functionality. I am willing to sacrifice a certain amount of functionality to have the style that makes me happy. I am also willing to pay a little more for things that have both good aesthetics and design as it often happens that to have both, you have to pay a premium.

If it were a choice between the two bags below, I would choose the aesthetics of the bag on the right over the functional design of the bag on the left.



I found the article on Josef Albers this week very interesting, especially the emphasis on the interaction of color and also his teaching style, learning through experimentation. Josef Albers showed in his art how the same color can look very different depending on the colors surrounding it. He taught that colors are not static, but dynamic and complex and that their qualities can change based on the colors nearby.

I think on some level I've been trying to figure this color interaction concept out with my own decor without really realizing what I was doing and have experienced some learning through the process of experimentation. I like to change up the color and mood of my living spaces to be in harmony with the seasons. Ideally, this would mean changing more things than I can afford to (or have the room to store) but since I can't change everything and have to use some of the same things each time, it winds up being a fun exercise to try and incorporate some of the same colors into a different palette for a new season. For instance as seen below, a golden yellow pillow cover can echo the falling leaves in Autumn or in summer can be a toned down reflection of warm sunshine. Of course, it all depends on the context of the colors and I continue to make mistakes and learn.



The readings and videos this week have given me a greater understanding of the complexities of color. I thought Mary Jane Begin's demonstration of deconstructing a color was a great way to show the many characteristics of a color and how getting to that point of understanding color is a process. As pointed out by Jim Krause and Josef Albers, for people in the visual arts, having the ability to actually see and describe what is in front of us is a crucial skill that needs to be developed because our brains are used to taking shortcuts to make sense of the overwhelming amount of data in our environments.



What moves me is are ALL of these things. Aesthetics are the essence of design, fashion, furniture and interiors. Without your aesthetics, or a clients aesthetics, you won't have much to work with. When I choose an outfit to wear, or a space to design, I first decide on the look, or theme, of what I want to convey. Personally, my tastes lean into tastefully wild and high-end kitsch. Playful, practical with a dash of luxury.

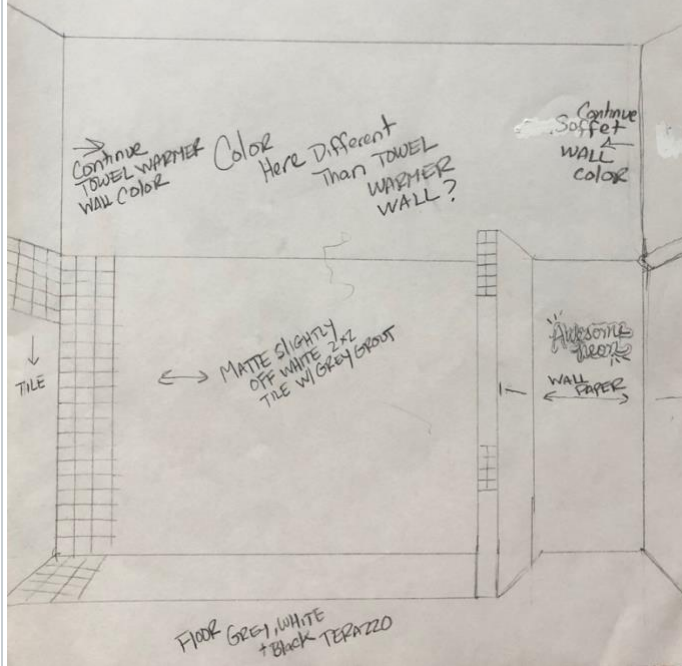
Each day I style myself. I consider what I wear, not to impress anyone but myself to see what I can come up with. Top other days and other looks I've conceived. Mostly I'm casual. I'm a mom so the comfort and practicality to my personal style is key. I banished heels years ago. But that doesn't mean that I cant pile on ten necklaces...a rosary, a choker, charms and chains...on top of a well worn graphic t shirt to say "I'm comfortable but tough....now go do your homework!" . Baggy sweats in bright colors with a pair of high top Nikes or tight bell bottom jeans and Vans. My long hair is swooped up with a giant bow some days, maybe put into two buns a top my head or parted down the middle and worn free and very long...in winter always put a beanie on it. I've got them in every color, five bucks from the street vendors. This year I've glammed them up with a few large rhinestone broaches. If I told anyone I got that benie at Gucci...they'd believe me. Sunglasses! Never leave home without them. Preferably cat-eye. Aesthetics! Fashion! Design!





Furniture and interiors...same rules apply. I won't go into too much detail about this particular project but This Master bath, "The Miami Bathroom" it was named before a single wallpaper or tile sample was considered. From concept to creation I made sure it all synced up. The color palette derived from the Deco hotels of Ocean Drive. The pink, teal and grey evoking a hint of 80's nostalgia. It may seem crazy but a custom midcentury vanity with gold drawer pulls and brushed bronze fixtures gave it a kick of glam. Neon...what is a Miami themed bathroom with out neon? And the lips...for sex appeal of course. It's Miami...in New York City babe!

MASTER BATH  
SECTION 3









What was the question again? I got carried away into the fantasy, reality, style and colors that drive my creative world.