



Rippled Surface
1950
Linocut in black and grey-brown on Japan
paper

M.C. Escher
320mm x 260mm
Picture from www.highlandsartgarage.com

M. C. Escher

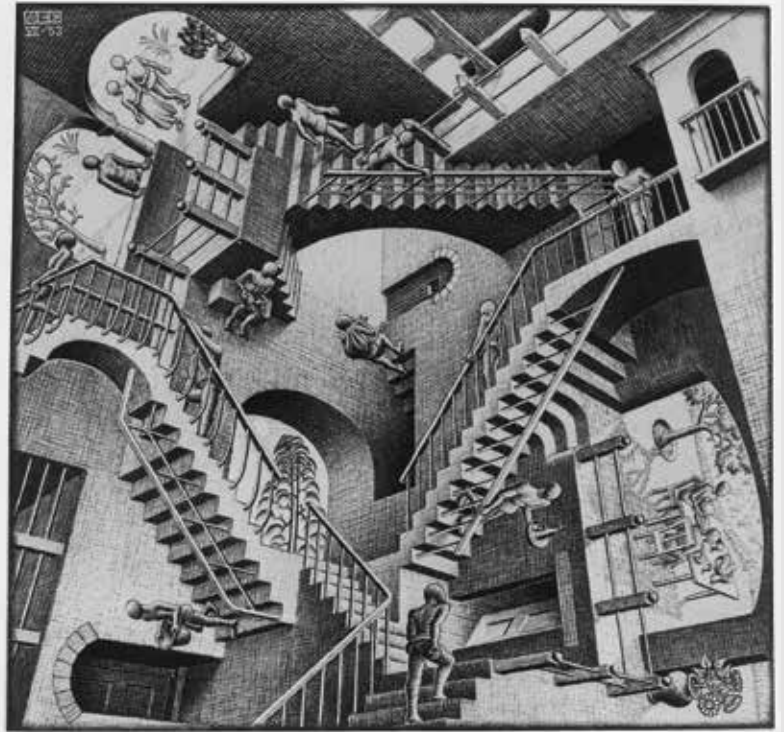
“He who wonders discovers
that this is in itself a wonder”

Maurits Cornelis Escher was born in 1898 and lived until 1972, creating artwork during the Modern Art movement. He was famous as a graphic artist and for his “Impossible constructions”, plays on perspective and architecture. He focused on concepts like multiple dimensions, duality, infinity, symmetry, and generally applying mathematics to his artwork.

Born in Leeuwarden, Netherlands, M. C. Escher failed his high school exams and later attended the School for Architecture and Decorative Arts in Haarlem. After one week of studying architecture he decided to go into graphic arts instead.

“**W**e adore chaos because we love to produce order.”

In M. C. Escher’s 1953 lithograph, Relativity, a new world is shown in which normal laws of gravity do not apply. People are seen going about their daily lives as wander outside and up and down staircases that work impossibly. It appears that there are three sources of gravity that interact with each other through the staircases, allowing for two people to be walking on the same side of yet not in the same direction. This piece is so popular that in the movie Night at the Museum: Secret of the Tomb, the characters enter the painting and experience the strange gravity.



Relativity
1953
Lithograph

M. C. Escher
294mm x 282mm
Picture from www.moa.byu.edu

May 18-23 2018

9:00am-5:00pm

2506 Sainte-Catherine Street

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www.mmoa.com

“Only those who attempt the absurd will achieve the impossible. I think it’s in my basement... let me go upstairs and check”

M. C. Escher

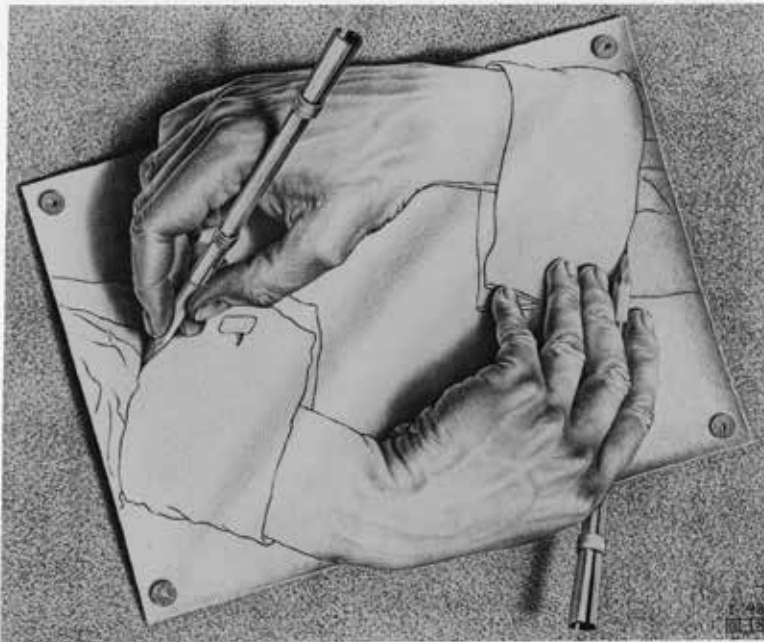
MM●A

Montreal
Museum of Art



Concentric Rinds Colour
1953
Wood engraving

M. C. Escher
241mm x 241mm
Picture from www.irequireart.com



Drawing Hands
1948
Lithograph

M. C. Escher
332mm x 282mm
Picture from www.moa.byu.edu

Drawing Hands by M. C. Escher is a print of two wrists being drawn on a piece of paper out of which three dimensional hands are coming out. These hands each hold a pencil and are drawing each other, a paradoxical piece that Escher is known for as it maintains a sense of realism. The viewers perspective is changed as the line between fantasy and reality is crossed, showing Escher's skill in enigmas and in ability to draw realistic hands that complete the attempt in this piece.

M.C. Escher produced 448 lithographs, wood cuts and wood engravings, and over 2000 drawings and sketches. He also illustrated books, designed tapestries, postage stamps, and murals. Even though he was known for his impossible constructions, he also did more realistic work which would sometimes reappear in later works.

After finishing school, M. C. Escher traveled Italy, meeting his wife and sketching extensively for 11 years to make later prints. He would do some prints by using linoleum, linocuts, others a metal plate, lithographs, and the rest using wood. The first was ideal for a uniform appearance and was inexpensive, but was not as good as wood to produce fine lines.

“I am always wandering around enigmas. There are young people who constantly come to tell me: you, too, are making Op Art. I haven't the slightest idea what that is, Op Art. I've been doing this work for thirty years now.”