

# 14 Art Deco to Organic Design

Friday, February 16, 2024 12:45 PM

## Admin

## Today

Grad presentations

3 Team time - check on each other, offer help

Critical Response Process

International Style, Art Deco, Organic Design

Grad presentations today

Abigail Angwin	Arne Jacobsen
Josh Beijer	Dr. Suess Surrealism

Team time- 10 min?

## Critical Response Process

**Step 0: Author presents. Describes setup, what is seen.**

### Step 1: Statements of Meaning

These are often, but not always positive statements, calling out a strength of the work.

What does this work say about design? About the intended aesthetic?

If making a positive comment, BE HONEST and SPECIFIC. What did you like and why? DO NOT JUST SAY 'good job'

### Step 2: Artist as Questioner

The student presenting can ask for specific feedback to guide further development of the work: "What do you think of the way top is supposed to open? What about the saturation of the color, is it too hot? Did you notice how the fasteners are hidden?" etc. Don't ask just 'what do you think', that's too vague. You'll get more useful answers if your question is focused.

Responders should answer with honesty even if your opinion is negative.

However, offer suggestions only in response to the artist's question.

### Step 3: Neutral questions from Responders (audience).

This is tough, to ask a question without embedding an opinion. It will take practice. For example, instead of "It's kind of rough" or "why does it look unfinished" ask "How does the finish interact with your aesthetic" Be sure to ask about the aesthetics. DO NOT OFFER SUGGESTIONS HERE. Instead, ask about why certain choices were made.

### Step 4: Permissioned Opinions

Responders name the topic of their opinion, then ask the artist for permission to state it. For example, "I have an opinion about the overall size of your artifact. Do you want to hear it?" The artist can answer yes or no. If you already know that the artifact is too small and what to do about it, you can say "No thanks." If you are open to suggestions, then say "yes". If you have a suggestion about how to make the artifact differently that hasn't been discussed yet, here you can say "I have an opinion about how to fabricate your device. Do you want to hear it?"

From <https://www.aesdes.org/2024/02/13/critical-response-process/>

## Suggestions on what to do at each stage if you are the ARTIST

### Preparing for the Process

... invested in continuing to work on the piece you are showing and open to the possibility that you might change it.

... thinking about what you want to learn related to where you are in the process of developing the work you are showing.

... in an open frame of mind about what you will hear.

... think through the choices you made before you present

### Step One: Statements of Meaning

... suspending the need to hear "this is the greatest thing I've ever seen."

... suspending the need to question the sincerity of positive comments.

... attending to your own internal reactions to the comments in terms of how they inform the steps to come:

Are they answering the questions I have about the work?

- Are they suggesting that I need to probe deeper on any subject?
- Are they raising my sense of curiosity about something new?
- Are they reflecting a consensus reaction or a diverse response?

### Step Two: Artist Asks Questions

- ... building on the information you have heard in step one.
- ... refraining from long explanatory preambles.
- ... considering possibilities for two-part questions or general questions.
- ... ready to narrow questions down when they spill out in groups.
- ... ready to hear opinions, including negative ones, when they are in direct response to the question you have posed.

### Step Three: Responders Ask Neutral Questions

- ... attentive to possibilities and issues that may not be prominent in your current thinking.
- ... using the dialogue as an opportunity to advance your thinking about the work rather than to repeat what you already know.
- ... not working too hard to divine the opinion behind the question

### Step Four: Permissioned Opinions

- ... listening to the content of permission requests as well as opinions.
- ... exercising the options of saying “yes” or “no” to a proposed opinion.
- ... considering how content of this and previous steps is informing your thinking about how you want to continue with the piece you are working on

### Wrap-up

- ... consolidating the most useful information you’ve heard.

## RESPONDER

### Preparing for the Process

- ... invested in the potential for the artist to do his/her best work.
- ... thinking ahead to how you will participate in the steps of the Process as you observe the presentation of the artist’s work.

### Step One: Statements of Meaning

- ... making comments that add new perspectives to what has already been stated.
- ... limiting your response to one or two points when many responders are participating.
- ... if you have a strong opinion that you would eventually like to make, addressing a related aspect of the work in your step one statement.
- ... noting the meanings that others have found in the artwork, observing how those comments are expanding your own perception of the work.
- ... observing your own preferences and points of reference.

### Step Two: Artist Asks Questions

- ... keeping your answers honest and specific to the artist’s question.
- ... expressing opinions, even negative ones, IF they are in response to the artist’s question.
- ... listening carefully to the areas of interest and concern that are directed by the artist.
- ... staying interested in the conversation, even when it is about an aspect of the work about which you may not have a strong opinion.

### Step Three: Responders Ask Neutral Questions

- ... framing a neutral question about the area of your opinion.
- ... considering options from general to specific and the possible merits of posing a more general question before a specific one.
- ... listening to the artist’s response for indications that the opinion you have in mind may be either very valuable or irrelevant to the artist’s concerns.
- ... curious about aspects of the work that aren’t related to strong opinions (i.e., open to asking questions that are not opinion driven)

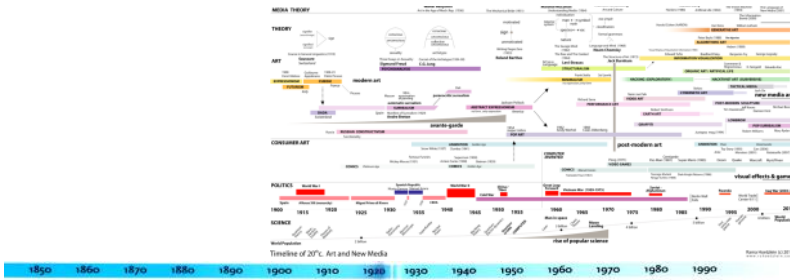
### Step Four: Permissioned Opinions

- ... always prefacing opinions by saying “I have an opinion about \_\_\_\_ would you like to hear it?” and waiting until artist consents.
- ... indicating, in your request to the artist, if your opinion contains a suggestion or fixit.
- ... not loading the content of your opinion into the permission request.
- ... engaging the artist directly rather than dialoguing with other responders.

### Wrap-up

- ...observing the quality of the contribution you and your fellow responders have made.

See <https://www.aesdes.org/2024/02/13/critical-response-process/> for Suggestions for Facilitators



Fiell, Charlotte & Peter. *Design of the 20th Century*. Taschen America, 2012.

<https://www.theartstory.org/movement/international-style/>

Goes through key ideas, artists, examples in detail.



SmartHistory  
The International Style



Artland Magazine  
Concrete & Glass: B...



Architectural Digest  
Architectural Digest



SmartHistory  
International Style architecture in ...



Artland Magazine  
Concrete & Glass: Buildings that ...



Boulder's Modern Houses & Buildings - Self DrivingTour



Sunshine Canyon 2013

<https://homeadore.com/2014/05/08/sunshine-canyon-residence-tha-architecture/>



Flintstones  
Spongebob  
house  
Area

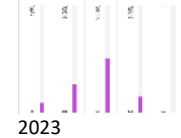
Spongy  
house  
Bay Area



International Style architecture is ugly

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly disagree

Question 1



2020

149  
36  
32  
18  
0

International style furniture

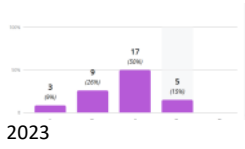
2024



<https://www.google.com/search?tbm=isch&q=international+style+furniture&revid=530428988&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwifnd7v98PLAhVV5WMKHYZ6p8Q1QIUKA&djpr=1.5&biw=1218&bih=388>

International Style furniture is ugly

1. Strongly agree
2. Agree
3. Neutral
4. Disagree
5. Strongly disagree



2021



99  
32  
9  
32  
18

2020