

COMD 1100 Marianna Trofimova
Symmetry and Asymmetry Notan Assignment

Create 2 designs in b/w. One symmetrical, one asymmetrical.

Use paint brush to fill in the shapes. Use pencils, markers to create your design.
For one of them use a letter (one of the initials of your name)

Think: Figure/Ground relationship, repetition.

Think: Contrast between large shapes and small, thick lines and thin.

Size: 8.5" by 11"

Watch:

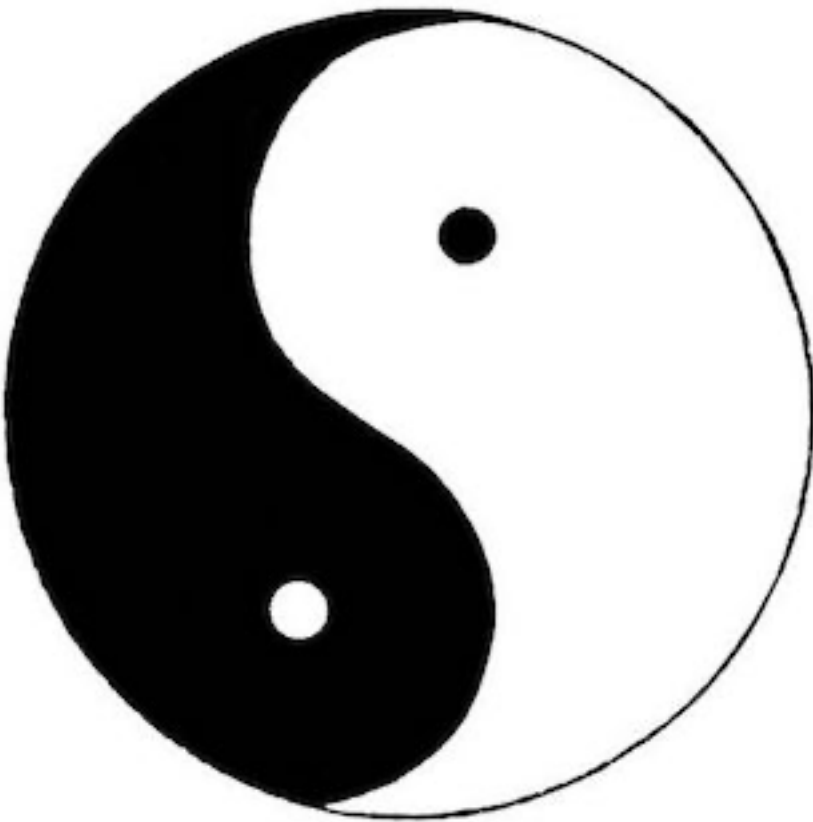
https://www.ted.com/talks/paula_scher_great_design_is_serious_not_solemn?language=en

Notan is a Japanese term which literally means "light dark harmony". Artists use "notan studies" to explore different arrangements of light and dark elements in a painting, without having the distraction of other elements like color, texture and finer details.

Notan is **important** in a painting because it is the fundamental building block of its design. It is the abstract design of the painting in its simplest form – without any color. You need a strong **notan** design as a framework for building the rest of the design around.

The concept of **notan** made its way into Western art after 1854 when Japan opened its ports to trade, resulting in many examples of Japanese art being seen in Europe. The idea of **notan** became part of art education after Arthur Wesley Dow included it in his 1899 book on art instruction.

Positive space refers to the subject or areas of interest in an artwork, such as a person's face or figure in a portrait, the objects in a still life painting, or the trees in a landscape painting. **Negative space** is the background or the area that surrounds the subject of the work.













Phthalo-Blue

