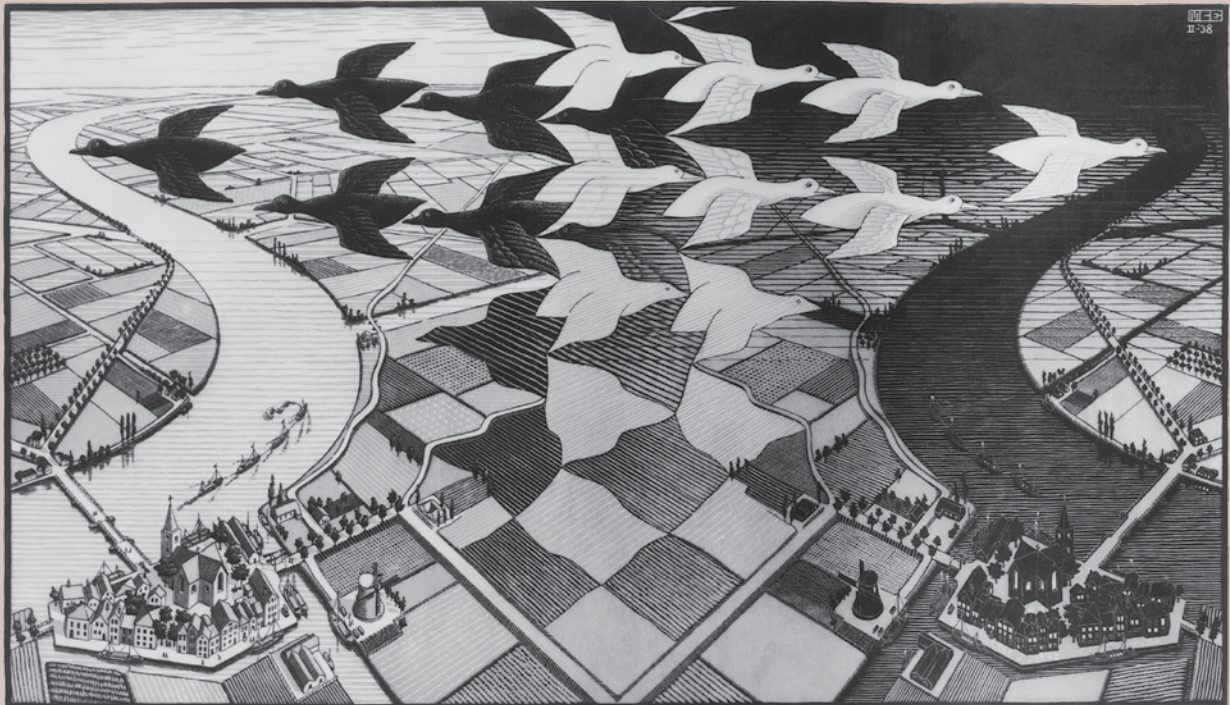


Activity Guide

M.C. ESCHER

Reality and Illusion



M.C. Escher, *Day and Night*, 1938, woodcut. © 2017 The M.C. Escher Company, The Netherlands. All rights reserved. www.mcescher.com

Metamorphosis and Cycle

Objects drawn by M.C. Escher are often illusions or tricks. Look closely at *Day and Night*. Close your eyes and then open them. What do you first see? Take time to look at the center of the image. Now, make your eye travel to the right . . . to the left. What changes? Stare at the bottom of the image; move your gaze up to the top. Now what changes?

The change in an Escher image is typically either metamorphosis or cycle. **Metamorphosis** is change from abstract (or unreal) to concrete (or real). A change or series of changes from one form to another and back to the original form is **cycle**.

List the objects that metamorphose – or change – in *Day and Night*. Hint: consider objects, time, and landscapes.

1

2

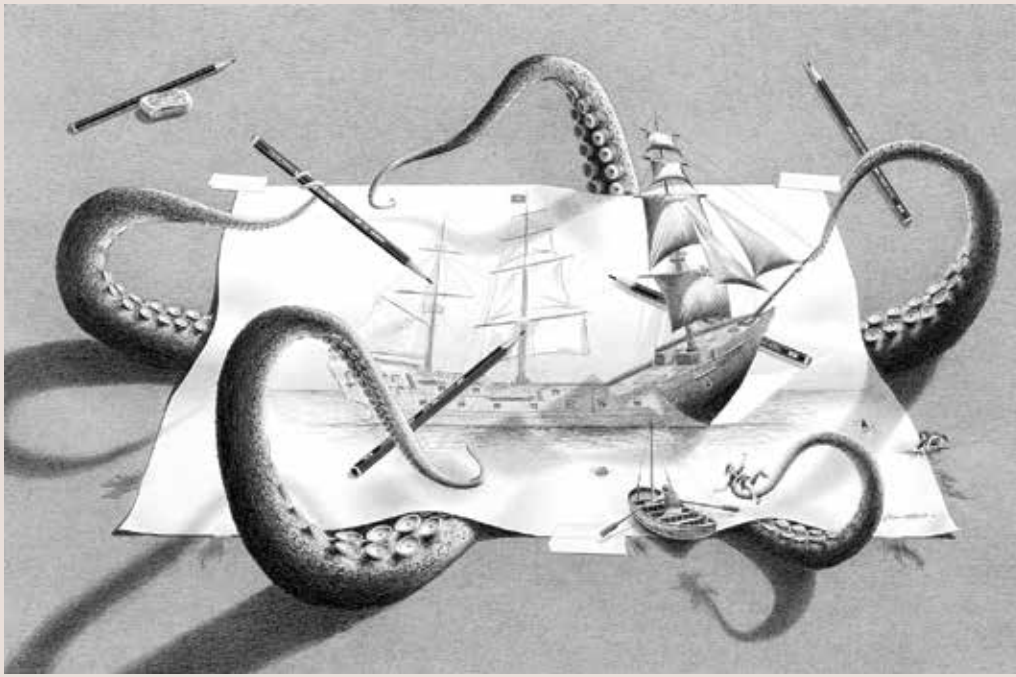
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4

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

M.C. Escher



Robin Lauersdorf, *Waiting for My Ship to Come In*, 2016, graphite and charcoal

"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

Where's the Artist?

M.C. Escher's *Drawing Hands* is a glimpse into an artist's studio and a piece of paper tacked to a board. Consider what the artist is drawing and what you are seeing. Are you looking at the hands of the artist drawing an image of a hand or is the hand the image? Similarly, artist Robin Lauersdorf draws imaginary compositions that seem to rise playfully from the paper in an artist's studio.



M.C. Escher, *Drawing Hands*, 1948, lithograph. © 2017 The M.C. Escher Company, The Netherlands. All rights reserved. www.mcescher.com

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M.C. Escher: Reality and Illusion is from the collection of Herakleidon Museum, Athens, Greece, www.herakleidon-art.gr. This One Source Traveling Exhibition was organized by PAN Art Connections, Inc.

Illustrating Illusions: Drawings by Robin Lauersdorf was organized by Woodson Art Museum curator of exhibitions Andy McGivern.

Both exhibitions are on view March 4 through May 28, 2017.

**Create a story about
Waiting for My Ship to Come In;
write it here.**

Leigh Yawkey
**Woodson
Art Museum**

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