

# Hyperrealistic Oil Painting

Food Studies

# Still Lives in Art

- Still lifes developed into their own genre of art by the late 16<sup>th</sup> century, although paintings of still life objects can date back to early Egyptian art.
- Still lifes play an important role in reflecting culture in different time periods and teaching students how to draw from life.



Glass bowl of fruit and vases. Roman wall painting in Pompeii (around 70 AD)

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Still\\_life#/media/  
File:Pompejanischer\\_Maler\\_um\\_70\\_001.jp  
g](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Still_life#/media/File:Pompejanischer_Maler_um_70_001.jpg)

# Hyperrealism



*La hora del té* by Magda Torres Gurza (oil on canvas, 90x140 cm).

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyperrealism\\_\(visual\\_arts\)#/media/File:La\\_hora\\_del\\_te.jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hyperrealism_(visual_arts)#/media/File:La_hora_del_te.jpg)

- A genre of art that resembles high resolution photographs.
- Hyperrealism differs from photorealism in that it focuses on emoting life like qualities, not just imitating a photograph.
- Requires a lot of focus on the details of the object.

# Hyperrealism and Food Still Lifes





<https://www.flickr.com/photos/designmilk/22040231853>





<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Fruitbowlwithmelons.jpg>



# Artist to Know: Wayne Thiebaud

(pronounced tee-bow)

- Born November 15<sup>th</sup>, 1920
- Is an American artist, born in Arizona and grew up in California
- After high school he interned with Walt Disney where he began cartooning
- After his internship he held jobs in CA and New York working as a designer and cartoonist
- He got his degree at Sacramento State College, and ended up teaching there
- He later became friends with Willem de Kooning and Franze Kline and was influenced by their work as well as Jasper Johns and Robert Rauschenberg.
- He is best known for his painting of everyday objects and food
- He is associated with the Pop Art movement because of his interest in objects of mass culture



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/421860690079215693/>

*Pies, Pies, Pies, 1961*







*Three Machines, 1964*





# *Five Hot Dogs, 1961*





*Condiment Bowls*, undated Oil on canvas, 16 x 20 inches  
From the Artist's Studio. Credit



# Wayne Thiebaud

- By the 1960s Thiebaud got rid of the abstract expressionist glaze and replaced it with frosting — thick, slick strokes. He also found his subject: pies, candy and cakes.
- “Cakes, they are glorious, they are like toys.” His first painting of a row of pies made him laugh. But those paintings did not sell. A critic called him “the hungriest artist in California.”
- So Thiebaud looked for a gallery in New York. “His last stop” — isn’t it always the last stop? — “late one afternoon was the Allan Stone Gallery.” He and Stone became friends, and in April 1962 Thiebaud got a one-man show. Everything sold. And the rest is art history. Landscapes followed lollipops and portraits followed popsicles.





# Your Assignment

- Create a hyper realistic painting of food.
- Set up your own still life of the food, photograph it, edit the photo, and bring it in to work from.
- We will be working on 12"x12" square canvases, consider this when taking and editing your photo.
- Using oil paint you will recreate the food still life
- These will hang in the cafeteria for the remainder of the school year.

# Sketchbook Assignment 7

1. Find an artist who paints food whose style, compositions, or subject matter interest you.
  - a. Print out three pictures of their work to use as inspiration for your food still life.
2. List it: List out types of food, drinks, candy, etc. that you might want to focus on.
  - a. Find pictures of the food items, print them out, and add them to your sketchbook. See which shapes, colors, and styles appeal to you.
3. Choose three from your list. Set up still lifes for all three and photograph them.
  - a. You can bring items in to class to photograph if you need better or lighting or camera equipment.

# Still Life Photography Tips:

- Consider your elements of art and principles of design. In particular focus on: line, shape, texture, and color.
- Think about your composition:
  - Have part of the food cropped out of the picture plane
  - Get close up, crop out the background. You want to focus on the food, not the countertop or a wall.
  - Overlap: if you have more than one item, overlap them
  - Focal point: if you have more than one item, which one will be the focal point?
- Make the lighting interesting:
  - Look for strong highlights and shadows.
  - Turn off overhead lights and set up a spotlight with a lamp.
- Consider what surface it is sitting on, what is going on in the background. You can always omit any background in the picture and add your own, but try to get the photograph as close to your final painting as possible.
- Try multiple angles.
  - Overhead view
  - Eye level with the food
  - A shot from below
- Think about other props to include in addition to the food:
  - is it on a plate?
  - Does a knife or fork add interest?
  - How do the colors blend with the food item?



# Your Grade

- Still life photo of food
- Hyper realistic painting of food
- Oil painting technique
- Composition
- Creativity
- Craftsmanship
- Effort

**THE END**