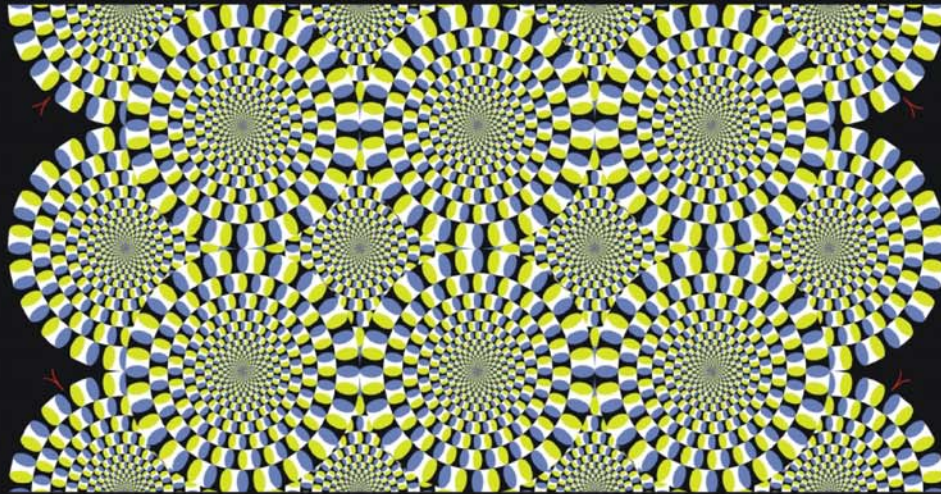


Akiyoshi Kitaoka

The Art of the Illusion



Kemper Room Art Gallery
Paul V. Galvin Library

March 2 - April 9, 2006

opening reception:
Thursday, March 9, 4:30 - 7:30 pm

exhibition hours:
Monday - Thursday: 12 noon - 6 pm
Friday: 12 noon - 5 pm
Saturday: 8:30 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 2 - 6 pm

art.iit.edu

Image: Rotating Snakes Strong, Akiyoshi Kitaoka, 2003

Vision scientist Akiyoshi Kitaoka challenges our visual perception by intentionally inducing misperception; images that appear to be much different than they really are. Thirty-six of the most moving illusions ever created; a perfect visual blend of art and science.

curator:
Robert J. Krawczyk, Assistant Professor,
College of Architecture

exhibition coordinator:
Mindy Ann Sherman, College of Science and Letters

gallery assistant:
Joseph Huang, College of Architecture

sponsored by:
IIT Office of the President, Lew Collens, President
IIT Art Board, Judith Carr, Chair

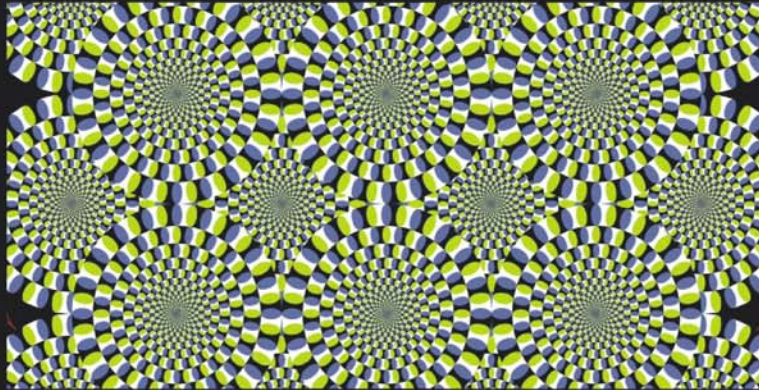
art @ IIT



ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
312-567-5293

Akiyoshi Kitaoka

The Art of the Illusion



art @ IIT
ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

Akiyoshi Kitaoka

The Art of the Illusion

Vision scientist Akiyoshi Kitaoka challenges our visual perception by intentionally inducing misperception; images that appear to be much different than they really are. Thirty-six of the most moving illusions ever created; a perfect visual blend of art and science.

Kemper Room Art Gallery
Paul V. Galvin Library
Illinois Institute of Technology
35 West 32nd Street, Chicago, IL 60616

March 2 - April 9, 2006

opening reception:
Thursday, March 9 4:30 - 7:30 pm

exhibition hours:
Monday - Thursday: 12 noon - 6 pm
Friday: 12 noon - 5 pm
Saturday: 8:30 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 2 - 6 pm

art.iit.edu
312-567-5293

Rotating Snakes Strong copyright Akiyoshi Kitaoka, 2003

art @ IIT
Illinois Institute of Technology
Lew Collens, President

IIT Art Board

Judith Carr, Chair
*Associate Vice President and Director
Office of the President*

Catherine Bruck
*University Archivist
Paul V. Galvin Library*

Justine Jentes
*Director
Mies Society*

Nora Kyger
*Associate Director
Institute of Design*

Chuck Owen
*Research Professor
Institute of Design*

Christopher Stewart
*Dean
Paul V. Galvin Library*



Gallery Staff

Robert J. Krawczyk
*Gallery Director
Assistant Professor, College of Architecture*

Mindy Ann Sherman
*Exhibition Coordinator
College of Science and Letters*

Kemper Room Art Gallery
Paul V. Galvin Library

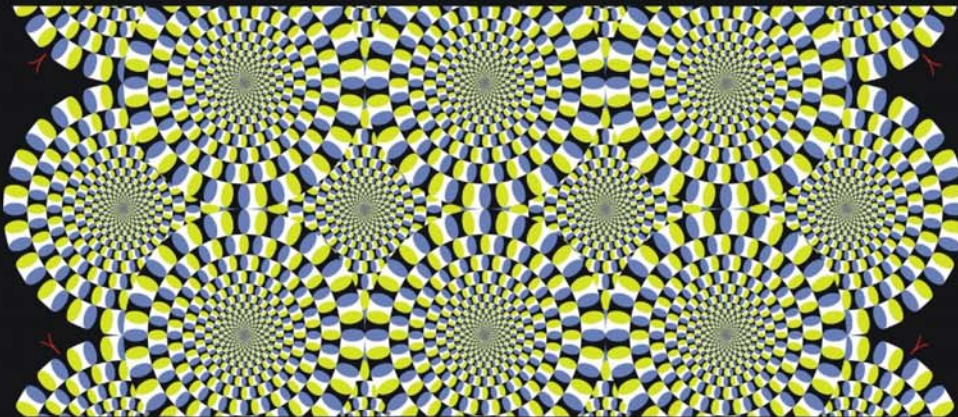
exhibition hours:
Monday - Thursday: 12 noon - 10 pm
Friday: 12 noon - 5 pm
Saturday: 8:30 am - 5 pm
Sunday: 2 - 10 pm

Kemper Room Art Gallery, Paul V. Galvin Library, 35 West 33rd Street, Chicago, IL 60616 312-567-5293, art@iit.edu

for additional information, complete hours, and related events:

art.iit.edu

Akiyoshi Kitaoka
The Art of the Illusion



art @ IIT

ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY



Akiyoshi Kitaoka

The Art of the Illusion

curated by

Robert J. Krawczyk, Illinois Institute of Technology

sponsored by

Illinois Institute of Technology, Office of the President

March 2 - April 9, 2006

Vision scientist Akiyoshi Kitaoka challenges our visual perception by intentionally inducing misperception; images that appear to be much different than they really are. Thirty-six of the most moving illusions ever created; a perfect visual blend of art and science.

The images in this exhibit reveal wheels that rotate, shapes that shrink and expand, slide sideways, up and down, even form a wave pattern, and straight lines that shimmer. All exhibit illusory motion where none exists.

Kitaoka is able to construct these illusions by carefully assembling shapes that repeat and vary in color, size, and position. These relationships thoroughly explore our inability to differentiate a perceived image of an object and the knowledge of its actual physical properties. Why these images work the way they do is not fully understood, but their effect is undeniable and very disconcerting; you have been warned.

The effect of many of these illusions can be best seen if you move your eyes across the image either vertically or horizontally; others will be observable if you move towards and away from the image. Some of these illusions may need some movement on your part, but many are so strong that your natural involuntary eye movements alone can generate the effect.

These illusions can be categorized in a number of distinct groups. The rotational illusion usually has circular elements that seem to rotate in the same direction or in opposite directions, when represented as concentric rings. In many of these images, the effect is more pronounced when you look close or move apart from the image keeping your eyes fixed in the center. Geometrical illusions are comprised of shapes that tend to bulge or distort in their entirety or along vertical or horizontal edges. The spiral illusion consists of concentric circles or rows of shapes that appear to be spiraling. Anomalous motion illusions are ones that part of a figure appears to move in the direction different from the rest. These illusions can be created by rows or rings of shapes, or insets that move opposite the outer portion of the image. These definitely can make more sensitive observers dizzy or sick. An illusion of expansion and contraction normally consists of concentric rings of shapes. The heat shimmer illusion creates a wave-like distortion of the image, somewhat the same as the wave illusion, which usually consists of the large field to similar shapes. Some of the illusions can be explained when a sense of misdirection is encountered; when a radial field of lines has an embedded circular series of shapes. As you view these, consider the background shapes and how they interact with the ones in the foreground. Or, just simply ignore all these explanations and enjoy the fact that there is no way you will ever understand how what you perceive is actually so different from what is really there.

Kitaoka writes: "You may feel that these images are beautiful, amusing, or curious. Curiosity is actually the mother of science. It is true that human beings are animals that eat, drink, and sleep, but they are characterized by their lively curiosity. Although curiously yielded science, science has gone far away from the general public because of specialization. Here I claim that visual illusion is an object of science for everyone because the study of visual illusion does not require any expensive instruments or materials and is free of social problems and pollution. It is easy to experiment and the result comes immediately. That is everyone can get science back from experts with amusing visual illusion."

In addition to Kitaoka's expertise in the science of the illusion, he also exhibits an aesthetic that enhances the sometimes seemingly simple compositions of shapes and color. This elevates his work from mere novelty and curiosity to the level of a unique artistic expression.

Akiyoshi Kitaoka is Assistant Professor of Psychology, College of Letters, Ritsumei University in Kyoto Japan. He has published his research and analysis of these illusions internationally and has authored a book of images titled *Trick Eyes*, published in 2005. The exhibit at IIT is the first extensive art gallery presentation of his work. A complete set of illusions, updated on a regular basis, can be found at: <http://www.ritsumei.ac.jp/~akitaoka/index-e.html>

WARNING!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

READ THIS FIRST

Please note that all the important stuff is in the really very small fonts.

Please note that all the important stuff is in the really very big fonts.

Not sure why we have to remind you twice.

If this font size is too small to read, then ignore it; but do have your eyes checked.

Your entry constitutes full acceptance of all these conditions, including those on the back side of this panel. (we forgot that we were going to glue it to the wall, be assured that the important warnings are on this side, OK well maybe one or two are on back.)

We can not be held responsible for errors or any consequences arising from the viewing of this exhibit; the views, opinions, shapes, those little cute eyes, and colors expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the artist, the curator, the assistant curator, the assistant to the assistant of the curator, the gallery director, the director of the gallery, but could include the exhibition coordinator and the art coordinator or any other coordinators we have, and we have a lots of them.

All commercial uses of this exhibit are prohibited, no rebroadcasts, we don't even want you to tell anyone that you even came here. Let's just keep it our little secret, OK?

A very important part of this exhibit is to understand that these pictures DO NOT actually move. Come on, give me a break, did you really think they moved? Did you graduate from IIT? Then you should really know better.

All rights reserved. This exhibit or parts thereof, and herewithin, and therefore, may not be reproduced, cloned, or viewed, in any form without written permission of the gallery or anyone that will give it to you. Well, we really don't care all that much about this one.

All warranties are implied and not, all guaranties are not or are, neither pertain to this exhibit, both should be read very carefully. Money back guaranty with 30-days, better yet NO money back; remember you didn't pay to get in.

Your satisfaction is guaranteed. (Right, try to collect on that one)

If these illusions persist once you leave the exhibit area, please consider that some serious medical problem you had before you came here. If they persist and you like it, please return for more. If you are old enough to have seen the Rolling Stones in their first year of concerts, then we can all assume you have had these type of illusions for a very long time already due to continued self medication, right? Do your kids know what you did then? Remember we didn't have "just say no!"



HIGH VOLTAGE



EMERGENCY ASSEMBLY AREA



PRIVATE PROPERTY NO TRESPASSING



If you had illusions or allusions already coming in, good for you. We hope this exhibit will allow you to continue a few more years under the supervision of a psychiatric institution. Hope you have a good medical plan. Please come back often.

If you get dizzy, hold the hand of the person next to you and sing of your favorite children's song; if no one is standing next to you, you probably need to bathe more often, please leave immediately. Sorry, no bathing in the Library bathrooms.

The Gallery is under constant video, audio, and refractory surveillance that means we can smell you too. We installed a X-ray detector in the entrances; they're not quite working well yet, seems that we haven't quite adjusted their intensity, so sorry if you glow a bit when you get outside. Oh, by the way, not THIS entrance, but the one you walked in when you came into the library, sorry for the late warning, didn't have time to post a sign there; you know all about tight budgets, don't you. The good news is that the half-life of the glow is less than less than 100 years.

If you must, and we highly discourage it, speak only in your quiet voice, remember you are in a Library and not a Rush Street bar, also laughing is discouraged, this is art gallery, so take it very seriously, smiling is OK.

No sun glasses, they look really tacky indoors, and just who do you think you are anyways? This is a special warning for all of you artists. And, while we are at it, what's with all that black? Colors, remember what colors are.

DO NOT tell anyone else about this exhibit, we already have too many people trampling through the Galvin Library.

DO NOT touch anything, keep your hands to yourself, but not in your pockets, didn't your mother tell you about that?

No food, drink, tobacco products, or tobacco product accessions allowed in the gallery.

Control your breathing.

Careful to breathe as little as possible; seems the gallery has very poor air circulation, so we my run out air by the end of the evening.

No strollers. All small children are to be supervised by their parents at all times. All small children should supervise their parents at all times. All large children, this means you, can do what they want. No shopping carts either, really, what were you thinking?

No shirt, no shoes, no entry. And what's with those colors? Didn't you put on a light when you were dressing this morning? Where do you think you are anyways? Didn't your mother teach you anything? You were born on a farm? If you were then it's OK. We like farmers. But please, curb your livestock outside.

We have adapted or adopted the same rules on bringing items into the Gallery as the TAS, the MASA, the CIA, the FBI, and the OTS. So, anything you want! We won't even ask you to take your shoes off, unless they are 9 1/2 D. in black, loafer style would be fine, were looking for a new pair. Just like the airports. You know they are really taking a survey on what kind of shoes people in the USA are wearing. That is all it is.

Sorry, we ran out of bart bags last weekend, so dont even think about it.

Whatever you take in you must take out. But please leave those cute little eyes alone.

This exhibit is void where prohibited. You never saw it.

No exchange, if you didn't like a particular piece, view another, we can not and will not make any exchanges of views.

This paragraph is here to fill up some space since we wanted to make to whole panel one piece and not waste any of the material we had. That seems to be just enough.

This gallery does not welcome unsolicited comments, unless they are favorable.

Please send all comments, with \$10 in cash attached, to III, PO Box 2, Chicago, IL 60616.

Fear No Art! No really, fear no art!

Remember, we warned you!

RESTRICTED AREA

EMERGENCY EVACUATION POINT

EMERGENCY EXIT ONLY KEEP CLEAR



SECURITY THIS PROPERTY IS A SECURITY PATROLLED AREA



ENTER AT YOUR OWN RISK



