

CROSS AND PLANE TO SPACE

Myriam Thyes, 2017. Stereoscopic 3D animation, HD video, 8:05, loop, color, stereo. For projection at the ceiling.
 Music: Eva-Maria Houben.

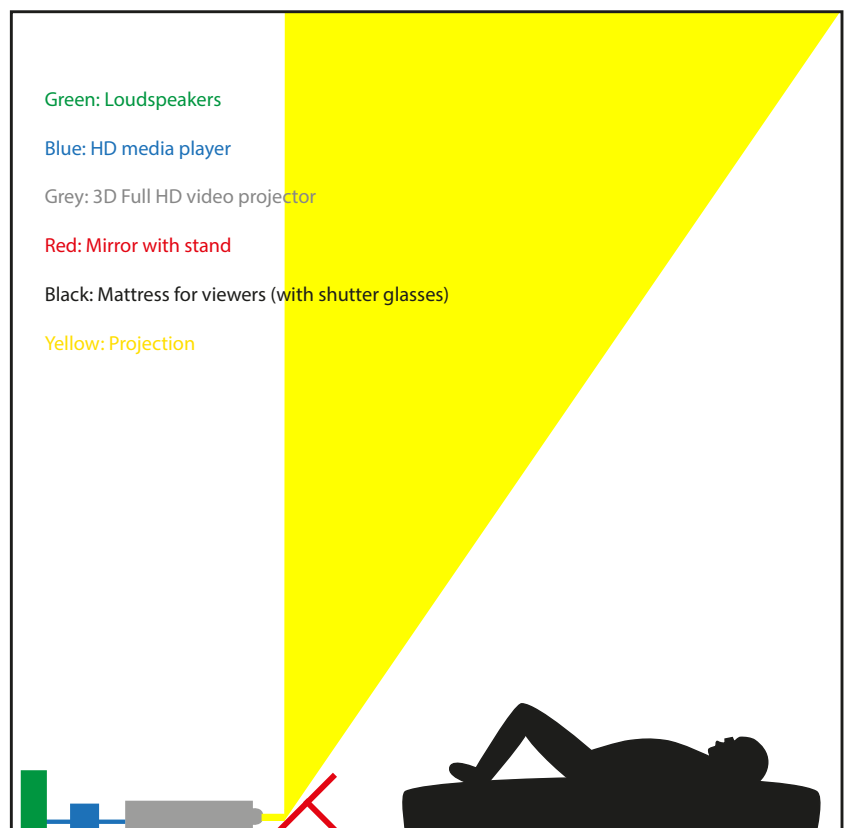
The title refers to Kandinsky's book „Point and Line to Plane“ - here to the historic antipodes illusionism and constructivist art. In this video, the illusionistic ceiling fresco ‚Triumph of St. Ignatius of Loyola‘ (1685) by Andrea Pozzo meets compositions with (broken) crosses (1932) by Sophie Taeuber-Arp. While the hierarchic, centralist painting in the Jesuit church Sant' Ignazio glorifies the holy lord, Taeuber-Arp created multifocal, plane compositions of non-figurative shapes. The only thing the baroque and the modern artworks have in common, is the sign of the cross*. In the animation, the oppositional artistic concepts start a competitive dialog, they influence and penetrate each other. Given the current victory of virtual worlds, this animation reflects the history of illusionism and its assumed overcoming in modernity.

* It is not known whether Taeuber-Arp, using crosses and „broken crosses“, wanted to comment on the christian cross or even the nazi swastika. But of course all modern artists were aware of the symbolic and ideological meanings of the cross - especially those who avoided meaning and worked with sheer geometric forms (like Malewitsch, Mondrian).

Installation

Dark space, 4-5 meters high.
 At least 3 x 3 meters floor.
 Projection at a white or reflecting ceiling.
 Mattress on the floor, at least 2 x 2 meters, covered with black sheet.

HD media player (e.g. for MP4), HDMI cable.
 3D HD video projector, shutter glasses.
 (projection size: at least 3 meters diagonal).
 Mirror for ceiling projection (about 30 x 30 cm).
 Stereo loudspeakers, audio cables.



SOURCES / REFERENCES

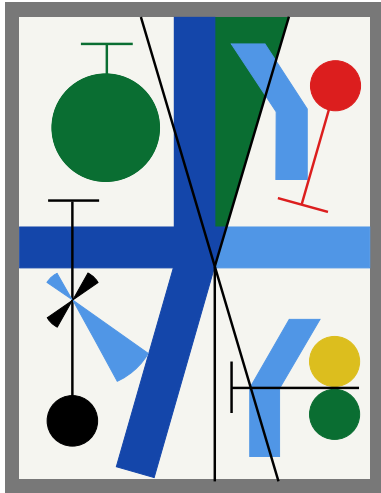
Andrea Pozzo, TRIUMPH OF ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, ceiling fresco, church Sant'Ignazio, Rome

Video recordings and photos by Myriam Thyès, and two photos from Wikimedia Commons:

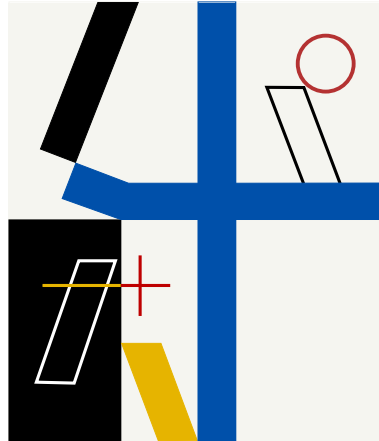
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Benfoto-Roma2013-150.jpg>

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_Triumph_of_St._Ignatius.jpg

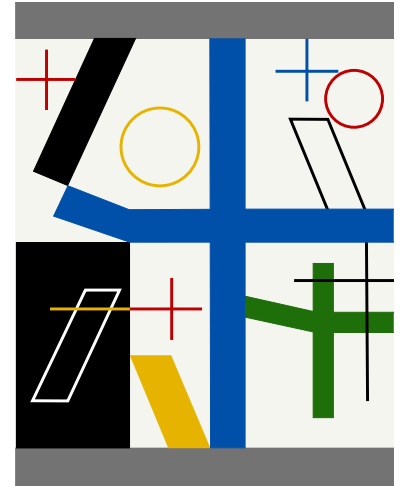
Sophie Taeuber-Arp, compositions with crosses, all 1932. Vektor drawings by Myriam Thyès after the following artworks:



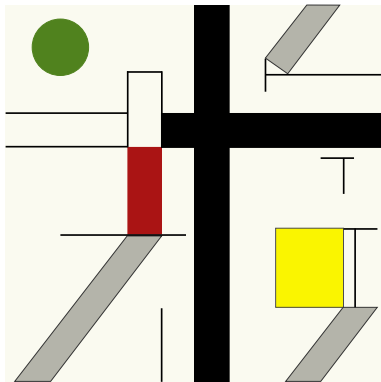
Four spaces with blue broken cross
(pencil and gouache on paper)



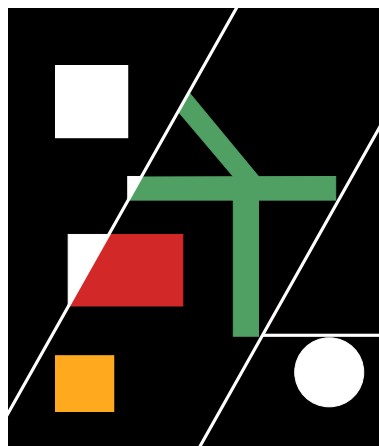
Four spaces with a broken cross
(gouache on canvas?)



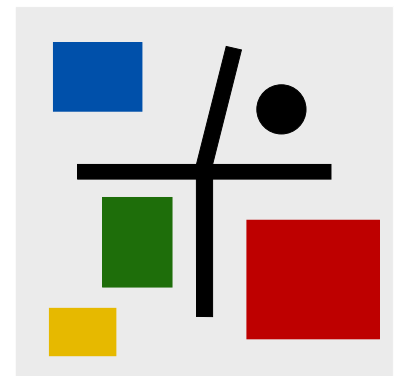
Four spaces with broken crosses
(silk screen print)



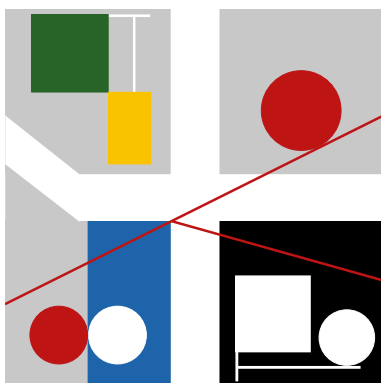
Four irregular spaces
(gouache on paper)



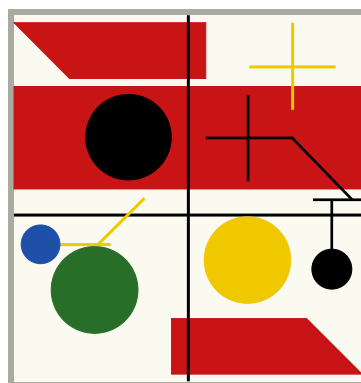
Broken cross between diagonals
(gouache on paper)



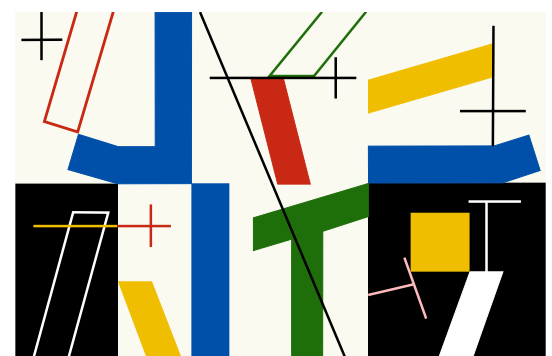
Composition with broken cross
(gouache on wood)



Four spaces with red rolling circles
(gouache on paper)



Four spaces with planes, circles and crosses
(gouache on paper)



Six spaces with four small crosses
(oil on canvas)