



Louise Bourgeois' Spider sculpture

# metamorphosis

## **Definition of Metamorphosis:**

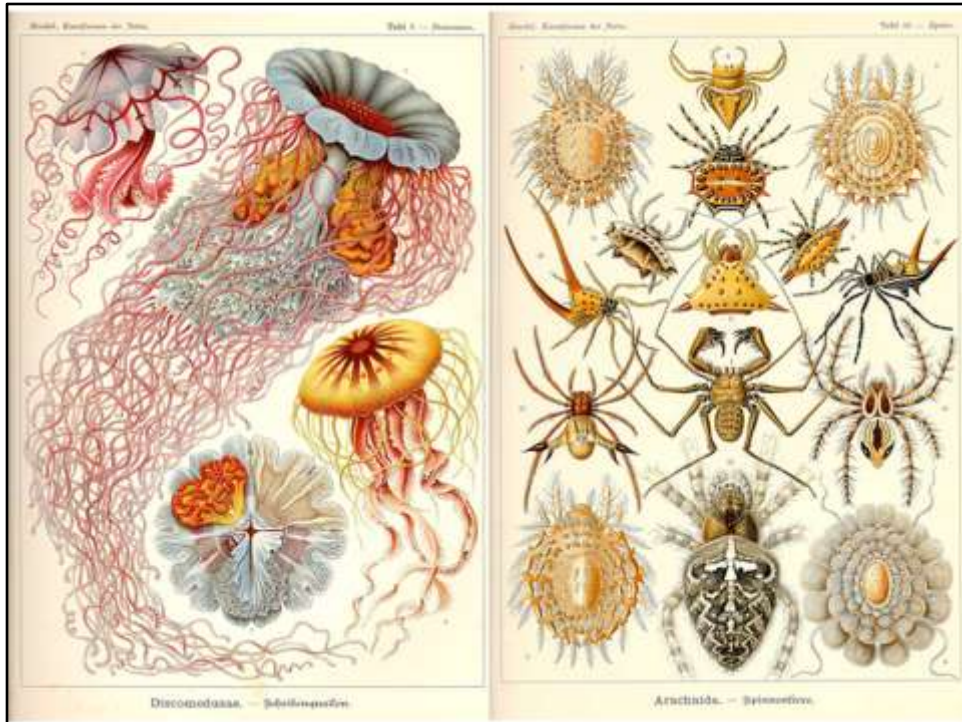
- the marked and rapid transformation of a larva into an adult that occurs in some animals
- transfiguration: a striking change in appearance or character or circumstances; "the metamorphosis of the old house into something new and exciting"
- a complete change of physical form or substance especially as by magic or witchcraft



Cicadas are seen for only one day when they come up from hibernation to morphose from larvae into the adult flying cicada.  
Swarms seen in US which literally cover streets!!!



Snakes and lizards have to shed their skin in order to grow. Our skin sheds skin all the time too!



From Ernst Haeckel's Art forms in Nature pub 1904-

“A staunch evolutionary biologist, Haeckel put Darwin on the world map. His books and monographs, placing Darwin in a broad social and philosophical context, were circulated internationally; they outsold *On the Origin of Species* by a large margin. Haeckel was commonly referred to as “the Darwin of Germany.””



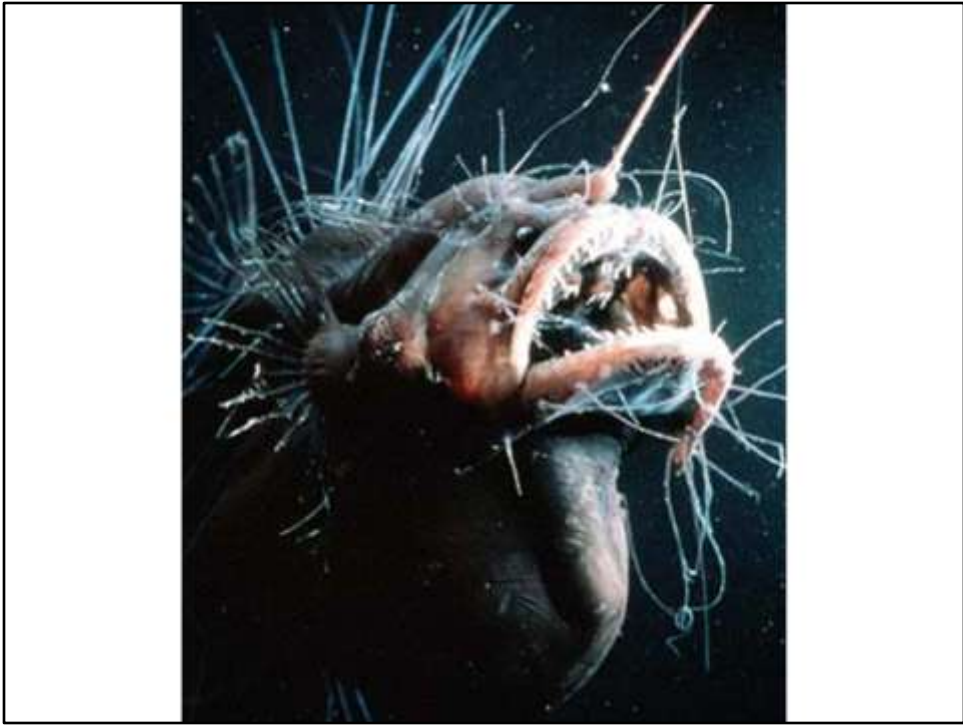
Portuguese man of war with diver



Photograph by Chris Newbert

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Snake skeleton



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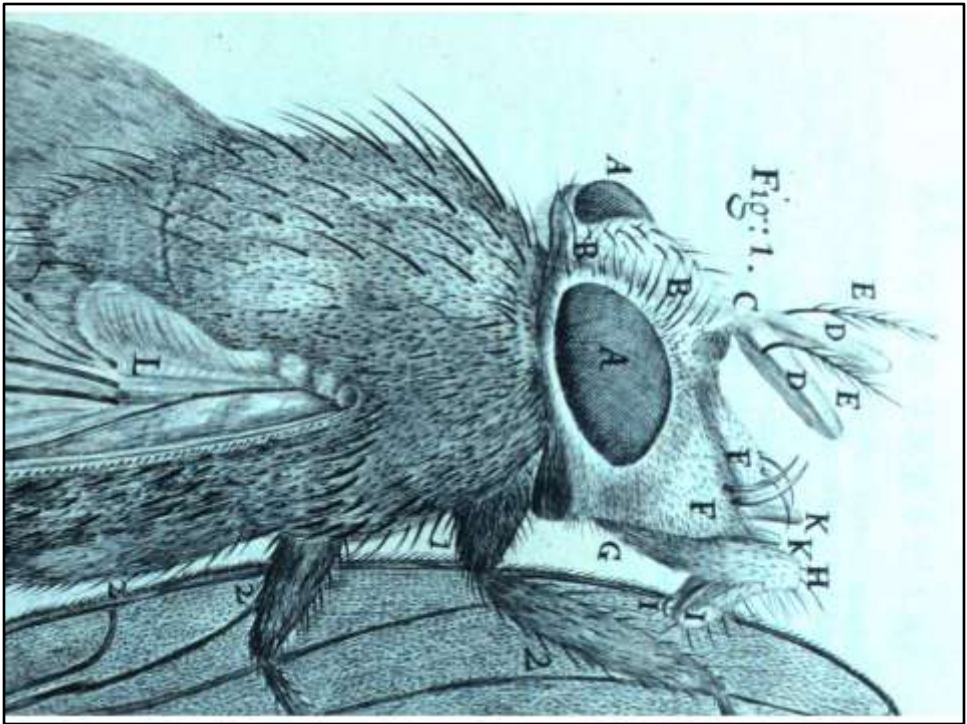
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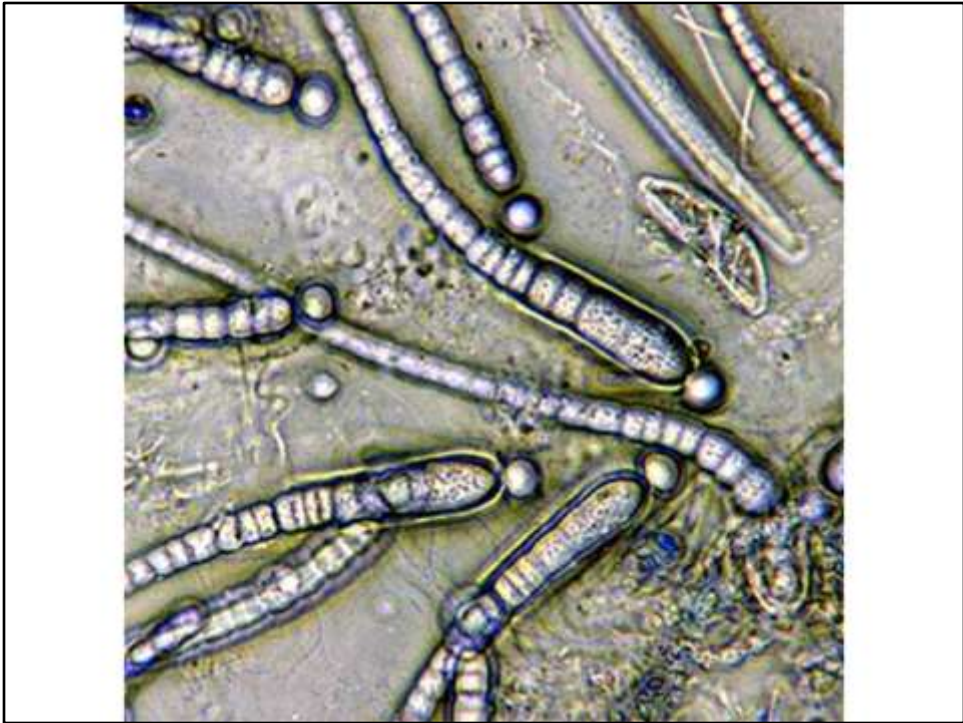
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Photograph by Paul Zahl



Eagle's claws





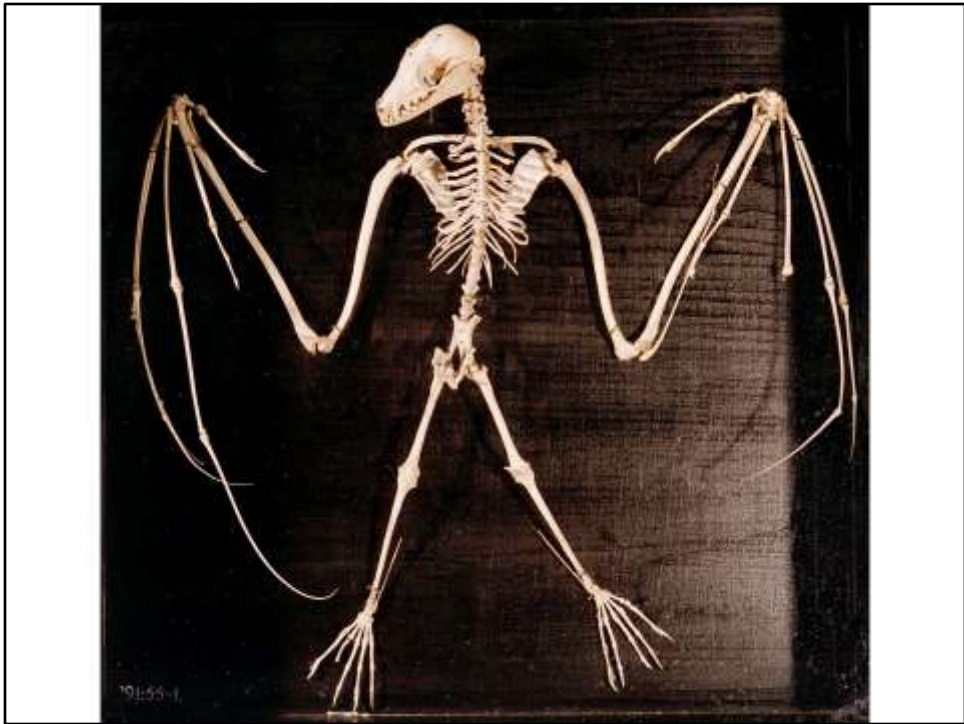
Bacteria under a microscope





X ray of calf???







Gustav Dore- *Paradise Lost, Satan*



H. R.Giger- Original creator of the monster from Alien films Giger likes to metamorphose the human form with futuristic technology



H.R.Giger



Ted Von Heiland is a contemporary American artist that likes to mix figurative with the industrial for a dramatic final series of sculptures.

Left: *Saint Solace*

Right: *Now that You're Gone*



Film Monsters: Painting of the *Predator* from film directed by John McTiernan (1987) The original monster was created by Stan Winston, the Predators are depicted as large, sentient humanoid creatures who possess advanced technology such as active camouflage and energy weapons, and are capable of interstellar travel.

Original puppet of a *Skeksi* from the *Dark Crystal* by Jim Henson (1982). Brian Froud, original artistic creator of the characters described these monsters as: "... part reptile, part predatory bird, part dragon."

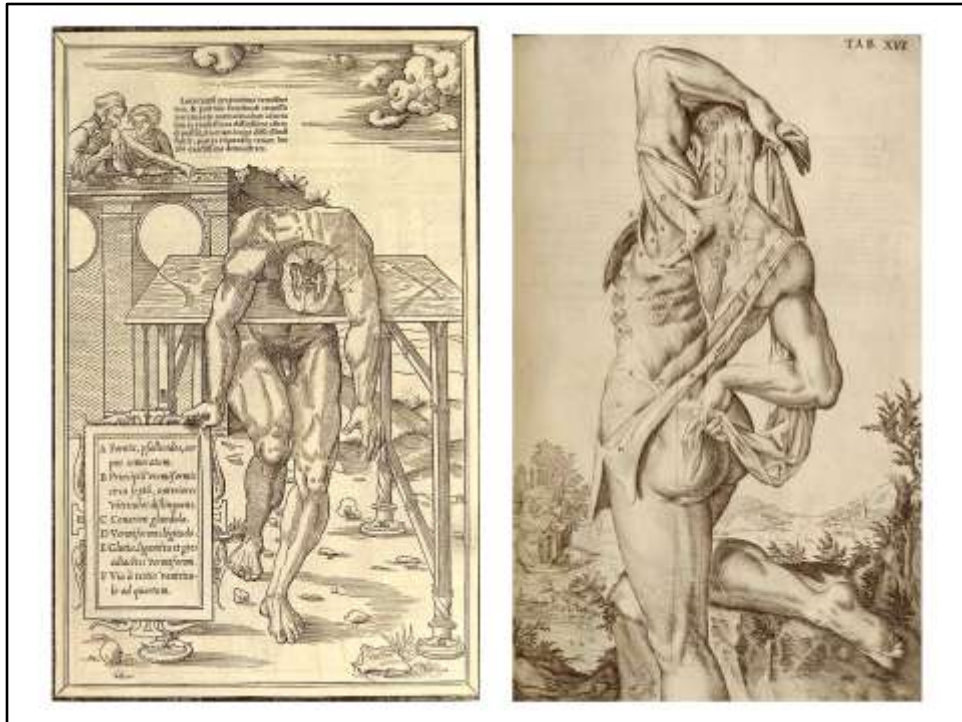


One of the many concept designs for the Monster/Alien in *Cloverfield*. Observe the mixture of animal parts used to terrific effect in these designs.



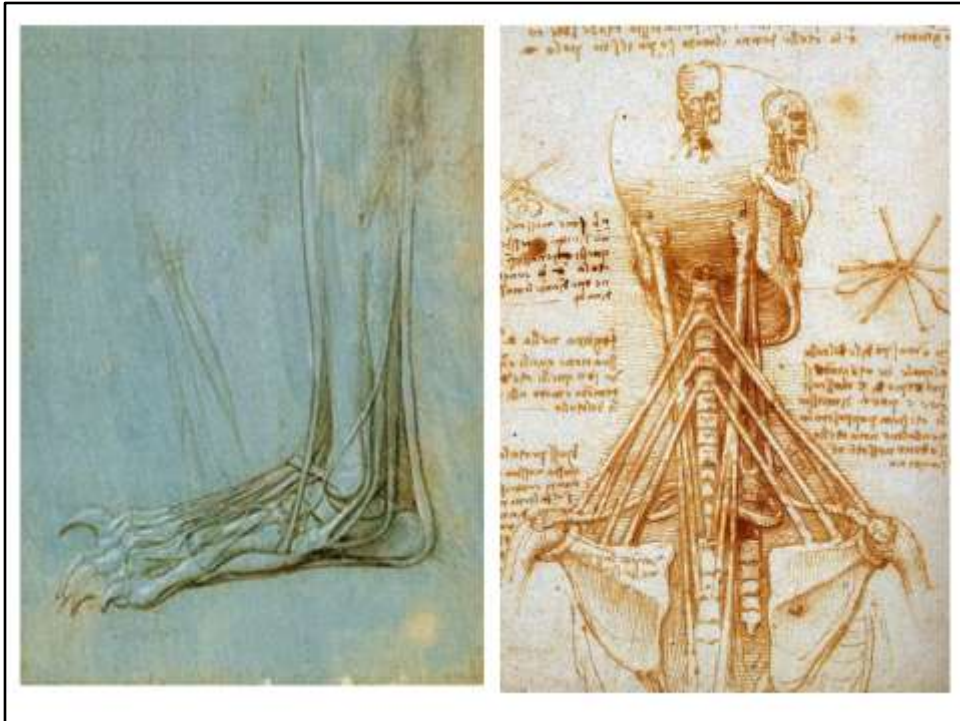
Kiki Smith- *Born* (2002)  
Sophie Ryder- *Hare* (2008)





Andreas Vesalius (1514-64) is one of the most important figures in the history of anatomy. He was the author of *De Humani Corporis Fabrica* (On the Fabric of the Human Body), a beautiful and revolutionary Renaissance study of human body. Born in Brussels, Vesalius was educated as a physician, and eventually became a teacher of surgery and anatomy. As a young student, Vesalius was so fascinated by the human anatomy that he stole the body of an executed criminal from a scaffold, taking it home to study the amazing structure of the body.

Vesalius *De Humani Corporis Fabrica*, published in 1543 was the first anatomy textbook as we know it, drawn from life (or death), accurate and painstaking.



*Study of a Bear's foot . Study of a Human neck and shoulder blades (1500-7)*

Leonardo Da Vinci (1452-1519): Leonard Da Vinci had incredible powers of observation, he saw the world around him like no one else. So many diverse areas occupied Leonardo's mind: painting, sculpture, anatomy, flight, architecture, water and air dynamics, war machines, nature and anything else that happened to catch his eye. Leonardo's interests and areas of study varied so greatly many of his works never saw completion. During his time in the service of the Duke of Milan he only finished about six works in 17 years.

Through this great man's sketches we get a window into one of man kind's greatest minds.



Tim Nobel and Sue Webster-

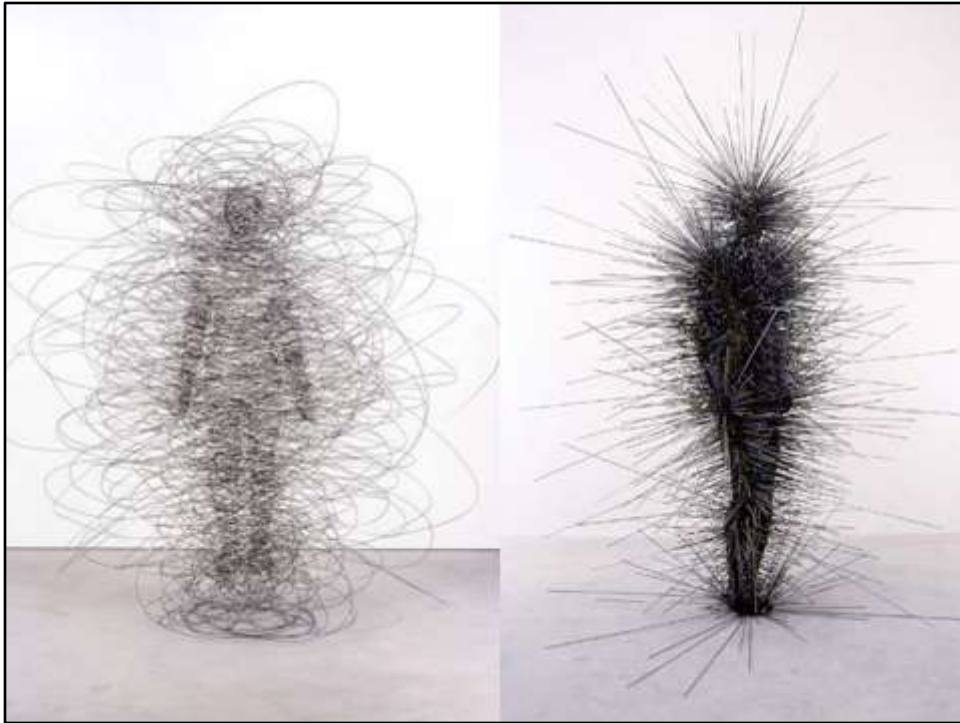


Nobel and Webster- *Monument to Now- 2 Figures*



Antony Gormley- in Gateshead- Public Art





Gormley- *Capacitor* 2001 and *Feeling material* 2003



Sketchbook sculptural designs by Henry Moore- you can clearly see here how his sculptural ideas change and metamorphose into a final free-standing sculpture.





Henry Moore's figurative semi-abstract sculpture. There are only parts of the human still recognisable and these are interlinked with hints of lines taken directly from the landscape





Stephen Gregory- *One of us on a tricycle* (2006)

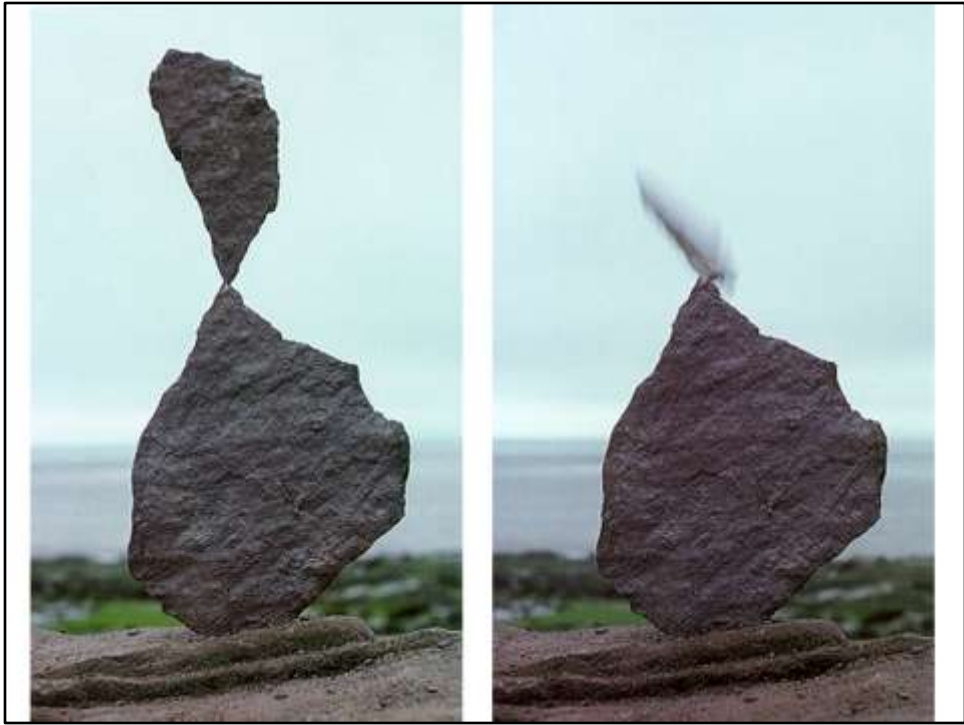


William Blake's *Nebuchadnezzar* (1795), *The Devil has come down* (1805)

Although he only once journeyed farther than a day's walk outside London during his life time, he produced a diverse and symbolically rich corpus, which embraced 'imagination' as "the body of God", or "Human existence itself".

Considered mad by contemporaries for his idiosyncratic views, Blake is held in high regard by later critics for his expressiveness and creativity, and for the philosophical and mystical undercurrents within his work

Blake famously wrote: 'I must create a system, or be enslav'd by another man's. I will not reason & compare: my business is to create'. So while other poets might be content to use characters from the Bible, or from Greek and Roman myth, Blake created his own mythology populated by a host of beings that he himself had either invented, or re-interpreted.



Andy Goldsworthy- Teardrop Rock Balancing and then falling.



Balanced Rocks and Balanced rocks falling



Spiral Icicle and stone eggs hatching

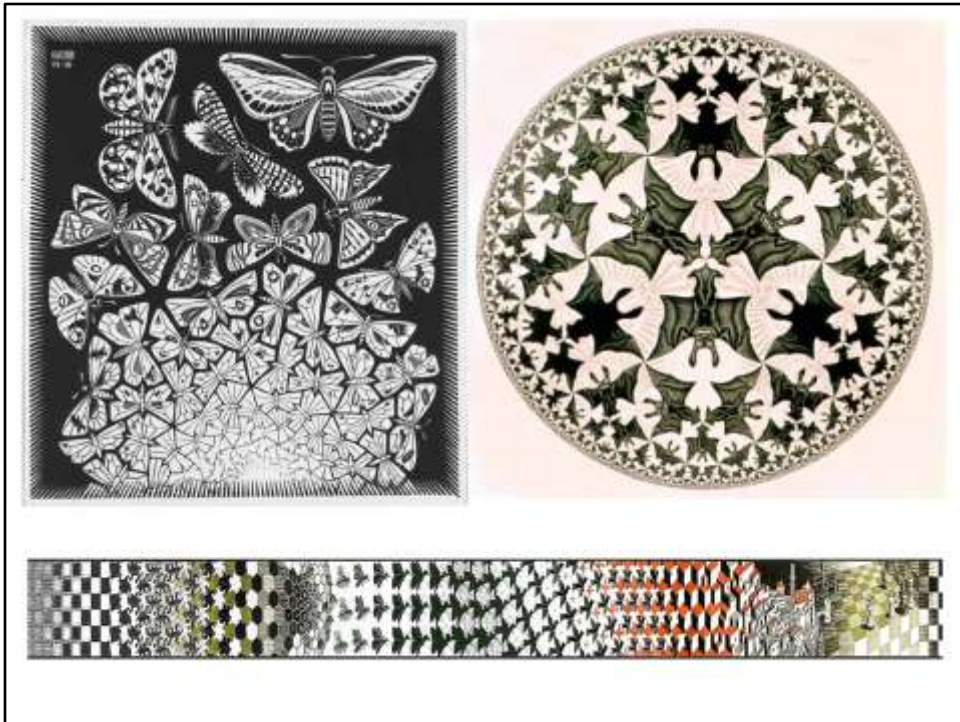


Nancy Holt- *Sun Tunnels* installation in Utah 1973-6

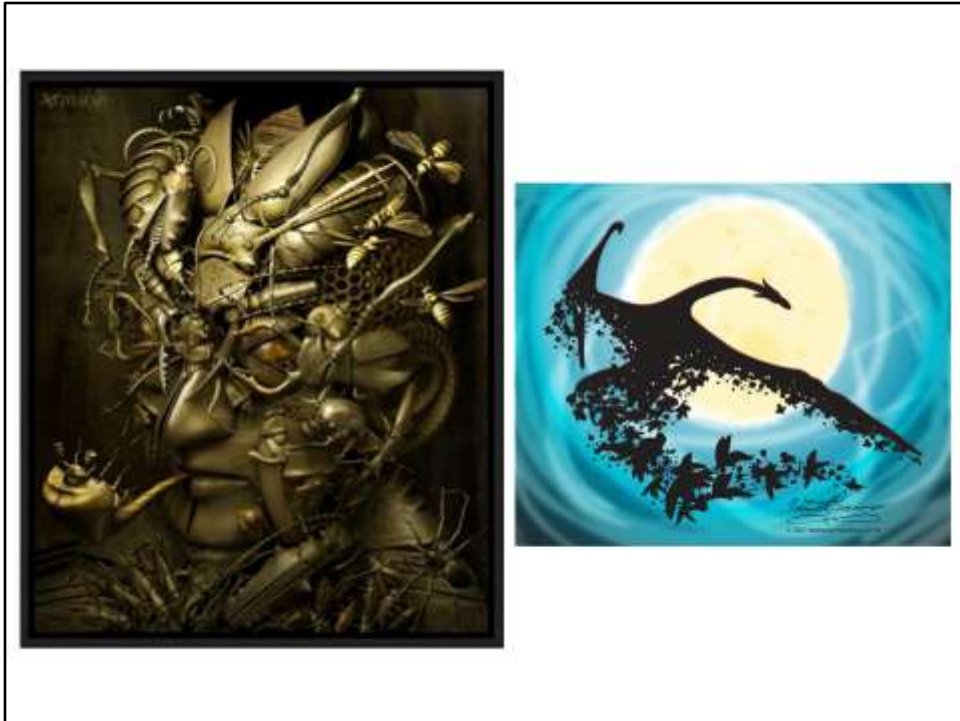




Robert Rauschenberg- *Quake in Paradise* 1995



M. C. Escher- Uses pattern, forced perspective, tessellations and negative shapes to visually change objects in his images, which Metamorphose in front of the viewer.



Contemporary artists: Digital art themed Metamorphosis- Armacan (2006) and Nathaniel Summers (2001)