

Characteristics of Expressionism

Expressionism is a style of art in which an artist alters a realistic subject to create an emotional effect.

Expressionist artworks have one or more of the following four main characteristics:

Bold or unlikely colors

Distorted forms

Flat, two-dimensional forms

Lack of perspective or depth

Use the chart below to determine how artists have used these four characteristics to create a sense of emotion in their artwork. What emotions were the artists trying to express? How did they use these characteristics to get their message across? Look at the example, and then try it for yourself.

Artist: Egon Schiele Title: <i>Portrait of Paris von Gütersloh</i>	Artist: Title:	Artist: Title:
Emotion(s): focused, exhilarated	Emotion(s):	Emotion(s):
Characteristics: 1. Bold colors of yellow and orange in the background 2. Distorted form of the man. He is painted with sharp and jagged lines. 3. Not much depth / background	Characteristics: 1. 2. 3.	Characteristics: 1. 2. 3.