Research Questions

- What makes art evocative?
- How does art convey different emotions?
- What attributes make a painting well liked?
- How much does the title of an art impact its emotional response?
- What is the extent to which categories of art evoke consistent emotions?

WikiArt Emotions: An Annotated Dataset of Emotions Evoked by Art

The WikiArt Emotions Dataset

Annnotated 4,105 pieces of art for emotions evoked, amount liked, whether they depict a face
- 10 people per item, crowdsourcing
- 4 styles: Renaissance, Post-Renaissance, Modern, Contemporary
- 22 categories: Impressionism, Figurative art, Realism, etc.

Applications

- Search paintings evoking the desired emotional response
- Automatically detect emotions evoked by paintings
- Automatically transform paintings
- Identify what makes paintings evocative

The Source of the Art

WikiArt.org: 151,151 pieces of art; 10 art styles; 168 style categories
- Notable art in each category is shown in a Featured page
- Selected ~200 items from each of the featured pages of 22 categories

Emotion Annotations

- 20 emotions chosen from art literature
- Select all that the art brings to mind
- Annotate image, title, art (image, title)

Label Distribution

4 out of 10 say emotion present

Emotions (title):

Positive
- gratitude, thankfulness, or indebtedness
- happiness, calmness, pleasure, or ecstasy
- humility, modesty, unpretentiousness, or simplicity
- love or affection
- optimism, hopefulness, or confidence
- trust, admiration, respect, dignity, or honor

Negative
- anger, annoyance, or rage
- arrogance, vanity, hubris, or conceit
- disgust, dislike, indifference, or hate
- fear, anxiety, vulnerability, or terror
- pessimism, cynicism, or lack of confidence
- regret, guilt, or remorse
- sadness, pensiveness, loneliness, or grief
- shame, humiliation, or disgrace

Other or Mixed
- agreeableness, acceptance, submission, compliance
- anticipation, interest, curiosity, suspicion, vigilance
- disagreeableness, defiance, conflict, or strife
- shyness, self-consciousness, reserve, or reticence
- surprise, surrealism, amazement, or confusion
- neutral

Emotions (image):

Face, body:
- happiness, trust

Face:
- Optimism

Face-Body:
- Optimism

Agreement

Fleiss’ ‘K’ per emotion per category: from -0.02 to 0.31.
- Higher:
  - Renaissance, Post-Renaissance
  - Basic emotions: happiness, love, sadness, anger, fear
  - Art with face or body
- Lower:
  - Modern Art, Contemporary Art
  - Complex emotions: shame, regret, optimism, etc.
  - Art with no face or body

What Makes Art Well Liked

- Art that evokes positive emotions (love, trust, happiness, etc.)
- Post-Renaissance, Renaissance (Realism, Rococo, Neoclassicism, etc.)
- Romanticism, Neoclassicism, Impressionism evoking love as well as Impressionism evoking optimism

Average Art Ratings

-3 (dislike a lot) to 3 (like a lot)

Artist: Dan Christensen
Style: Color Field Painting (Modern Art)
Avg. art rating: 2.8 (the most disliked)