

The background is a rich, abstract composition. It features a dark, textured blue space filled with various celestial elements. A large, bright orange and yellow sun or planet is on the left, partially obscured by a thin, curved line. To its right is a large, dark blue, teardrop-shaped object with a yellow interior. Several smaller, glowing orange and yellow spheres are scattered throughout. The bottom of the image is dominated by large, sweeping curves of orange, red, and blue, suggesting a horizon or a celestial body's surface. The overall style is reminiscent of mid-20th-century abstract art, with a focus on bold colors and geometric forms.

NIGHTCAFE PRESENTS

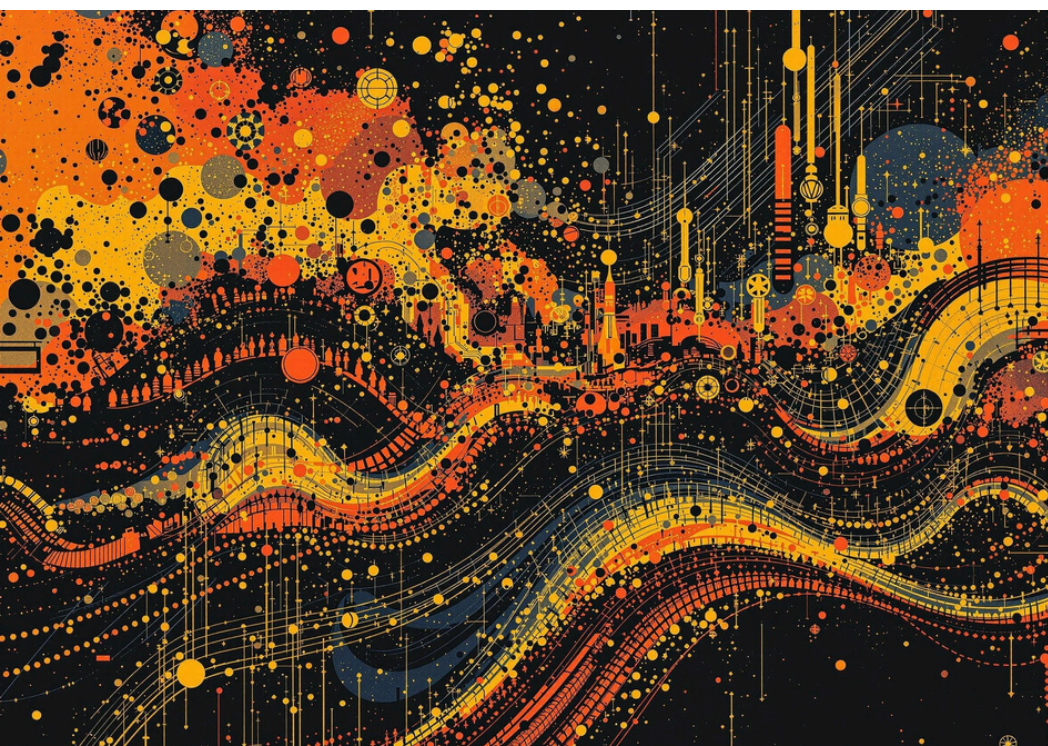
# ABSTRACT APRIL

P R O M P T   G U I D E

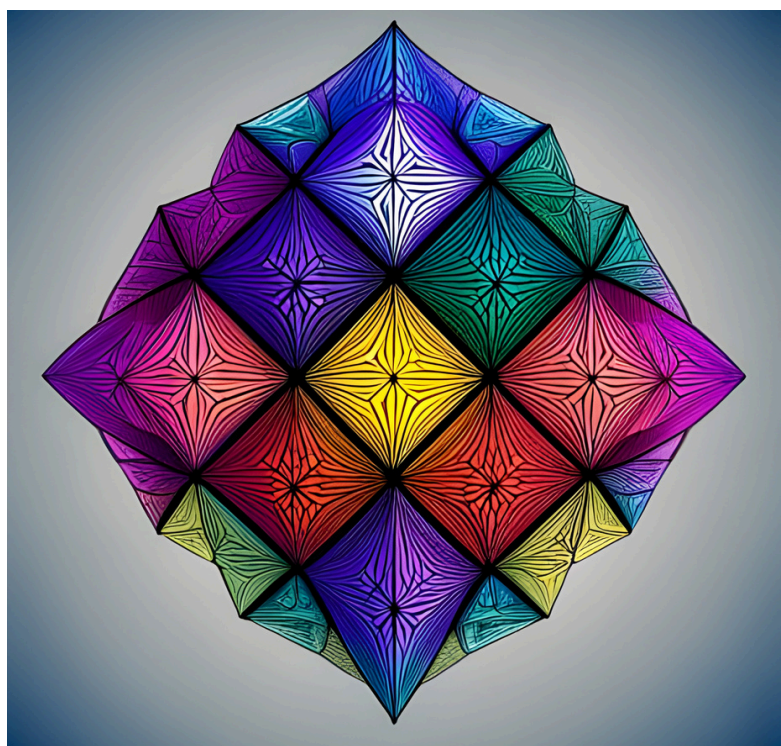
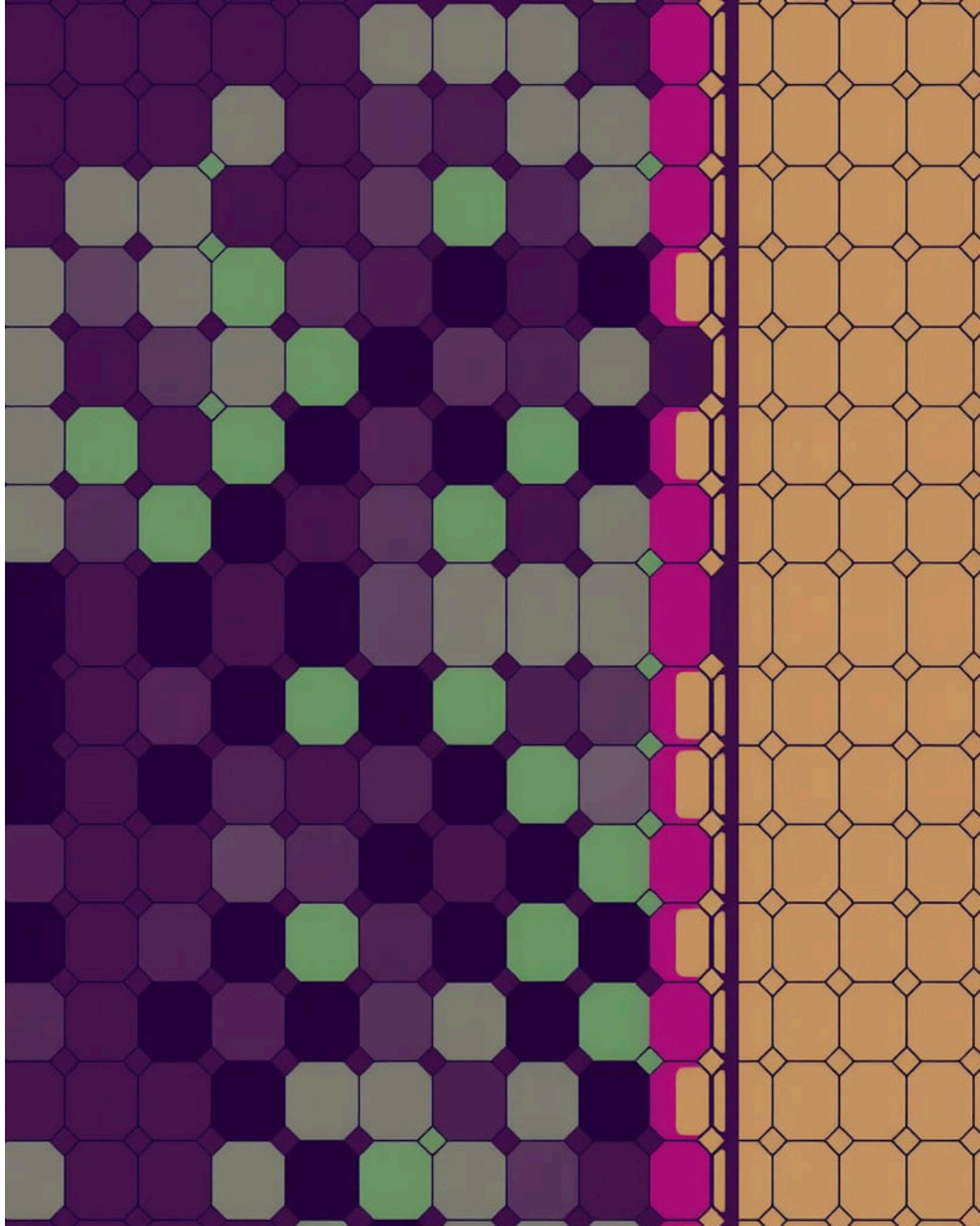
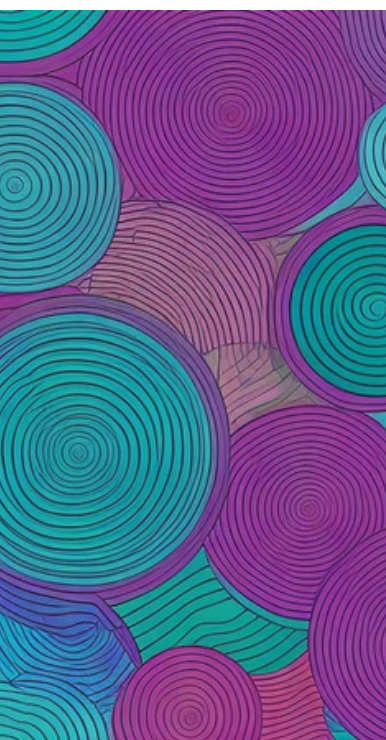
APRIL 2025

*NightCafé*











# ABOUT

## Abstract April on NightCafé



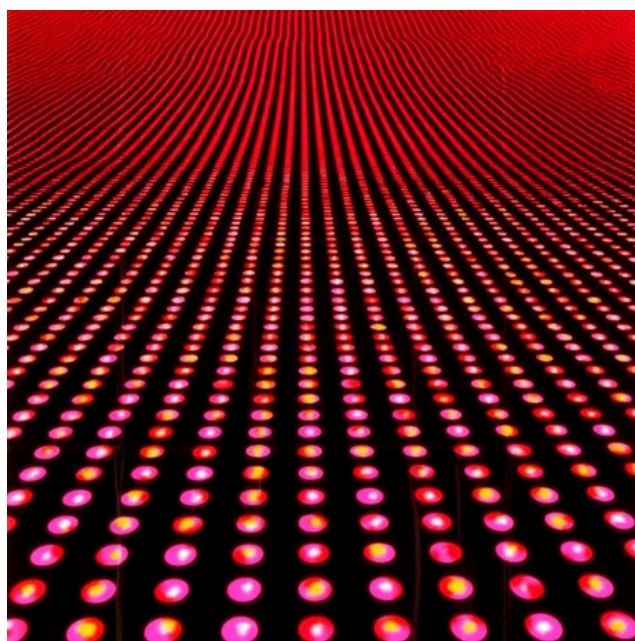
**Abstract April** is a month-long creative exploration into abstract art.

Each week, we dive into distinct abstract styles, influential artists, and AI art techniques, transforming ideas, emotions, and randomness into compelling visuals.

Every weekly challenge is structured as a mini-lesson, guiding you to experiment and uncover the potential behind different prompts, modifiers, and artistic expressions.

We're excited to see your abstract creations!

- *The NightCafé Team*





# HOW TO PARTICIPATE

## **JOIN THE OFFICIAL CHAT**

Join the #AbstractApril challenge chat and submit artwork based on the current theme and rules.

## **ENGAGE WITH THE COMMUNITY**

Talk with others in the chat, offering feedback and ideas. FYI: We offer surprise credit tips to those that share their processes!

## **USE THE APPROPRIATE TAG**

Share your work using the **#AbstractApril** tag for a chance to be featured on the NightCafé Explore Page and Home Feed!

## **CHECK OUT TUTORIALS AND TIPS**

Look out for helpful content and consider creating some yourself. We'll feature any posts that are a stand out.

## **CREATE, LEARN, CONNECT**

Explore the central theme and push your creativity alongside others, all while learning new techniques.





# SELF EVALUATION CHECKLIST

**Ready to share your abstract masterpiece? Here's a quick check to make sure you're embracing the heart of Abstract April:**

✓ **DID YOU MAKE US FEEL SOMETHING?**

Whether it's joy, tension, confusion, or calm - abstract art hits hardest when it stirs something inside. Don't just make it look good, make it linger.

✓ **DID YOU MIX UP YOUR TOOLS?**

This month you'll be collecting a toolkit of shapes, textures, illusions, and emotional cues. Stack them! See what happens when you combine unexpected modifiers.

✓ **IS THERE A SURPRISE TWIST?**

Abstract art thrives on the unexpected. A floating shape, a broken pattern, a hidden face - add something that keeps us looking twice.

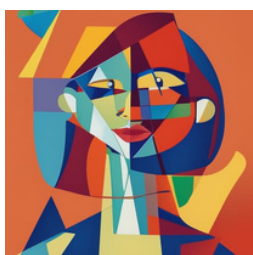
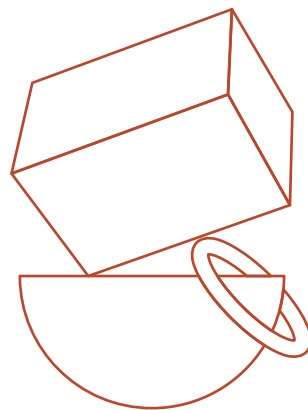
✓ **DID YOU STEP OUT YOUR COMFORT ZONE?**

Abstract April is your playground for experimentation. Tried a wild prompt structure? Let a color palette lead the way? Good. That's the point.





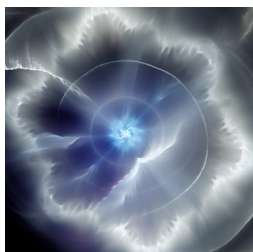
# CONTENTS



---

## WEEK 1: GEOMETRIC ABSTRACTIONS

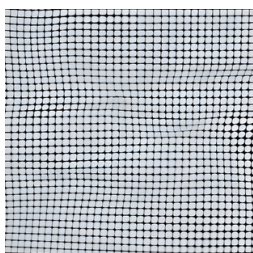
- Week 1 Modifiers and Keywords
- Practice Prompt Exercises



---

## WEEK 2: ORGANIC + SPIRITUAL ABSTRACTIONS

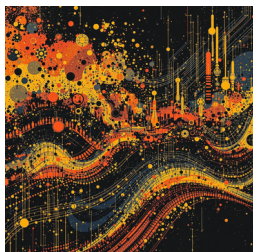
- Modifiers and Keywords
- Exploring Soft Symbolism and Spiritual Forms
- Practice Prompt Exercises



---

## WEEK 3: PATTERNS + OPTICAL PLAY

- Modifiers and Keywords
- Exploring Relevant Techniques
- Practice Prompt Exercises



---

## WEEK 4: EMOTION + ENERGY

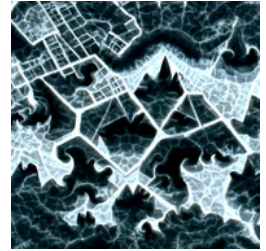
- Modifiers and Keywords
- Inspiration Prompts
- Quick Modifier Combinations



# CONT'D.

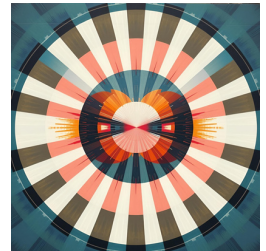
## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND TIPS

- [General Abstract Art Keywords](#)
- [Abstract Artist Modifier Cheat Sheet](#)
- [Abstract Art Keywords by u/gullyDJ](#)
- [Recreating Surrealist Artist Styles](#)



## RESOURCE LINKS FOR YOU

- Links to various other resources around the web

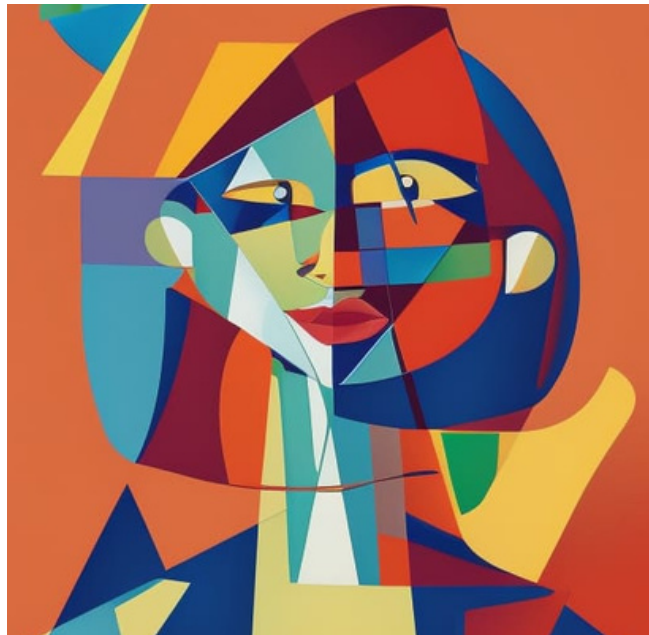


## FINAL THOUGHTS & ENCOURAGEMENT

- Our letter to you







# WEEK 1:

# Geometric Foundations

This week, we're starting with the basics - shapes, lines, and structure. You'll explore how far you can push your creativity using just form and color. By the end of the week, you'll know how to make something striking using the simplest visual tools: geometry.

*NightCafe*



# Week 1: Geometric Foundations

## Modifiers + Keywords

---



### Core Geometric Language

- geometric
- minimalist
- symmetrical
- modular
- clean lines
- structured
- radial symmetry
- hard-edged



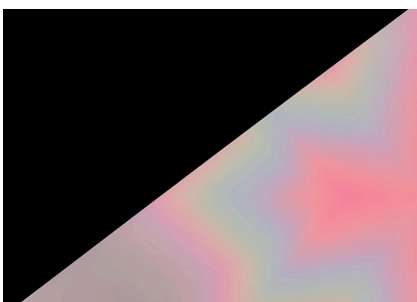
### Shape-Based Terms

- squares
- circles
- triangles
- overlapping shapes
- tessellated
- isometric
- spiral
- polygonal



### Color + Composition

- primary colors
- bold color blocks
- flat color
- contrast-heavy
- duotone
- monochrome
- gradient map
- minimal palette



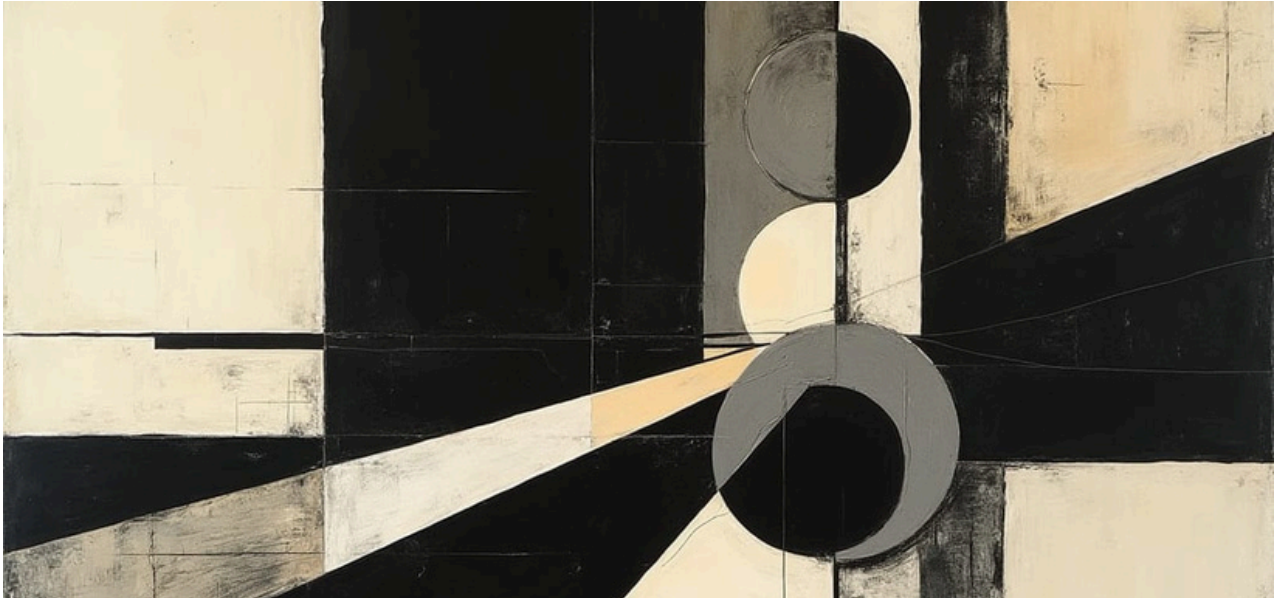
### Stylistic References

- Bauhaus
- Suprematist
- Constructivist
- Mondrian-inspired
- Malevich style
- retrofuturistic
- digital abstraction

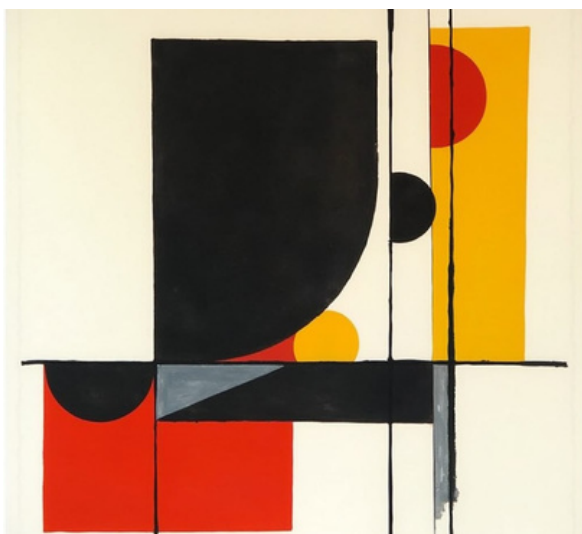
**Pro Tip:** Start simple. Geometry is about restraint and rhythm. Don't overfill the frame.







# GET CREATIVE WITH PROMPT EXERCISES



Explore these ideas to build your geometric abstractions. Try combining clean shapes, structured layouts, and bold colors to push your creativity using only form and balance.



## MODULAR MONOLITHS (RECRAFT V3, PRO)

Create a structure made entirely of repeating cubes, rectangles, or circles. Use “isometric,” “modular,” or “Bauhaus” modifiers to add depth and rhythm.

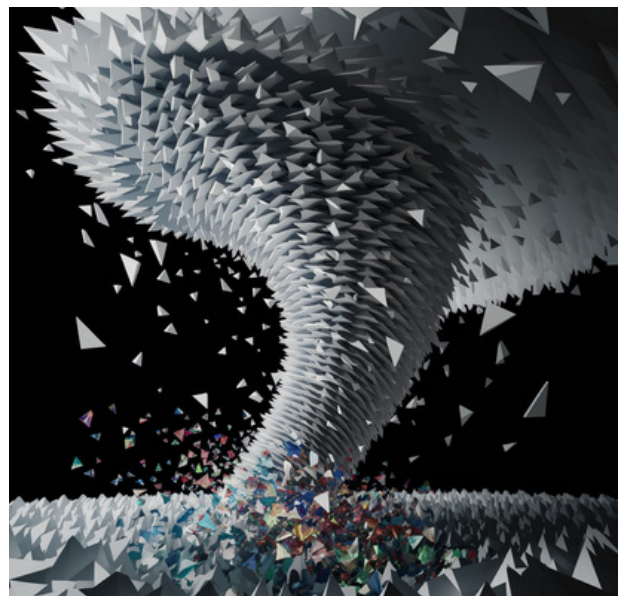


## COLOR BLOCK CITY (FLUX PRO V1.1 ULTRA, PRO)

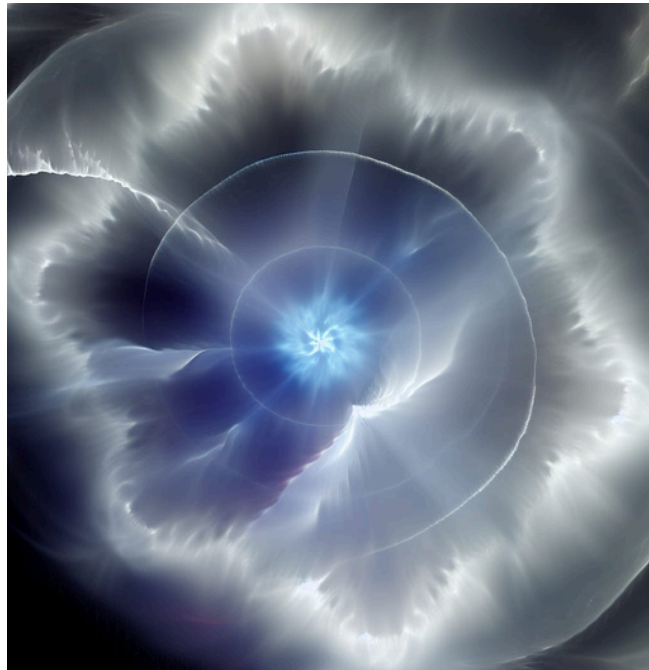
Design a futuristic city made from color blocks instead of buildings. Try “bold colors,” “flat shading,” and “grid layout” to emphasize structure over realism.

## SHAPE STORM (IDEOGRAM 2A)

Imagine a storm made from shapes instead of clouds - squares and triangles swirling in the sky. Use “fragmented,” “hard-edged,” and “high contrast” to guide the vibe.







# WEEK 2

## Organic & Spiritual Abstractions

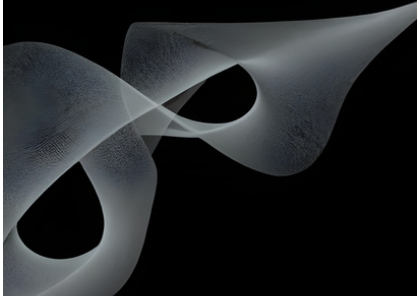
This week we're leaning into softness, organic shapes, flowing lines, and gentle gradients. It's about tapping into the emotional and spiritual side of abstract art, using color and form to communicate something *deeper*. Inspired by the fluid, symbolic works of Hilma af Klint and O'Keeffe.

*NightCafe*



# Week 2: Organic & Spiritual Abstractions Keywords

---



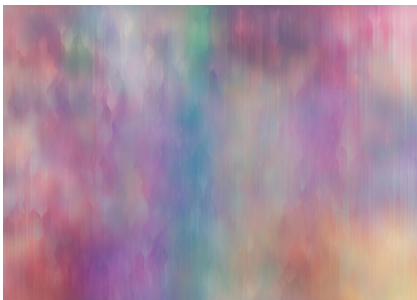
## Soft, Flowing Forms

- fluid
- curvilinear
- ripple-like
- undulating
- organic shapes
- soft-edged
- wavy lines
- meandering forms
- blooming
- petal-like



## Spiritual & Symbolic Vibes

- mystical
- aura
- radiant
- sacred geometry
- symbolic forms
- celestial
- divine light
- inner glow
- astral
- transcendent



## Color & Mood Play

- pastel gradient
- soft saturation
- emotional color
- glowing mist
- hazy glow
- iridescent
- gentle palette
- spiritual color wash
- blended tones
- dreamlike hues



## Nature-Inspired Abstractions

- floral abstraction
- botanical flow
- nature essence
- vines and tendrils
- organic symmetry
- earthy tones
- seasonal color palette
- natural textures
- pollen cloud
- forest spirit

**Pro Tip:** Let go of symmetry. Let the shapes form freely across your digital canvas.





# EXPLORING SOFT SYMBOLISM & SPIRITUAL FORMS

Organic abstraction is all about flow, mystery, and feeling. These aren't sharp shapes - they're curved, layered, and emotional. Your art this week should feel like energy in motion or a symbol from a dream.

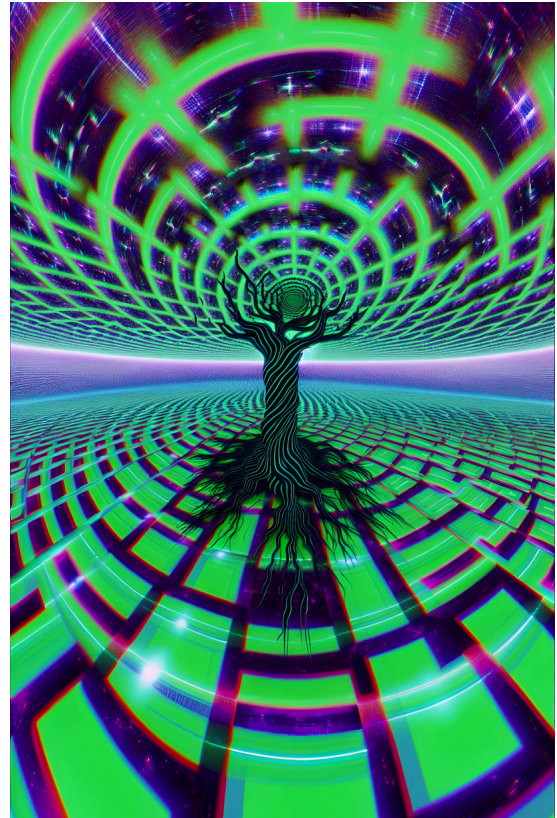
## The Power of Organic Abstraction

Organic abstraction leans into softness, ambiguity, and emotion. These aren't sharp, clean shapes - they're flowing, symbolic, and often hard to define. *That makes them powerful.* You can create art that feels like something deeper without clearly spelling it out.

## Ask Yourself:

- Does this image feel symbolic or sacred, even if it's abstract?
- Do the shapes suggest emotion or energy?
- Is there a sense of mystery or deeper meaning behind the forms?

If the answer is "yes" to any of these, you're likely tapping into abstract organic and spiritual art.



## The Spiritual Effect

Artists like Hilma af Klint and Georgia O'Keeffe used curves, gradients, and abstract floral or symbolic forms to explore unseen forces - spirituality, emotion, femininity, the inner world. Your art this week can tap into those same energies.

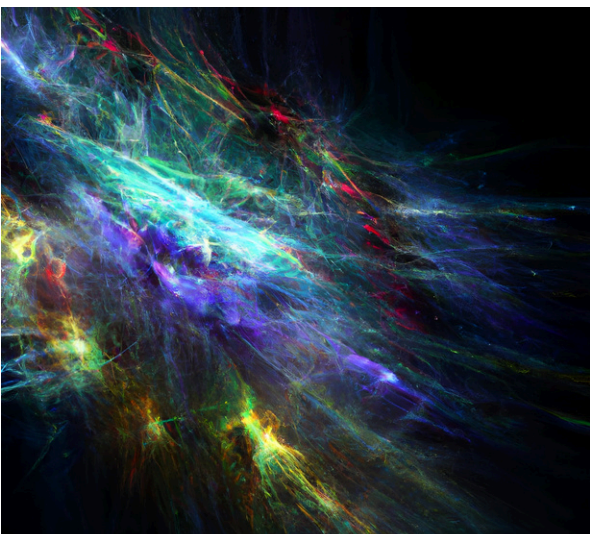
## Quick Tip

Start with one soft or symbolic idea (a spiral, a glowing core, an emotional color). Let your prompt writing build around that - no need to define it too much (to begin with). Let yourself feel your way through the piece, thoughtfully adding details and keywords to your instructions.





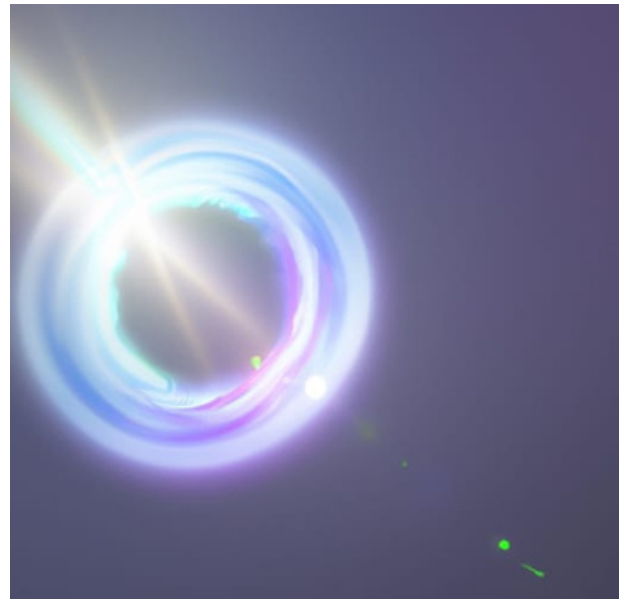
# GET CREATIVE WITH PROMPT EXERCISES



Use these exercises to explore fluid shapes, symbolic forms, and emotional color. Play with softness, light, and abstract meaning to create something that feels gentle, but powerful.

## **SPIRITUAL SYMBOLS (DALL-E 2)**

Create an abstract piece built around a glowing shape that feels symbolic - like a halo, spiral, or sacred geometry. Use soft gradients and color washes to give it a gentle, mysterious glow.

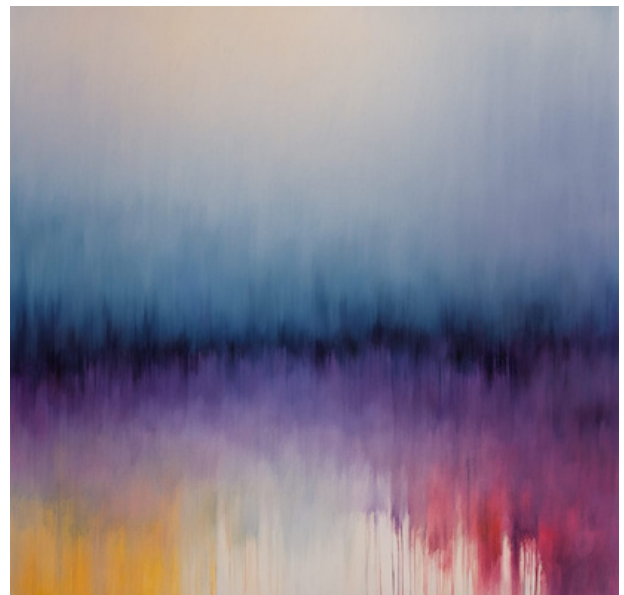


## **ENERGY IN BLOOM (GOOGLE IMAGEN 3.0 FAST)**

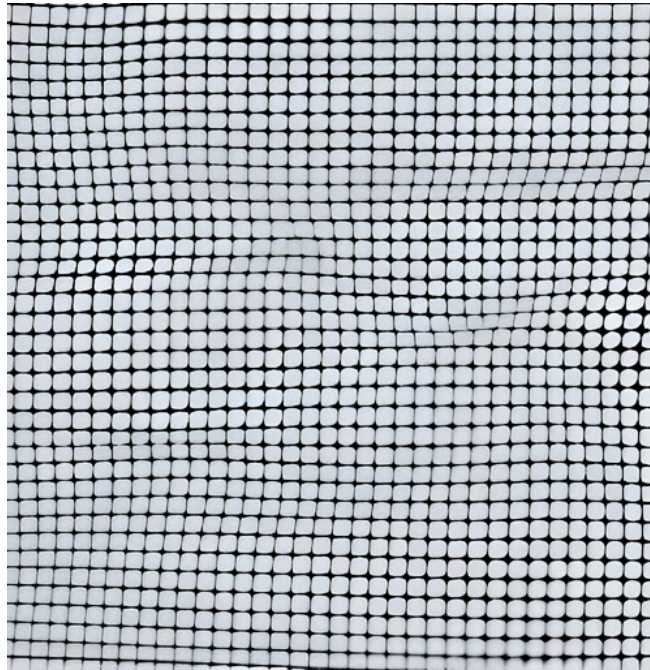
Design an artwork that feels like it's growing. Think petals, spirals, or expanding forms. Combine organic shapes with glowing light or iridescence to make it feel alive and spiritual.

## **THE INNER WORLD (DREAMSHAPER XL ALPHA2)**

Imagine what emotion might look like as an abstract shape. Maybe it's heartbreak, peace, longing, or joy. Use soft lines and blended color fields to express a feeling without any literal forms.







# WEEK 3%

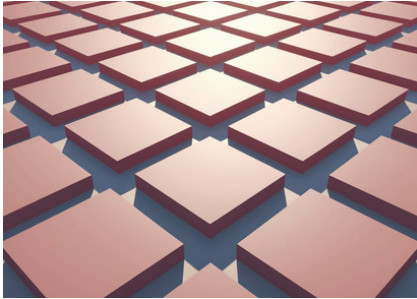
## Patterns & Optical Play

This week is all about rhythm, structure, and visual tension. You'll dive into repeating shapes, hypnotic grids, and optical illusions that mess with your perception. Inspired by pattern-heavy legends like Ding Yi, Bridget Riley, and Yayoi Kusama - this one's for the precision lovers, the maximalists, and anyone who finds beauty in repetition.

*NightCafe*

# Week 3: Patterns & Optical Play Modifiers + Keywords

---



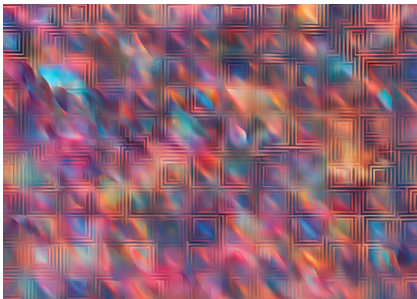
## Pattern Building

- tessellated
  - grid layout
  - repeating units
  - modular design
  - checkered
  - polka dot
  - interlocking shapes
  - kaleidoscopic
  - structured flow
  - symmetrical design
- 



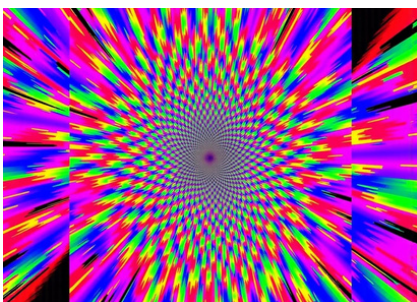
## Optical Illusions

- op art
  - moiré effect
  - visual vibration
  - twisting lines
  - spiraling forms
  - contrast-heavy
  - perceptual depth
  - escher-inspired
  - disorienting
  - 3D illusion
- 



## Color Play

- neon clash
  - rainbow bands
  - high contrast
  - color gradient grid
  - vivid repetition
  - psychedelic palette
  - color cycling
  - saturation loops
  - hard-edged coloring
  - duotone
- 



## Texture & Density

- visual noise
- dense layering
- packed composition
- micropatterns
- pixelation
- tight repetition
- uniform texture
- layered visuals
- looped design
- fine grain abstraction



**Pro Tip:** Repetition isn't boring! It helps build tension, focus, and impact.





# EXPLORING PATTERN & OPTICAL ART

Artists have long used repetition, rhythm, and contrast to engage the eye and play tricks on the brain. In abstract art, patterns aren't just decorative - they're powerful tools for creating movement, depth, and illusion.

## Op Art

Short for "optical art," this movement emerged in the 1960s with artists like **Bridget Riley** and **Victor Vasarely**. Their high-contrast, precise patterns created vibrations, movement, and visual tension on a flat surface.

## Repetition and Ritual

In works by artists like **Yayoi Kusama**, repetition becomes meditative, symbolic, and intense. Even simple shapes repeated over and over can take on emotional or hypnotic qualities.

## Grids & Structure

Artists like **Ding Yi** and **Agnes Martin** explored the beauty of order through subtle grids and precise mark-making. These works invite viewers to slow down and notice pattern, texture, and structure over time.

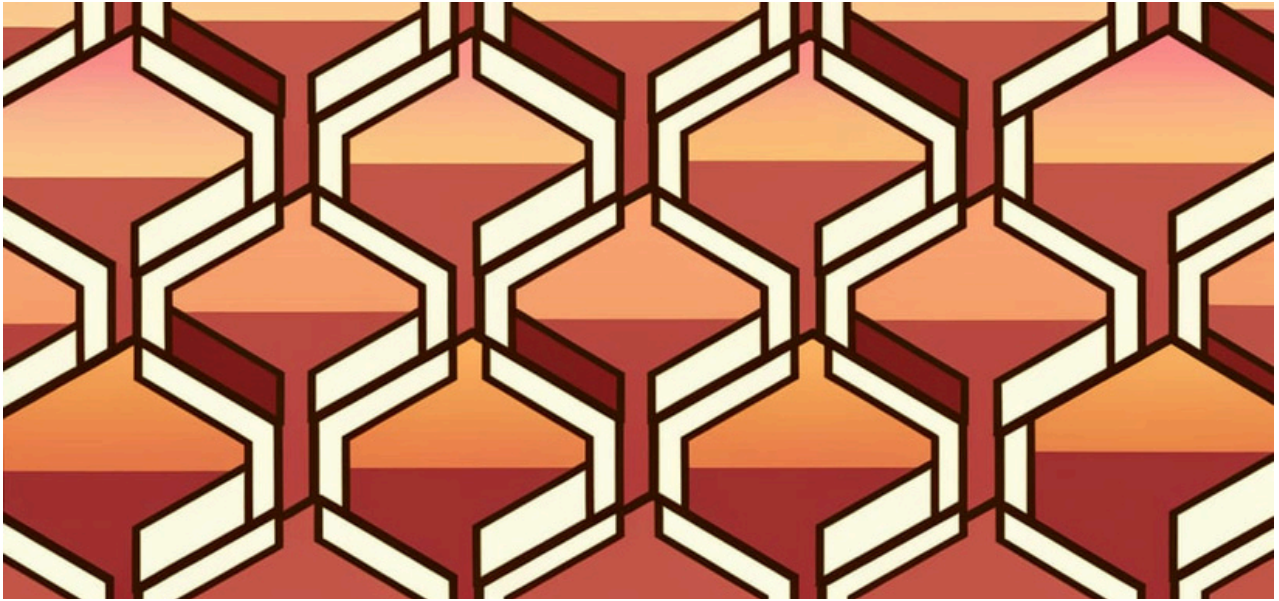


## Perceptual Play

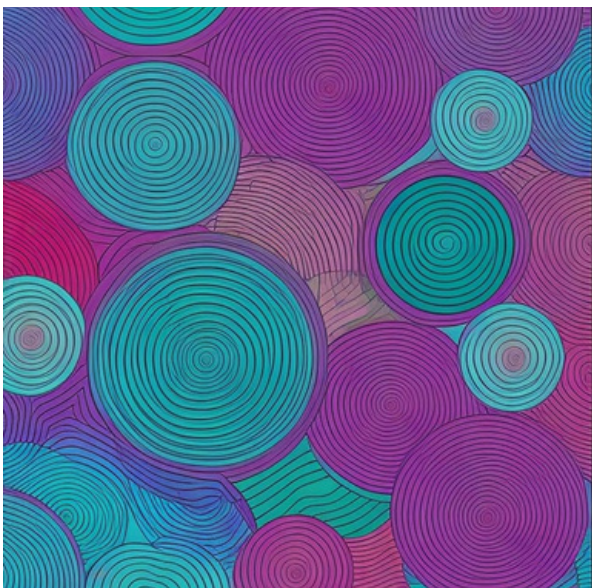
Optical abstraction isn't just about the image - it's about how your eye moves across it. Artists like **Victor Vasarely** used distortion, depth, and contrast to make flat surfaces pulse and shift. The trick? Leading the eye somewhere unexpected.

## Visual Tension

When you repeat forms in just the right way, your eye gets pulled in - and held there. Artists like **Bridget Riley** use this technique to make the canvas feel like it's vibrating or shifting. The key is precision paired with contrast.



# GET CREATIVE WITH PROMPT EXERCISES

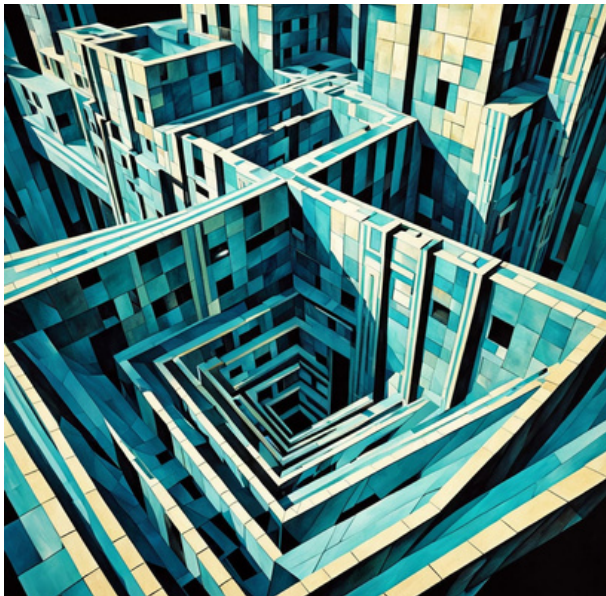
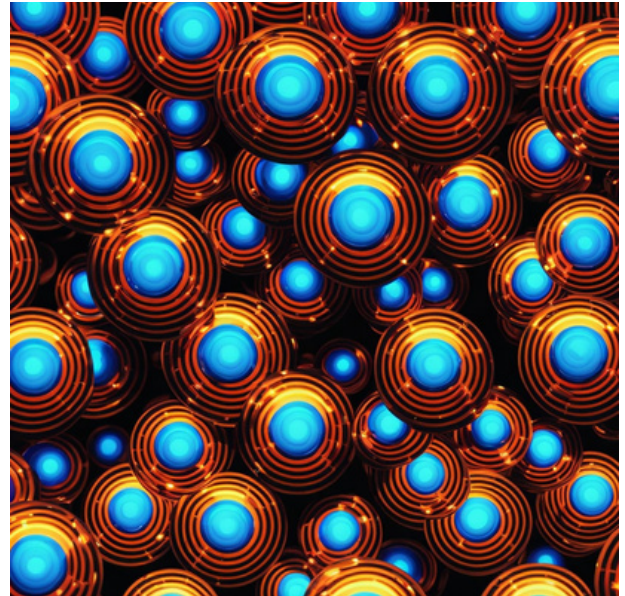


Practice these exercises to explore pattern, rhythm, and illusion. Try repeating simple shapes, layering bold contrasts, or building visual tension with grids and distortions. Let your prompt play with the way we see.



## REPEATED FORM (DREAMSHAPER XL ALPHA2)

Create a scene using one shape or object repeated across the image. Focus on rhythm and spacing to guide the viewer's eye.

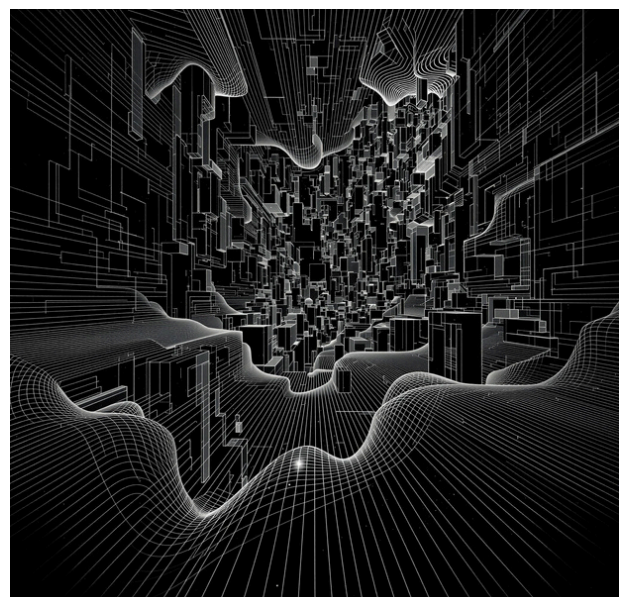


## VISUAL ILLUSION (BLUE PENCIL XL)

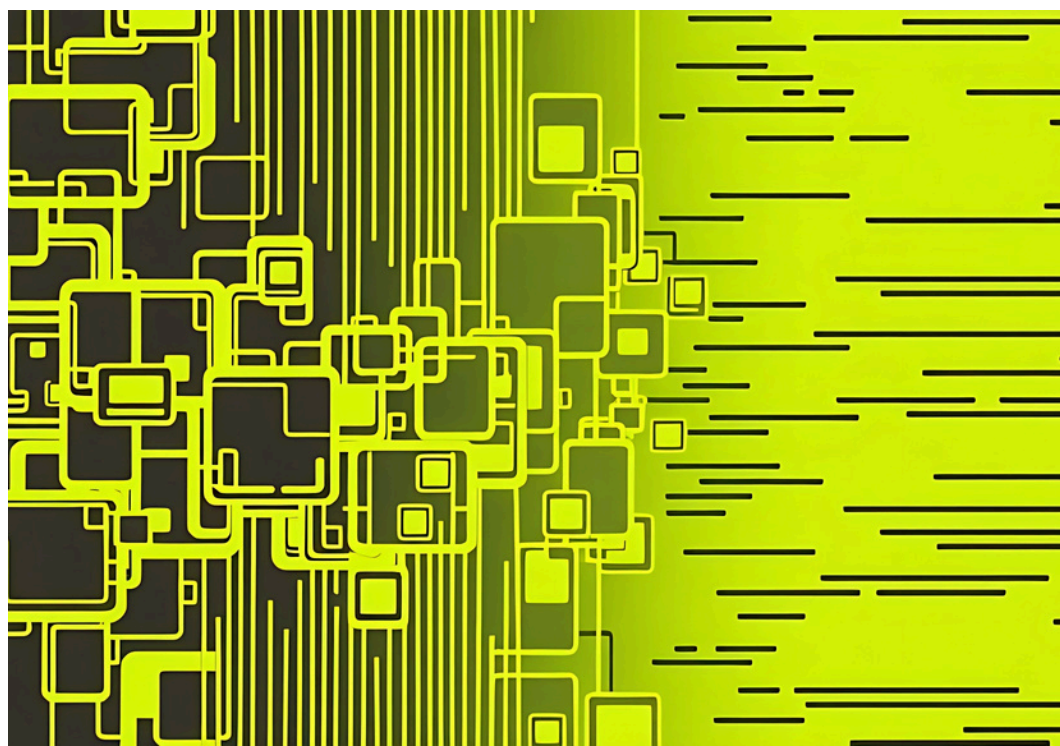
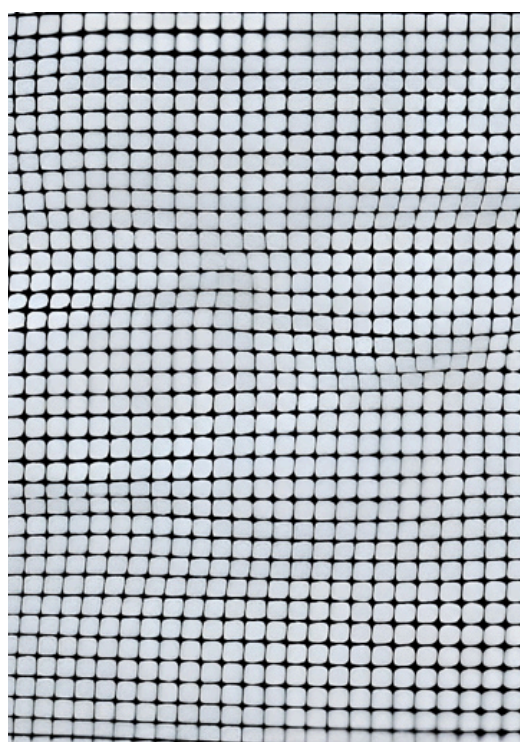
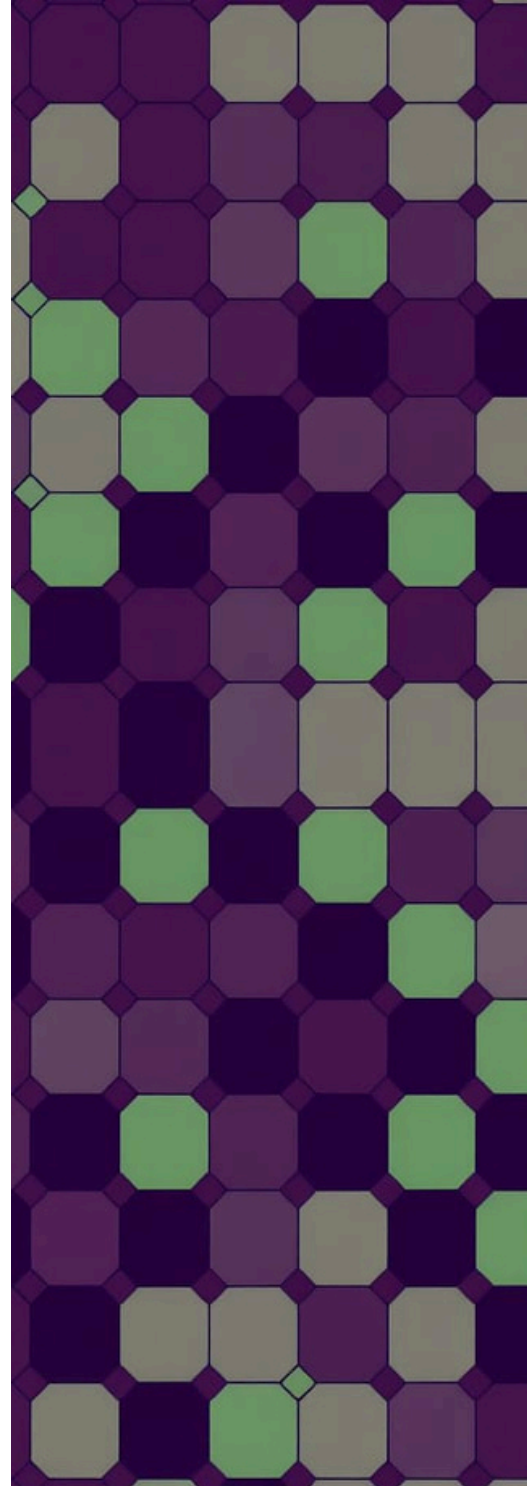
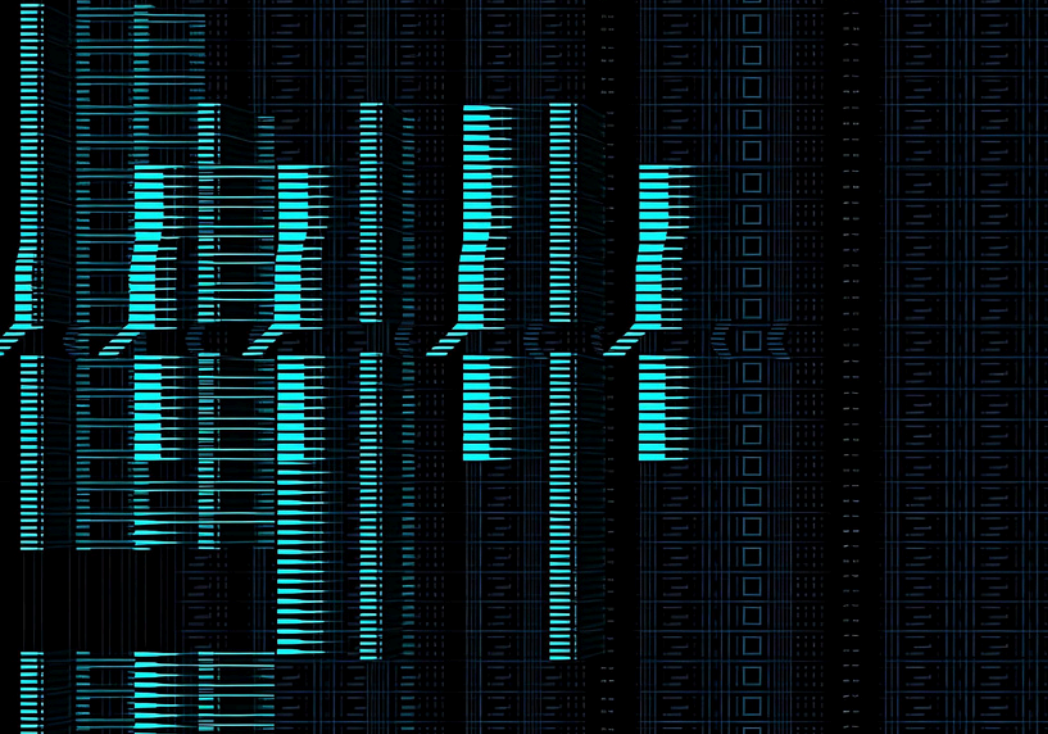
Design a piece that plays with depth or perception—like impossible shapes, warped lines, or tricks of scale.

## PATTERN CHAOS (FLUX PRO V1.1 ULTRA, PRO)

Start with a neat pattern, then break it. Interrupt it with something out of place, distorted, or glitchy to create tension.











# WEEK 4

## Emotion & Energy

By now, you've built up a solid toolkit of styles, modifiers, and tricks. This week, throw out the rules - mix everything you've learned, embrace the chaos, and let emotion take the lead. Get weird. Get bold. Let the art surprise you.

*NightCafe*

# Week 4: Emotion & Energy

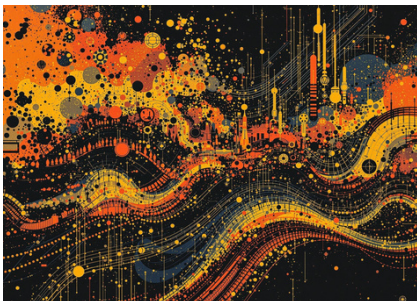
## Modifiers + Keywords

---



### Emotional

- expressive
  - moody
  - cathartic
  - passionate
  - turbulent
  - somber
  - euphoric
  - melancholic
  - emotionally raw
  - ecstatic color
- 



### Gesture & Movement

- frenetic
  - bold strokes
  - chaotic energy
  - sweeping lines
  - explosive texture
  - erratic motion
  - spontaneous
  - scribbled
  - dynamic flow
  - kinetic abstraction
- 



### Color-Driven

- high saturation
  - color storm
  - emotional palette
  - warm-cool contrast
  - tonal bleeding
  - color field
  - vivid wash
  - bleeding pigment
  - tonal outburst
  - abstract gradient
- 



### Subconscious & Intuitive

- intuitive
- subconscious
- dream-fueled
- stream of consciousness
- inner landscape
- psyche-inspired
- surreal emotion
- archetypal
- spiritual chaos
- symbolic abstraction

**Pro Tip:** try using fragmented or unusual prompts. AI often turns chaos into unexpectedly great results.



# PROMPT BUILDING EXERCISES

Stuck? Here are a few thought-starters to get your creativity flowing:

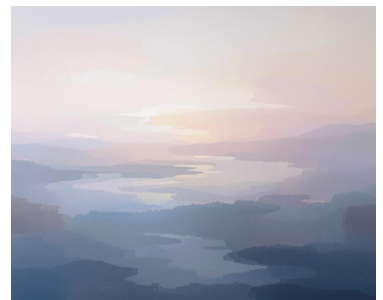
## THE NOISE INSIDE

Turn an emotion into a visual storm - use swirling shapes, jumbled layers, or sharp contrasts to capture something internal and messy.



## SILENCE, VISUALIZED

What does stillness or peace *look* like? Use soft fields of color, faded edges, and minimal prompts to evoke a calm, introspective atmosphere.



## EMOTIONAL COLLISION

Create a scene where two emotional states crash into each other - like joy and fear, or peace and panic. Show the tension where they meet.



## SOMETHING YOU CAN'T PUT INTO WORDS

Make something that doesn't translate to language. Focus on pure feeling - textures, color movement, rhythm - and trust your instincts.



# QUICK MODIFIER COMBINATIONS

Sometimes magic happens when you mix things up. Here are a few combinations to try out:



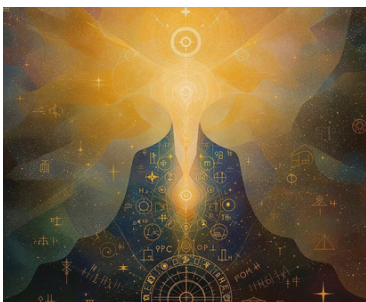
## **SPLATTERED + CELESTIAL**

Channel raw emotion and cosmic energy. Think dripping stars, chaotic constellations, or nebulae that feel like they were flung onto the canvas. Wild and otherworldly.



## **COLOR FIELD + FRAGMENTED**

Blend vast emotional color washes with broken, shattered textures. The result? Bold emotions, but with cracks showing through - like feelings you can't fully hold together.



## **AURA + SYMBOLIC**

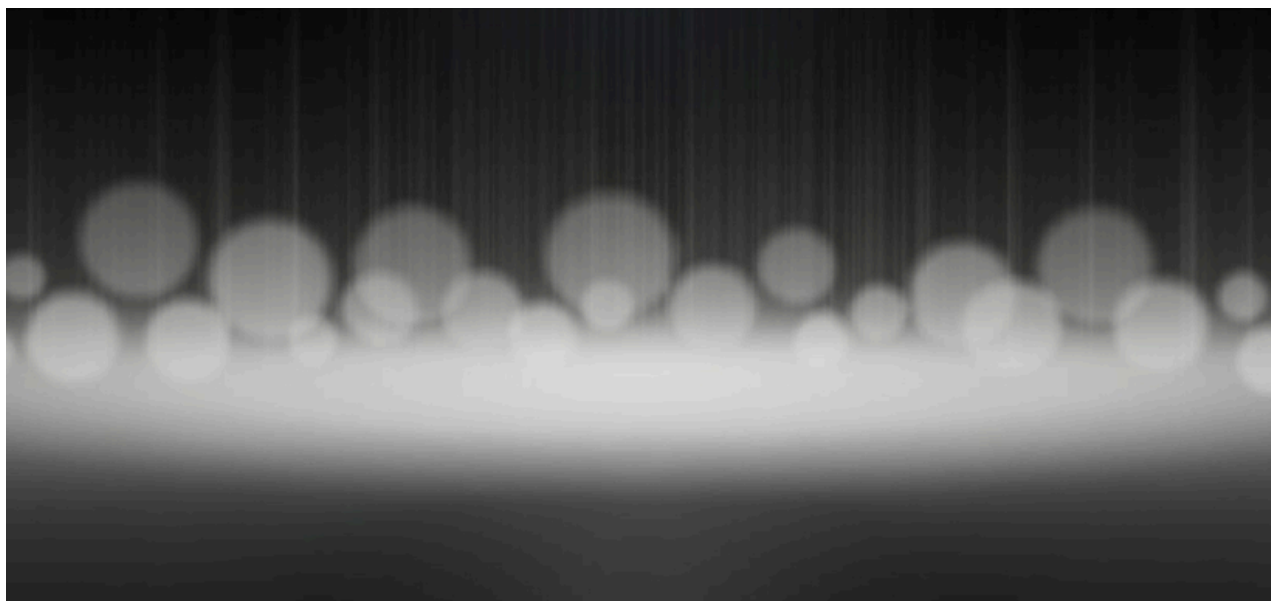
Create a figure or form glowing with an inner light. Layer spiritual symbols or energy rings to show feeling radiating outward. Works great for character-focused abstract pieces.



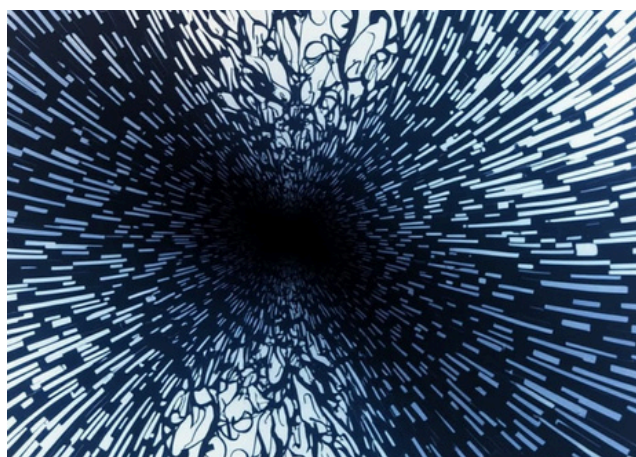
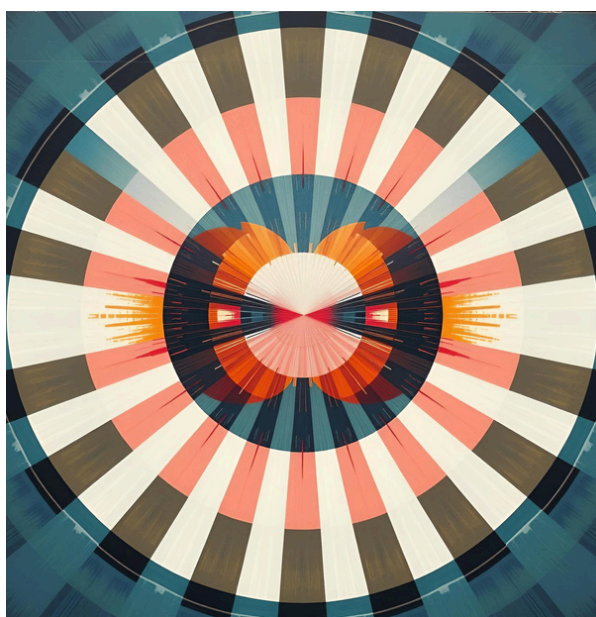
## **TEXTURED PAINT + GLITCH**

Smash together tactile brushwork with digital distortion. Think painterly chaos interrupted by broken pixels or scanline vibes. Messy meets machine.





# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES + TIPS



**Abstract Artist List**

**Abstract Artist Examples**

**Prompt Practice Exercises**

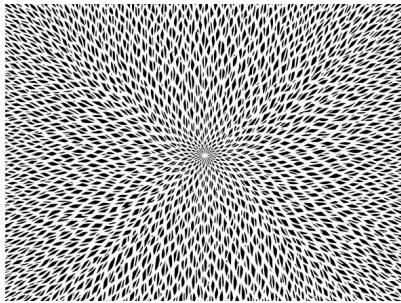
# General Abstract Art Keywords

---



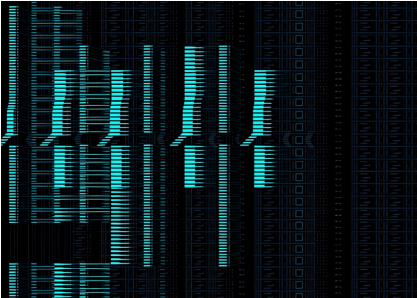
## Atmospheric Modifiers

- ethereal
- foggy
- misty
- luminescent
- veiled in haze
- glowing aura
- radiant
- smokey
- diffuse
- iridescent



## Color Modifiers

- vivid
- pastel
- neon
- color-shifting
- muted
- duotone
- monochromatic
- emotional palette
- saturated gradient
- bleeding color



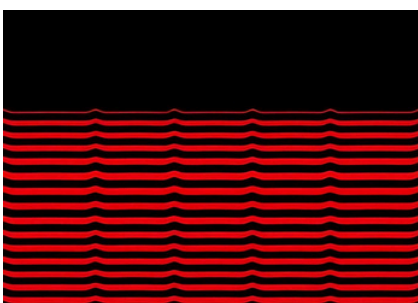
## Shape & Structure

- symmetrical
- fragmented
- tessellated
- modular
- grid-based
- spiraling
- warped
- kaleidoscopic
- layered
- rhythmic



## Energy & Motion

- chaotic
- explosive
- kinetic
- frenetic
- swirling
- vibrating
- energetic
- pulsing
- disjointed
- glitchy



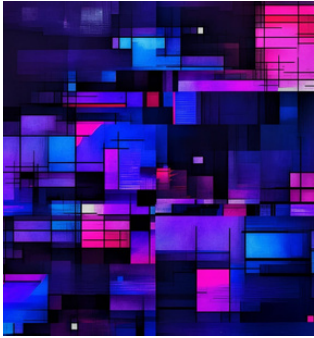
## Textural Modifiers

- fluid
- crystalline
- silky
- glossy
- granular
- grainy
- metallic
- veiny
- matte
- papery



# Abstract Artist Keywords

---



## Geometric & Structural

- **Kazimir Malevich** – Suprematism, simple forms
  - **Piet Mondrian** – Grid-based abstraction, primary color palettes
  - **Sophie Taeuber-Arp** – Harmonious geometric design
  - **Josef Albers** – Color theory and shape interaction
  - **El Lissitzky** – Constructivist geometry with spatial depth
- 



## Organic & Spiritual

- **Hilma af Klint** – Mystical symbolism, soft color fields
  - **Georgia O'Keeffe** – Natural abstraction with flowing forms
  - **Emma Kunz** – Sacred geometry, spiritual diagrams
  - **Agnes Pelton** – Ethereal and symbolic light forms
  - **Mark Rothko** – Emotional fields of color
- 



## Pattern, Repetition & Optical Art

- **Bridget Riley** – Op art and visual vibration
  - **Victor Vasarely** – 3D illusion and geometric movement
  - **Yayoi Kusama** – Repetitive dots and immersive abstraction
  - **Ding Yi** – Meticulous grid patterns
  - **Agnes Martin** – Subtle, emotional minimalism through grids
- 



## Abstract Expressionism & Chaos

- **Jackson Pollock** – Gestural, chaotic energy
- **Joan Mitchell** – Colorful expressive brushwork
- **Wassily Kandinsky** – Color and emotion, early abstraction
- **Franz Kline** – Bold monochrome strokes
- **Cy Twombly** – Scribbles, marks, and emotional gestures

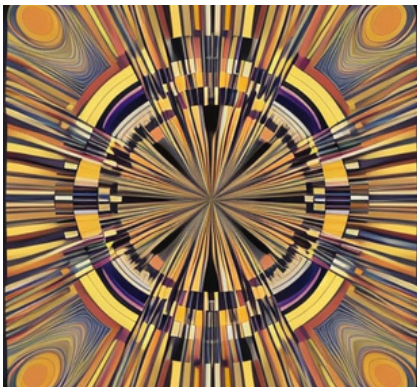
# Abstract Art Keywords by u/gullyDJ

---



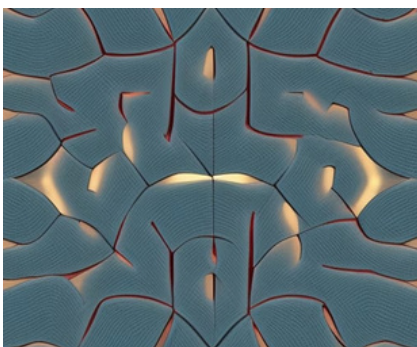
## Visual Style

- dreamlike
- surreal
- chaotic
- geometric
- fluid
- fragmented
- kaleidoscopic
- distorted
- glitch
- vaporwave
- biomorphic
- cubist
- expressionist
- minimalist
- maximalist
- brutalist
- ornamental
- datamoshed
- painterly
- smeared



## Color Language

- vibrant colors
- neon palette
- monochrome
- pastel hues
- color gradients
- iridescent
- prismatic
- ultraviolet tones
- oversaturated
- muted tones
- duotone
- complementary colors
- heatmap colors



## Composition

- nonlinear layout
- asymmetrical
- radial symmetry
- tessellated
- warped perspective
- overlapping forms
- layered
- recursive patterns
- infinite loop
- mosaic structure
- spiraling forms
- fractal-like



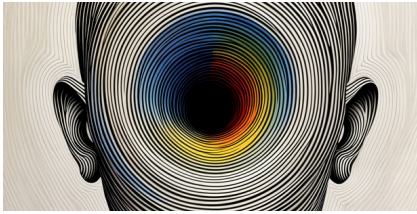
## Material + Textural

- liquid-like
- glassy
- metallic
- holographic
- textured
- velvety
- translucent
- oil-slick



# Abstract Art Keywords by u/gullyDJ

---



## Material + Texture (cont'd.)

- rough canvas
  - scratched surface
  - ink-splattered
  - digital noise
  - marbled
  - chrome-drenched
- 



## Conceptual + Emotional

- conceptual
- symbolic
- non-representational
- subconscious
- alien
- introspective
- metaphysical
- otherworldly
- emotional landscape
- thought-form
- liminal
- dream fragment

## PIET MONDRIAN

Use modifiers like “clean geometry,” “primary colors,” “grid layout,” and “minimalist” to channel Mondrian’s iconic style.

Focus on structured composition, strong vertical and horizontal lines, and pure form to explore balance and order.



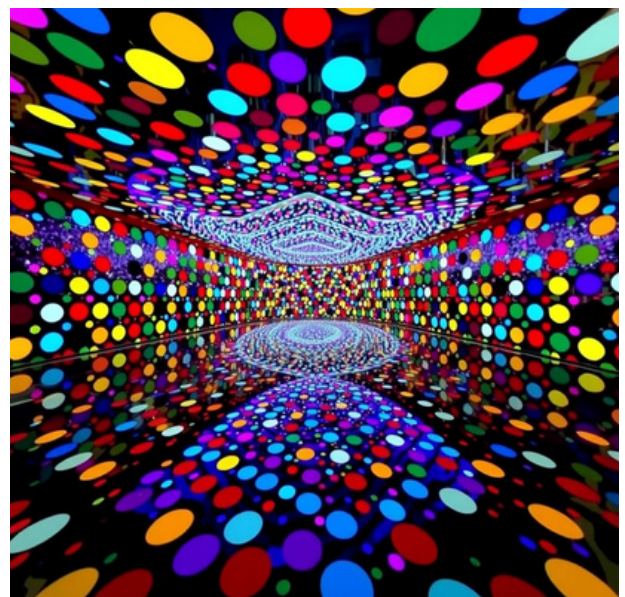
## HILMA AF KLINT

Try using “spiritual color wash,” “sacred geometry,” “aura,” and “glowing mist” to capture Klint’s emotional and symbolic work. Let your forms feel intuitive and charged with energy, tapping into themes of mysticism and the unseen.

## YAYOI KUSAMA

Go bold with “polka dot,” “hypnotic repetition,” “color clash,” and “dense layering.”

Kusama’s style thrives on obsessive pattern, symmetry, and playful scale. Use infinite loops and high contrast to mirror her immersive energy.







## VICTOR VASARELY

To mimic Vasarely's Op Art illusions, layer "optical grid," "moiré effect," "floating illusion," and "hard-edged color blocks." Play with perspective and repetition to build visual vibration and depth within flat forms.

## JOAN MITCHELL

Use "expressive brushwork," "color chaos," "emotion burst," and "dynamic layering" to reflect Mitchell's passionate and gestural abstraction. Think motion, mess, and emotional resonance - where the colors do the talking.



## WASSILY KANDINSKY

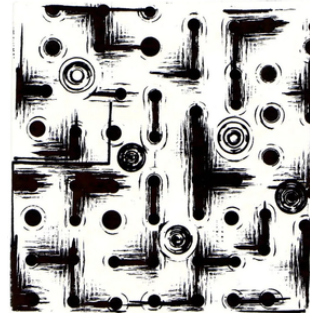
To channel Kandinsky's spiritual-meets-musical style, use "synesthetic colors," "symbolic forms," "floating shapes," and "radiating lines." Let color and shape reflect emotion, vibration, and rhythm - less about realism, more about feeling.



# ADDITIONAL RESOURCE LINKS

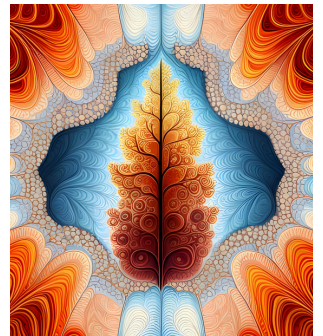
## **The #abstract Tag Explore Page**

Explore a curated collection of abstract art created by the NightCafé community. Get inspired by a variety of styles and techniques that bring the extraordinary to life.



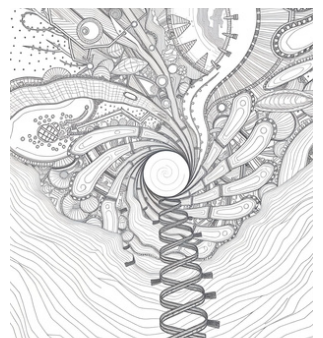
## **Abstract April Onsite Chat**

Participate in live discussions and activities specifically for Abstract April. A space to ask questions, share insights, and connect over our love for abstract art.



## **The NightCafé Lounge Discord**

Join our Discord community to chat with other artists, share your creations, and get live feedback. A great place to connect and grow with fellow art enthusiasts.

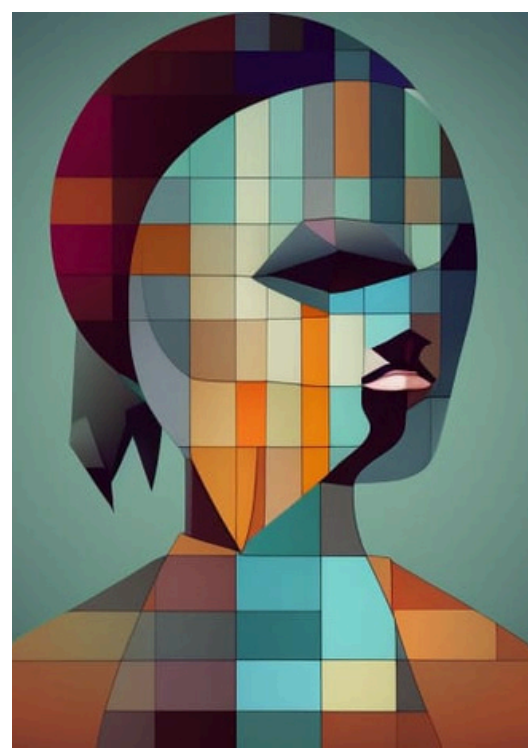
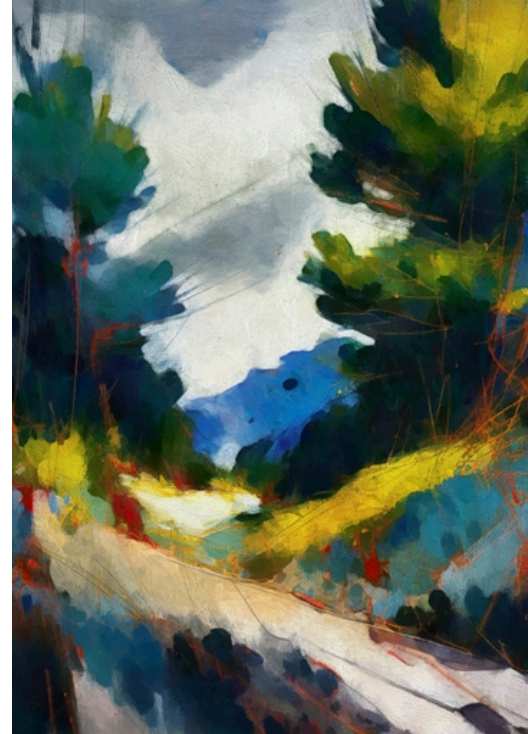


## **Getting Started on NightCafé Guide**

New to NightCafé? Check out this guide to get up and running quickly. Learn how to create, share, and find inspiration from other artists.









# WRAPPING UP AND MOVING FORWARD

**Abstract art invites us to explore without answers, express without rules, and see the world through shape, color, and emotion.**

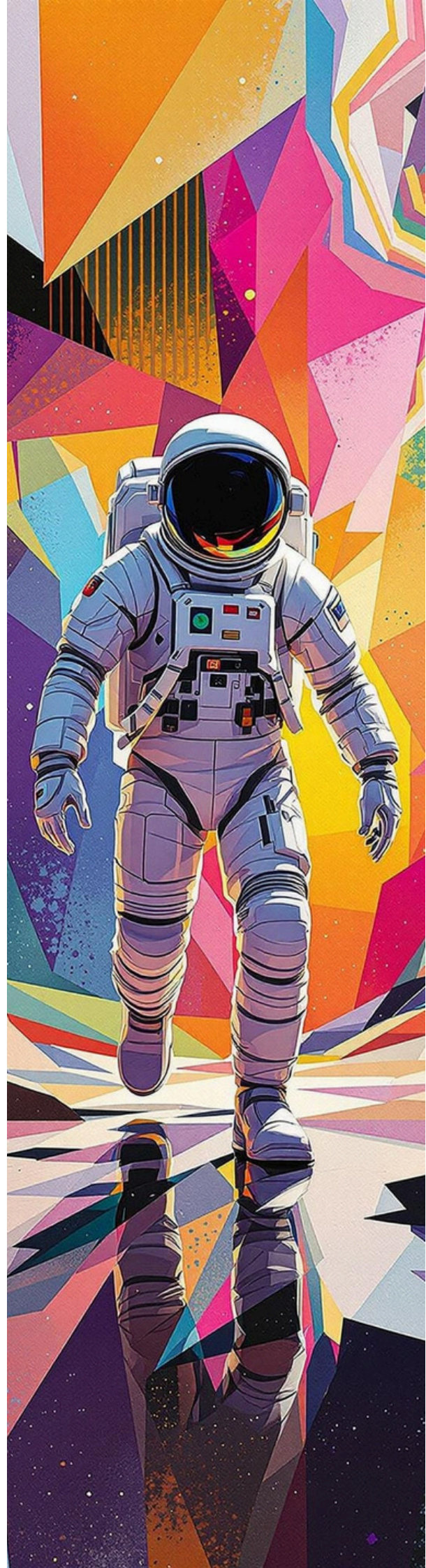
Throughout **Abstract April**, you've stretched your creativity across structure and spontaneity - through shapes, patterns, illusions, and raw expression. You've experimented with new techniques, unexpected modifiers, and pushed the limits of what AI art can be.

Think of everything you've created; each piece a study in abstraction, a moment of exploration. Whether you leaned into geometry, softness, rhythm, or emotion, your work reflected a part of your unique perspective.

**And that *matters*.**

So keep going. Keep layering, distorting, simplifying, and exaggerating. The abstract world is infinite, and your vision is what brings it to life.

- *The NightCafe Team*







# CREDITS

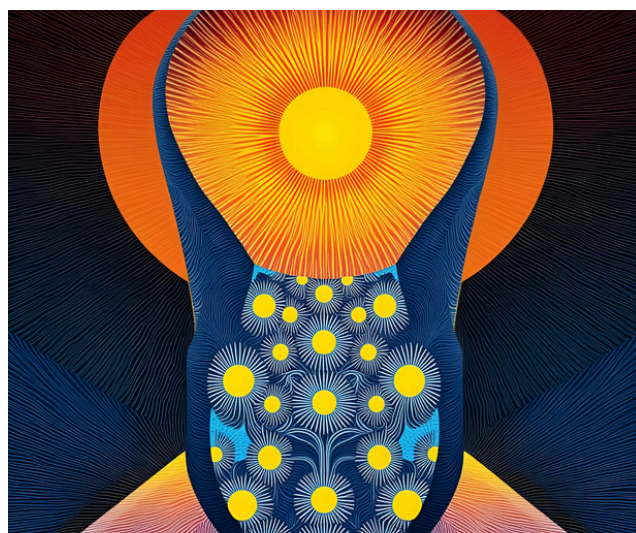
**PDF Design + Creation:** [Cassandra Hood](#)

**Creative Mind Behind the Challenge:** [u/Queren](#)

**Modifier Curation + Contributions:** [u/gullyDJ](#)

**Example Image Contributions:** [u/Queren](#), [u/gullyDJ](#),  
and [u/weresl0th](#)

**Special thanks to all of our NightCafe community members for your creativity and participation! 💙**



*NightCafe*