

2015 Chicago Open Visual Arts: Remedios Varo Memorial Tournament
Questions by Stephen Liu, Doug Graebner, Nathan Weiser, and Benji Nguyen

FINALS

1. **While in Rome, an artist from this country was introduced to the philosophy of Swedenborg, which led him to believe in the divinity of landscapes, in which he typically paired bucolic scenes with cloudy skies. That artist from this country showed a cross glowing through the clouds in his *The Valley of the Shadow of Death*, part of a series depicting the “pilgrim’s journey” entitled *The Triumph of the Cross*. Another work from this country hides the opening of a triumphal arch with a line of trees. The artist of that painting is known for works like *Avenue in the Rain*, which shows lots of (*) flags hanging from the windows of wide streets, and which hangs in the office of this country’s leader. An artist from here showed a water-filled landform shaped like a massive cup in *The Titan’s Goblet*, while an angel guides a man in a boat from childhood to old age in his four-part *The Voyage of Life*. For 10 points, name this country home to the Tonalist George Inness, as well as Childe Hassam and Thomas Cole.**
ANSWER: **United States** of America [1]
2. **An artist from this country planted an iron plinth upside-down into the ground and called the entire Earth his work of art in *Base of the World*. In a work called *HIM*, an artist from this country sculpted a schoolboy with the head of Hitler kneeling in prayer. That artist placed shattered glass all over a red floor next to a life-sized effigy of John Paul II crushed by a meteor in his sculpture *The Ninth Hour*. Another artist from this country blew up a red balloon and sold it as *Artist’s Breath*, and followed it up with small yellow cans containing the titular *Artist’s Shit*. A Greek-born artist brought twelve live horses to the opening of a gallery in this country and tethered them to the walls as an installation piece. This country was home to (*) Jannis Kounellis as well as the founder of the Spatialism movement, who slashed colored canvases with a knife. For 10 points, name this country home to the Arte Povera movement, which included Piero Manzoni and Lucio Fontana.**
ANSWER: **Italy** [1]
3. **In a work painted here, a woman in a white dress with a brown belt stands in front of a stream with reeds in the background. That work, *By the Brook*, was painted by Lilla Cabot Perry during one of nine summers she spent at this place. Six Americans exhibited together in 1910 at the Madison Gallery under this place’s name, including Frederick Frieseke and Guy Rose, who painted *The Blue Kimono* here. An American art colony at this location came to be called “Decorative Impressionists.” A more famous resident married his second wife Alice Hoschedé here, and painted parts of his garden in works like *Weeping Willow* and *The Rose Walk*. That artist installed a Japanese (*) footbridge in this town as part of a landscaping project, and wheelbarrowed canvases out into the fields near this town in order to paint haystacks in various weathers. The best-known paintings from here are horizon-less depictions of ponds filled with water lilies. For 10 points, name this final home of Claude Monet.**
ANSWER: **Giverny** [prompt on Claude **Monet’s house or garden**] [2]
4. **An artist from this country is best-known for his *Today* series, which consist of a solid background over which a date is written in the language of the country in which the painting was created. A reflective space filled with white plush objects covered in red polka dots makes up *Infinity Mirror Room*, a work by an artist from here. A performance artist from this country made a series of homages to Duchamp, but is more famous for crouching over a sheet of paper with a brush inserted in her genitals for her performance *Vagina Painting*, and for being the wife of Nam June Paik. Another artist from this nation made a book of instructions for the reader entitled (*) *Grapefruit* and asked audience members to snip off her clothes with scissors in *Cut Piece*. That artist also invited people to write their wishes on paper and hang them on trees in a series begun after the death of her English musician husband. For 10 points, name this nation that produced On Kawara, Yayoi Kusama, Shigeo Kubota, and Yoko Ono.**
ANSWER: **Japan** [1]

5. **A man with this surname sculpted a portrait bust of the prophet Haggai that is now in the Victoria and Albert Museum. A sarcophagus depicting the story of Phaedra influenced this man's relief of the Presentation in the Temple that takes place before a Gothic church. Two sculptors with this surname collaborated on a polygonal work depicting the Labors of the Months alongside the Prophets, Perugia's Fontana Maggiore. A section of a work by a man with this surname shows three sheep in a row, gathered below a reclining Madonna, dressed as a Roman matron and lying with her baby. An artist with this surname cast the south doors of the Florence Baptistery and carved the hexagonal reliefs representing the major trades for (*) Giotto's campanile. Sculptors with this surname were famous for their high-relief Roman style sculptures, as shown by their pulpits for the Siena Cathedral and the Pisa Baptistery. For 10 points, name this surname of a father-son pair named Nicola and Giovanni.**
ANSWER: Pisano
6. **A temple complex in this country contains many incised reliefs of fanged shamans transforming into cats and features a circular plaza between the Castillo and the Old Temple. That site has a long thin pillar with a divine being carved into it, called the Lanzon. A culture from this country made images of blood being offered to the Owl Priest. Chavin de Huantar is located in this country, which is also home to a cycle of murals depicting a spider-like priest holding a severed head. A woman who was buried at that site with two golden clubs is called the "Lady of Cao." A necklace of peanut kernels was found in another burial site in this country called Sipán. Many stirrup-spouted vessels were made by the (*) Moche in this country, who also practiced mummification. A city in this country was built in the shape of a puma, and contains a temple called the Qurikancha, which was dedicated to the sun god Inti. For 10 points, name this modern-day country home to Cuzco and Machu Picchu.**
ANSWER: Peru
7. **The creator of these photographs wrote that each entry was meant to show a lack of emotion, even including one in which a woman in a coat with leopard print collars has mascara tears running down her face. A dark highway is the setting of one of these works that depicts a young woman with a suitcase standing on the side of the road. Another uses smoke reflected in the mirror and an angled card table to suggest that the figure in the black dress is not the only person in the room. These photographs include *The Hitchhiker* and a close-up of a woman wearing a black-bowed hat in front of tall New York buildings, often called (*) *City Girl*. These works were inspired by directors like Hitchcock and Antonioni, and the first six follow a woman whose hair was arbitrarily chosen to be blonde. Many of these self-portraits show the subject in her kitchen, apartment, or bed. For 10 points, name this series of 69 photographs by Cindy Sherman that depict her as an actress in made up movie scenes.**
ANSWER: Untitled Film Stills [3]
8. **In a shot from this film, the two boys occupying the room exit, but the camera lingers and waits for a bottle to fall off of the breakfast table. A dreamlike sequence in this film shows a man stroking the side of a sleeping woman who floats above her bed. In this film, a woman is cheered up by a coworker, who then abruptly starts to criticize her and brings her to tears again. That occurs after a scene in this film that follows a distraught woman through a printing press facility. A long take in this film moves through the empty halls of a cabin and eventually turns the corner of a doorway to reveal two people silently looking upon a (*) burning barn. This film contains narration consisting of the director's father reading his own poetry. This film frequently switches between color and black-and-white, and uses Alexei's dreamlike memories to move between three timelines in his life. For 10 points, name this film intercut with newsreel footage, a semiautobiographical film directed by Andrei Tarkovsky.**
ANSWER: The Mirror [4]
9. **Due to frequent funding shortages and other delays, a railway station designed by this architect was finished by Maxine Brunfaut after his death. That station retains this architect's inwardly curving window façade. A building designed by this man contains a work by Jef Lambeaux which shows a ghostly angel of death at the top and a crowd of personified emotions shown in varying degrees of relief. That building, which resembles a Greek temple, is located in Cinquantenaire Park and is called the Temple of Human Passions. Another of this architect's buildings contains a lounge under a large domed ceiling window. This architect of the Van Eetvelde House placed gracefully curving floor mosaics, ironwork, and door handles in the entrance (*) hall of a house best known for its staircase, which rises past an orange wallpaper filled with green tendril-like designs. That building is called the Hôtel Tassel. For 10 points, name this Belgian who, like Antoni Gaudí, was an Art Nouveau architect.**
ANSWER: Victor Horta [4]

10. This film was shot with two cameras moving simultaneously but in opposite directions, allowing the film to cut between views and keep as many characters in frame as possible. This film opens on a country road, where the passengers of two cars chat while a woman gets soaked in the rain. In this film, people sitting around a dinner table look up with shocked faces when Elsie defends a war profiteer, revealing an affair. One character in this film uses a fake Scottish accent and is revealed to be an American actor. The central event of this film occurs while Ivor Norvello sings at the piano, and is foreshadowed by close-ups of vials marked (*) "poison." Half the characters in this film are called by their employers' names, making Lord Stockbridge's valet "Mr. Stockbridge." In this film, Mrs. Wilson kills Sir William to stop their long-lost son from committing murder when he stabs the dead body. For 10 points, name this film about the British class system, a murder mystery directed by Robert Altman.
ANSWER: Gosford Park [3]
11. In 2008, Banksy showed the death of a member of this group on the wall of an abandoned gas station. Two of these people look at each other over a partially colored green bottle with blood spatters on their clothes in a work entitled *Badhabits*. Three of them drive a black car with pink wheels through red streets in paintings entitled *City Limits* and *Riding Around*, the latter of which also shows them smoking cigars. Those works, all by Philip Guston, use a cartoonish style to depict these people, using patch-like rectangular stitches for their clothes and vertical dashes for their eyes. The Capitol is faintly visible in a photograph of women in this group (*) marching down Pennsylvania Avenue, the front two carrying an American flag and a cross bearing their banner. An early film poster shows a member of this group on a rearing horse with a burning cross in his hand. For 10 points, name these people depicted in the film *The Birth of a Nation*, a hate group known for their white hoods.
ANSWER: Ku Klux Klan [accept KKK] [1]
12. A recreation of one work by this man is set in a throne room with three coffered arches looking out onto the sky. That recreation depicts Repentance as a crone looking backward at a naked Truth, who points her finger toward the ceiling. This artist once identified a jester who had fooled him into barging in on a king's banquet by sketching the jester's face, and he is shown dressed in pale blue and leading Raphael by the hand in Ingres' *The Apotheosis of Homer*. The aforementioned recreation of this man's painting shows two women pulling on the ears of Midas as he reaches toward the title figure, a young woman with a torch who drags a nearly naked man by his hair, assisted by Fraud and (*) Conspiracy. This man often used Campaspe, the mistress of Alexander the Great, as a model although Phryne may have stood in for his *Aphrodite Rising from the Sea*, the painting which inspired *The Birth of Venus*. For 10 points, name this Greek whose *Calumny* was recreated by Botticelli.
ANSWER: Apelles [4]
13. A woman who considered this painting to be her favorite in an art book would slam it shut when she reached *The Anatomy Lesson*. The last time it was in a museum, this work hung next to a trio of ghastly landscapes by Egbert van der Poel. This work was once replaced with a textbook by Boris Pavlikovsky and fell into the black market, leading the previous owner to go to Amsterdam to recover it. This painting was the favorite of Welty Blackwell, and is considered by Audrey to be the link between Rembrandt and Vermeer. In real life, this work survived a gunpowder factory explosion in the (*) 1600s. This painting depicts a blue-gray wall mount to which a creature is chained, and was painted by the Delft painter Carel Fabritius. In the novel in which this work appears, it is saved from debris after terrorists bomb the Metropolitan Museum of Art, killing the protagonist's mother. For 10 points, name this painting of a bird that titles a novel about Theo Decker, the 2014 Pulitzer winner by Donna Tartt.
ANSWER: *The Goldfinch* [3]
14. A mezzotint by this artist is set in an assembly hall lighted by floating rings of fire and features an enthroned figure atop a massive sphere. Another work by this painter shows a gold pillar with a snake wrapped around it, overlooking an open-air banqueting hall whose friezes are inscribed with the signs of the zodiac. Confusion with his arsonist brother Jonathan led this artist to be referred to as "Mad," and his considerable influence on D. W. Griffith can be seen in *Intolerance's* Babylon sequence. This artist of popular illustrations for *Paradise Lost* often featured zigzagging bolts of lightning in his works, as in an apocalyptic scene in which (*) mountains crumble and a cityscape curls in on itself like a fiery wave. A ziggurat and the Tower of Babel appear at the back of a painting by this man showing endless banquet tables in the titular king's halls, where Daniel interprets the writing on the wall. For 10 points, name this English Romantic artist of *The Great Day of His Wrath* and *Belshazzar's Feast*.
ANSWER: John Martin [3]

15. A painting argued to have been inspired by this biographical event shows the lion-headed hilt of a sword lying in the bottom left corner, by a sleeping man with a white cloth wrapped around his leg. At the trial following this event, the perpetrator alleged the existence of suggestive letters, to which the victim replied, "I don't know how to write, and can only read a little." A film by Agnès Merlet about this event was criticized for excessive fictionalization by Mary Garrard. Relied on by feminist critics to interpret one artist's work as expressions of anger, this event resulted from an arrangement to (*) teach that artist how to paint in perspective. That artist portrayed herself in one work wearing blue with her arms held out in parallel, gripping the hilt of a sword buried into the neck of an Assyrian general whose face was based on the perpetrator of this event. For 10 points, name this crime inflicted by Agostino Tassi on a Baroque painter known for her *Jael and Sisera* and *Judith Beheading Holofernes*.
ANSWER: the rape of Artemisia Gentileschi [accept answers with Gentileschi and Tassi before mention] [3]
16. The model for the female figure in this painting was also the subject of a portrait that was subpoenaed by New York County District Attorney Robert Morgenthau so that MoMA could not send it overseas. This painting originally showed the female figure with her buttocks exposed, though it was eventually covered by her highly rumpled pink dress. The fingers of the woman in this work curl toward each other, while the man's are held rigidly straight, with the index and middle fingers forming sharp Vs. Several patches of green moss appear in the flat but rocky background of this work, over which is a crumpled white blanket. This painting was created after the artist chose to "get married, advantageously," to Edith Harms, leaving his lover and model (*) Wally Neuzil. This work shows a blushing, red-haired woman embracing a wide-eyed man in a brown monk's robe, mixing themes of sex and mortality. For 10 points, name this work by Egon Schiele partly based on a Schubert string quartet.
ANSWER: Death and the Maiden [3]
17. While in Paris, this artist broke from figurative painting, stating that "everything I saw became something to be made, and it had to be exactly as it was, with nothing added." That philosophy led to a work in which this man traced the shadow of a window to recreate its form exactly, called *Window, Museum of Modern Art, Paris*. A show at the Betty Parsons Gallery led to this painter's inclusion in the Whitney Museum's *Young America 1957* exhibition. In *Spectrum V*, this artist lined up 13 monochromes on a wall, covering the entire rainbow. This man rearranged the pieces of a black and white brushstroke drawing to form the disconnected stripes of *Cite*. For works like *Colors for a Large Wall*, *Spectrum Colors* (*) *Arranged by Chance*, and *Nine Squares*, this artist took individual monochrome squares and put them together in random arrangements. For 10 points, name this American painter associated with the color field and minimalist schools, and known for his hard-edge painting.
ANSWER: Ellsworth Kelly [5]
18. In a film in this series, the narrator yells "then God must go!" as a stone is thrown through a church's stained-glass window, revealing a sinister-looking portrait behind it. The first film in this series includes a comparison of two different worlds, one depicted as a bright globe and the other covered in darkness. Eugene Jarecki used the title of this series for his 2005 documentary about the military-industrial complex. Each film in this series ends with a giant letter "V" fading in over a shot of a ringing Liberty Bell. This film series features narration provided by Walter Huston and animation produced by Walt Disney. The third in this series' (*) seven entries is entitled *Divide and Conquer*. The director of this series made it after finishing *Meet John Doe*, and said that he was motivated to create it after a viewing of *The Triumph of the Will*. For 10 points, name this film series commissioned by George C. Marshall and directed by Frank Capra, a set of World War II propaganda films.
ANSWER: Why We Fight
19. An artist from this region showed two white handprints below an upside-down haloed head, all floating above an orange mound in his painting *Zoom*. That artist from this region often used a smeared gray background for his paintings, such as *Grey Ochre*, while crosses appear throughout his work, as in a painting that looks like a cross and the letter R written in dirt. A red hat, a brown beard, and two gray balls linked by orthogonal lines appear in a series showing the head of a peasant from this region. An artist from here declared his intent to "assassinate painting" and created parodies of Jan Steen works in his *Dutch Interiors*. That man depicted a (*) lizard, chicken, horse, and other animals around a paper marked "Jour," all beneath a tree with an ear on its trunk. Lots of stars, dots, and disembodied eyes appear in a series from this region entitled *Constellations*, painted by the artist of *The Tilled Field*. For 10 points, name this home of Antoni Tàpies and Joan Miró, a region of Spain.
ANSWER: Catalonia [1]

20. **Many lamps in this complex are set on two-headed Janus-like pillars. A monumental stairway in this complex contains a relief of two women and children playing with a cloud of doves, before leading up to a terrace with two semicircular colonnades. A structure built into the side of a hill in this complex is named for the fact that it faces the sunset. Blue and gold-leaf tiles, as well as copies of classical sculpture, surround an indoor pool in this complex that was meant to resemble a Roman bath, while its outdoor pool sits in front of a Roman temple façade and contains a grid-like tile design under the water. The owner of this complex asked architect (*) Julia Morgan to incorporate all of the architectural styles that he enjoyed seeing on his travels, leading to features like the Neptune Pool and the twin-towered, Spanish-style Casa Grande. For 10 points, name this inspiration for *Citizen Kane*'s Xanadu, an estate built by a newspaper magnate in San Simeon, California.**
ANSWER: **Hearst Castle** [accept the **Enchanted Hill**; prompt on the **ranch**] [2]