PRECISIONISM

City Tech Fall 2024 Art of the United States

CHARACTERISTICS OF PRECISIONISM

- Applied from the 1930s to painting
- Sharply defined, geometric forms, flat planes
- the precision of line and form is important
- Analogous to European Purism and Futurism,
 which reflects the machine, but employs
 Americans themes
- Post WWI artists of Precisionism chose subject matter that glorified modern technology

Precisionism offered a reduced, formal aesthetic of clarity, geometry and order:

- An idealized world where absolute order could be
- Devoid of figures

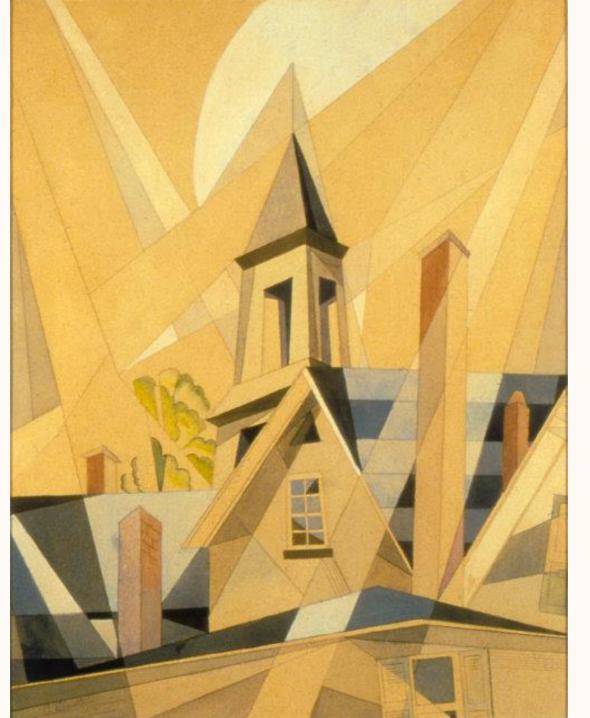
BASED ON CUBISM?



Georgia O'Keefe, White Flower on Red Earth, 1943



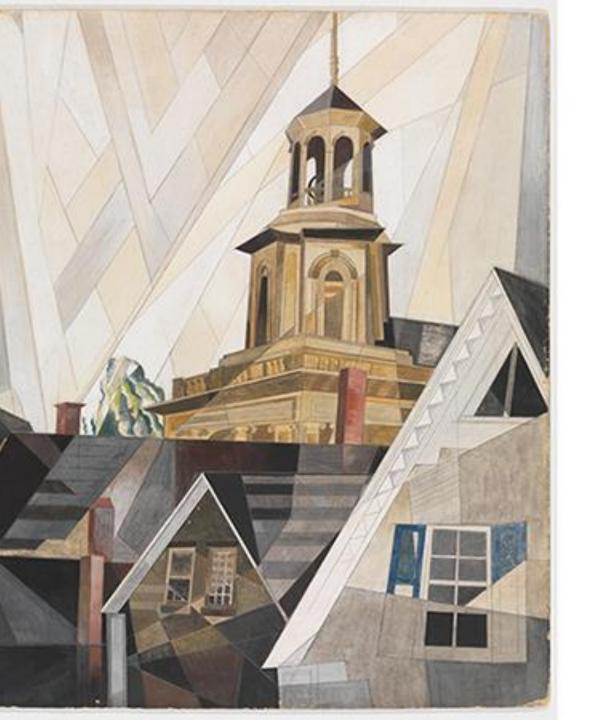
Georgia O'Keefe, A Street, 1926



Charles Demuth,

Church in Provincetown

No. 2, 1919



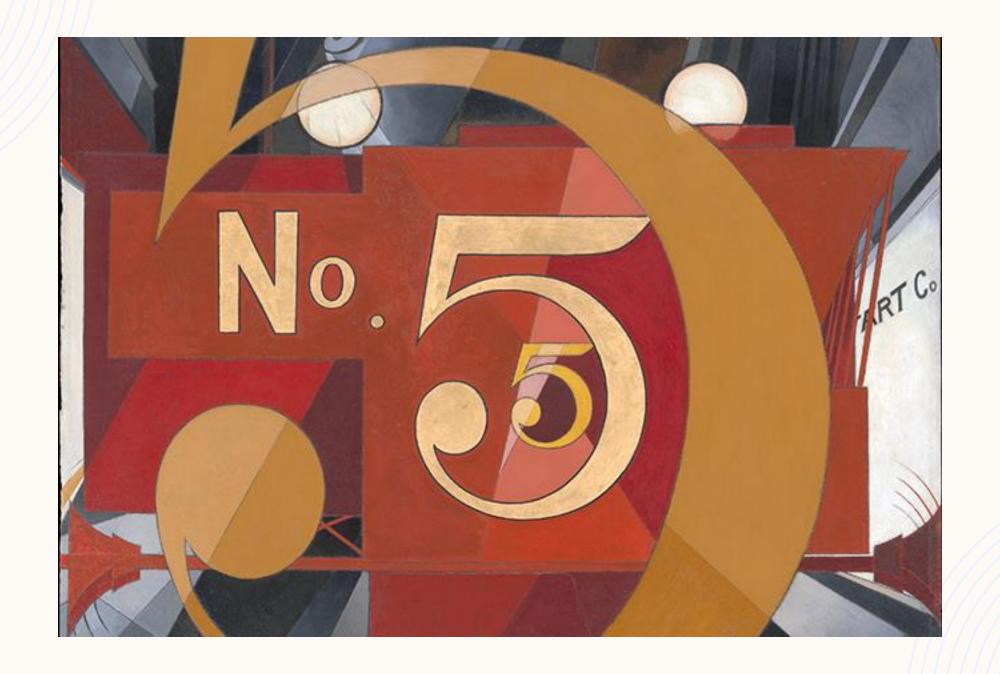


I Saw the Figure 5 in Gold was inspired by the poem, "The Great Figure," written by Demuth's friend, William Carlos William

Among the rain and lights I saw the figure 5 in gold on a red firetruck moving tense unheeded to gong clangs siren howls and wheels rumbling through the dark city.



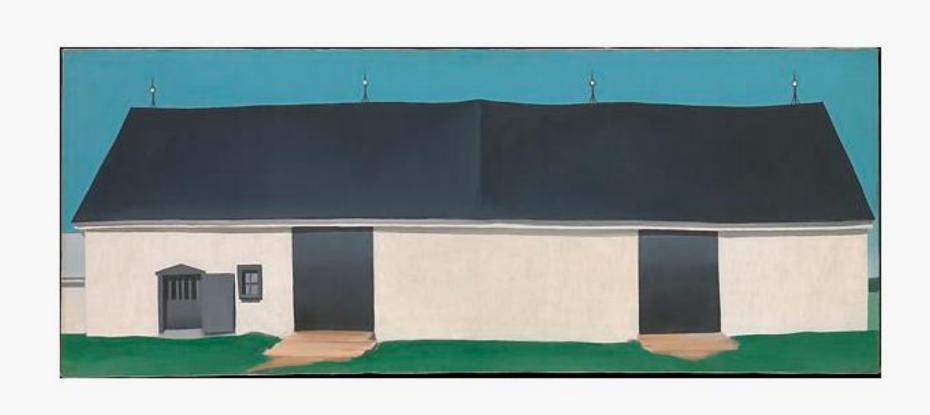
Charles Demuth, *I*Saw the Figure 5 in
Gold, 1928



Picturing Motion and Movement

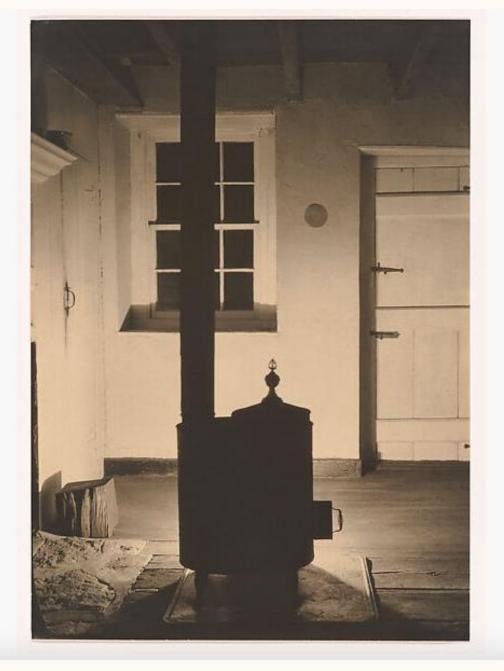


GEORGIA O' KEEFFE, WHITE CANADIAN BARN II, 1932



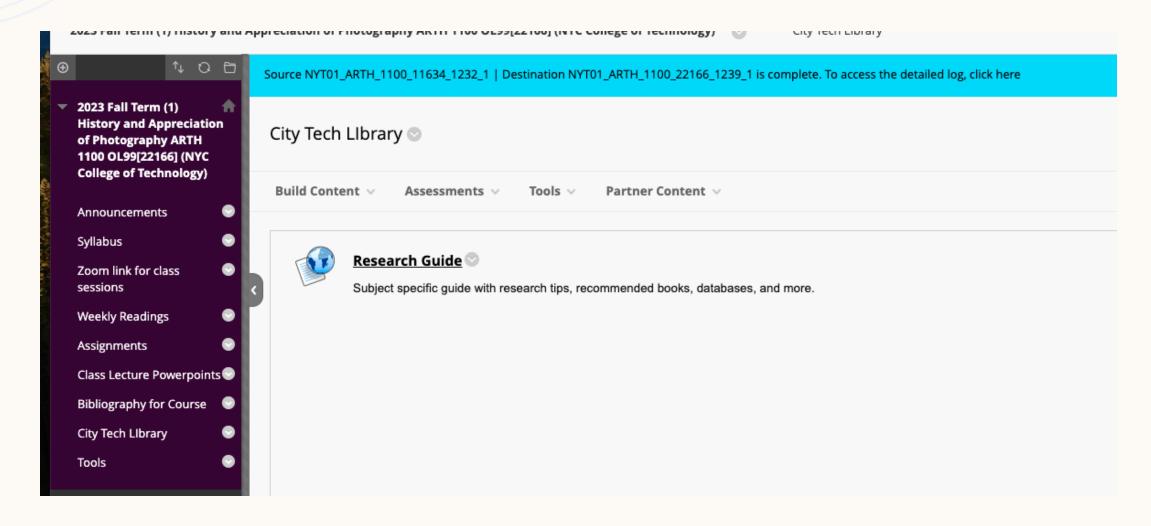


Paul Strand, From the El, 1915

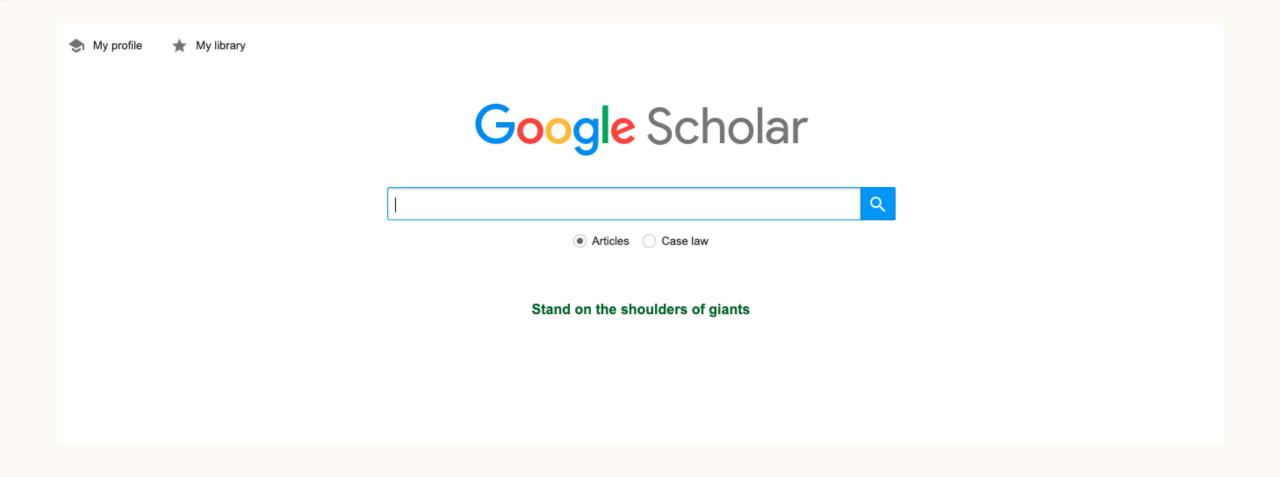


Charles Sheeler, *Doylestown House – The Stove*, 1917

HOW TO FIND SCHOLARLY SOURCES?



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GROUP DISCUSSIONS: FINAL PRESENTATION TOPICS

REMINDERS

Sign up for your Final Presentation if you have not already!

Please email me ahead of time if you would like to have an office hour appt!