

Edvard Munch was a remarkable, yet tragic artist during the Expressionist era. The distorted imagery displayed in his work reveals intense, emotional agony that was a constant presence throughout Munch's life. Edvard's father, Christian, constantly bombarded his son with religious anecdotes and fire and brimstone tales that affected Munch throughout his life. His mother and sister both succumbed to tuberculosis within a span of ten years. Their deaths led to the artist's depression and anxiety, which would be frequent themes of Munch's paintings.

The implied scream seems so powerful that it causes the sky to undulate like waves. Nature is sympathetic while the walking figures are not

Two figures walk away from the screamer, which creates a feeling of isolation

Swirling, red color resembles a fire-lit sky, swirling with chaos and dread

"I was walking along the road with two friends.
The sun was setting.
I felt a breath of melancholy -
Suddenly the sky turned ~~BLU~~
~~RED~~.
I stopped, and leaned against the railing, deathly tired -
looking out across the flaming clouds that hung like ~~BLU~~ and a sword
over the ~~BLU~~-black fjord and town.
My friends walked on - I stood there, trembling with fear.
And I sensed a great, infinite
SCREAM pass through nature."

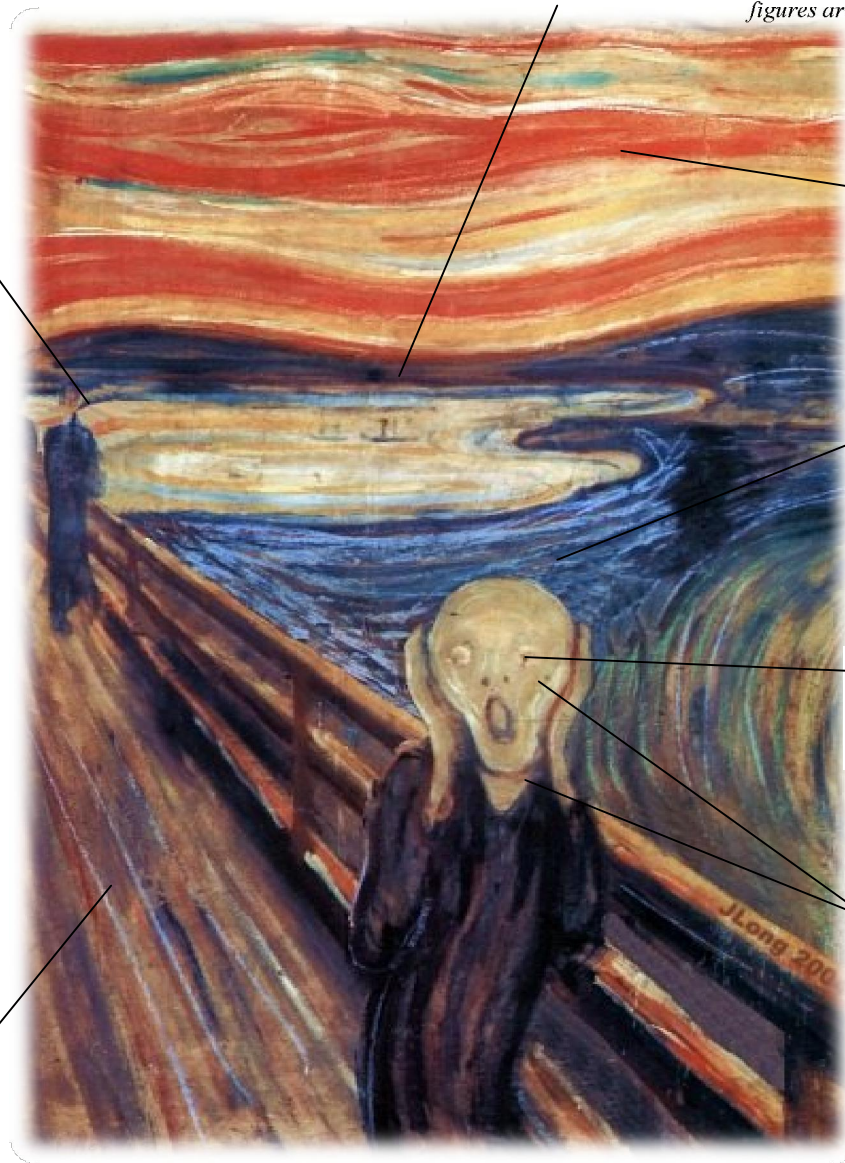
-Edvard Munch

Brushstrokes appear to have been applied rapidly, as though the artist was trying to capture a specific moment in time

The figure is sexually ambiguous and resembles death

The agape mouth and wide eyes reveal the overwhelming fear that is being experienced. The shape of the head and mouth are similar

Use of line as depicted in the boards and rails imply depth, as the background is highly exaggerated and does not have a clear sense of perspective



Munch 1863-1944



Self-portrait

1895

The Scream

1893

Key Works

Evening on Karl Johan Street 1889

Madonna 1893

Death in the Sick Chamber 1893-94

Puberty 1894

The Voice 1894-95

