

## Research Proposal

Yu Chiao Kuo

1930716

How color palette works in the story

Comparison and experiment

By reviewing my past projects, although they did not have the same theme, I always sought to create my visual language. Therefore, I was dedicated to try a variety of materials and color to achieve my goal. In the process of exploring, I found out that color took the most important role in my works. Like as Bang demonstrated in her book *Picture This: How Pictures Work* (1991, p.38), I want to learn more how color effects in the picture. If there are similar story books with different color palettes, will it have a totally different atmosphere? How color works in the story?

In order to develop my original ideas, I started to read some materials. Firstly, I started with Alemagna's book *Jo Singe Garçon* (2010), because I was drawing monkeys in the paradox module. Though my story was very different from her, I thought it was a good learning material to see how she controlled color and illustrated those monkeys. She created a muted brown color palette in her book. Following Salisbury's description about how she used collage to combine all her drawings (2015, p.185), I really admired her ability to control the color palette in an elegant and poetic way. I also read the book *Lunch at 10 Pomegranate Street* (Sala,2019). In this beautiful book Sala created different colors palettes for each room, and she also used some muted color to keep the book's consistency. The two books inspired me about how color impacted children's books and how could different color interacted with the audience. These books make me more devoted to this topic as well.

After reading those books about colors, I started to think about how can I approach this topic. I am planning several ways to do the research, for example, I can study more children's book and analyze their color palette. I can also choose story books that have the same structures and see how their color palettes create different atmosphere. Furthermore, I want to do some experiments in this module. The idea came from Tan's blog (2020). Tan described about his inspiration to draw Dog, and he listed few artworks of it. Those pictures have same composition and the only difference is he used a different color palette to describe different relationships between dogs and their owners. That is exactly what I want to experiment in this module. My plan is to create a series of pictures in the same composition, and using the color palette to indicate character's relationships. I will start the experiment by following Hornung's assignment (2012, p.50) of Chromatic Gray study, starting my pictures with simple shapes and made multiple color palettes of it.

To sum up, I am really excited what this module will bring me and help me to reach my purpose. In terms of comparing distinct color palettes, I am looking forward to learn more and use the technique in my next project.

## Bibliography

Alemagna, B., 2010. *Jo Singe Garçon*. Paris: Autrement

Bang, M., 1991. *Picture This: How Pictures Work*. California: Chronicle Books

Hornung, D. 2012. *Colour: a workshop for artists and designers* 2nd ed. London: Laurence King.

Sala, F., 2019. *Lunch at 10 Pomegranate Street*. London: Scribble.

Salisbury, M., 2015. *100 great children's picture books*. London: Laurence King Publishing Ltd.

Tan, S., 2021. *DOG BOOK — shaun tan*. [online] Available at: <<https://www.shauntan.net/dog-book>> [Accessed 19 February 2021].

### Indicative bibliography:

Albers, J., 2013. *Interaction of color*. 4th ed. Connecticut: Yale University Press.

Bang, M., 1991. *Picture This: How Pictures Work*. California: Chronicle Books

Hellige, H., Klanten, R., Sonja, C. and Elvia, W., 2012. *Little big books : illustrations for children's picture books*. Berlin: Gestalten.

Hornung, D. 2012. *Colour: a workshop for artists and designers* 2nd ed. London: Laurence King.

Itten, J., 1973. *The art of color*. New York: Reinhold Pub. Corp.

Nikolajeva, M. and Scott, C., 2017. *How picturebooks work*. Johannesburg: MTM.

Salisbury, M. and Styles, M., 2012. *Children's Picturebooks: The Art of Visual Storytelling*. London: Laurence King Publishing Ltd.

Salisbury, M., 2015. *100 great children's picture books*. London: Laurence King Publishing Ltd.

### Picture books and graphic novels:

Alemagna, B., 2017. *On a Magical Do-Nothing Day*. 1st ed. London: Thames and

Hudson Ltd

Bailey, L. And Sarda, J., 2018. *Mary who wrote Frankenstein*. London: Penguin  
Random House

Britt, F. and Arsenault, I., n.d. *Jane, the fox & me*. 2014: Walker Books.

Fontenaille, E. and Lopiz, V., 2011. *Les poings sur les îles*. Rouergue: Rouergue.

Tan, S., 2018. *Tales from the inner city*. 1st ed. London: Walker Studio.

Juan, A., 2011. *Snow White*. Berlin: Logos.