

Bruegel - Hunters in the snow 1565



Artist's response to surroundings

Composition

Very unusual and modern

Leading lines

Framing

Great dramatic depth and perspective created by distinctive and very much separated fore/mid and background into layers

Diagonals and triangles zigzagging and leading the eye through the scene

Figures repeated in fore and mid ground helping create depth and playing with scale

Rule of thirds with both the darkest trees and the sky

Buildings and animals in foreground cut like the framing of contemporary photographs

Unusually high view point as if looking down from slightly higher ground or an upper floor window distancing you from the figures

Colour

Dominated by subdued muted icy blues and turquoise greens

Accents and splashes of warm caramels, brick browns and russet/toasted reds, burnt oranges

Huge amount of white

Tone

Dramatic

Extreme

More bold in the foreground fades in the background helping create more depth

Realistic

Foreground figures practically silhouetted

Communication of atmosphere

Bleak

Busy in mid ground with people having fun

Everyday snapshot which is a very contemporary notion to depict everyday people for such an old painting

Contemplative yet industrious

