# OLLI at Duke Fall 2015 Kristine Door Da Vinci and Escher; the Science of Art

# Gallery Session 3 December 8 & 9: The Worlds of M.C. Escher

### **Themes:**

- 1. perspective (exaggerated or distorted)
- 2. reflection
- 3. pattern (tessellation)
- 4. infinity

#### **WORKS TO BE VIEWED**

# Early Years, Holland Born June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1898

- 1. Escher's Father, (1st print) 1916 Linoleum cut in purple, National Gallery of Art, DC
- 2. *Skull with Cigarette*, December, 1917 Black, dark orange and black, Dr. Stephen R.Turner
- 3. Self-Portrait, Reflected in a Sphere, 1920-21, pen and ink, Private Collection
- 4. Eight Heads, 1922 Woodcut printed once from the whole block and eight times from

## Italy and Spain 1922-July 1935 "finger exercises"

- 5. San Gimignano, April, 1922, Ink, Private collection
- 6. San Gimignano, July, 1922, Woodcut on japan paper, Collection Dr. Stephen R. Turner
- 7. Plants & Flowers, Ravello, April, 1923, pen & ink, Collection Dr. Stephen R. Turner Married to Jetta June 12, 1924
- 8. Chartre Cathedral, c. 1924, pencil on paper, Private collection

  May, 1926 made 1<sup>st</sup> litho while visiting Holland
- 9. The Sunken Cathedral, January, 1929, Woodcut, Collection Dr. Stephen R. Turner
- 10. Castrovalva, February, 1930 Lithograph, Private collection
- 16. Atrani, Coast of Amalfi, August, 1931 Lithograph, Private Collection, Texas
- 12. Still Live with Mirror, March, 1934 Lithograph, Private collection
- 14. Still Life with Spherical Mirror, November, 1934, Lithograph, National Gallery DC
- 15. Hand with Reflecting Sphere, January, 1935, Lithograph, Collection Rock J. Walker
- 11. Dream, April, 1935, wood engraving, Private collection

#### **Back to the North**

## July, 1935 to Switzerland; 1937 to Brussels "brain games"

13. Still Life and Street, March 1937 Woodcut, Collection Dr. Stephen R. Turner

### **Tessellations and Metamorphosis 1937-1945**

- 17. Metamorphosis I, May, 1937 Woodcut printed on 2 sheets, National Gallery, Canada
- 23. *Day and Night*, February, 1938, Woodcut in black and grey, printed 2 blocks, Collection Rock J Walker
- 24. *Metamorphosis II*, November 1939-March 1940, Woodcut, printed from 20 blocks on 3 combined sheets, Private collection, Texas
- 20. Reptiles, March, 1943 Lithograph, The SI collection

#### Holland

## February, 1941 Moves to Baarn, Holland for last 30 yrs.

- 21. Magic Mirror, January, 1946 Lithograph. National Gallery of Art DC
- 18. Eye, October, 1946, Mezzotint and drypoint, final state, Private collection
- 35. Drawing Hands, January, 1948, Lithograph, Private collection, Texas
- 19. Dewdrop, 1948 Mezzotint, Private collection

#### **Distorted Perspectives**

- 25. Up and Down, July, 1947, Lithograph, Collection of Dr. Stephen R. Turner.
- 26. Other World, January, 1947 Wood engraving &woodcut in black, reddish brown, 3 blocks, Private collection. Texas
- 27. Rippled Surface, March, 1950 Linoleum cut in black & grey-brown, printed from 2 blocks, Private collection, Texas
- 28. Puddle, February, 1952, Woodcut, black, green & brown, 3 blocks, National Gallery DC
- 32. Convex and Concave, March, 1955, lithography, Private collection
- 29. Three Worlds, December, 1955, Lithograph, Private collection
- 31. Print Gallery, May, 1956 Lithograph, Private collection, Texas
- 30. Belvedere, May, 1958 Lithograph, National Gallery DC

# <u>Imagery of Infinity</u> (Mid 50s MCE meets mathematicians who tell him that he "intuitively" represented infinity on 2D plane)

- 32. *Circle Limit III*, December, 1959, Woodcut, second state, in yellow, green, blue, brown & black, 5 blocks, Collection of Dr. Stephen R. Turner
- 33. Circle Limit IV (Heaven and Hell), July, 1960, woodcut, printed from 2 blocks, Private collection, Texas
- 34. *Möbius Strip II*, February, 1963 Woodcut in red, black & grey-green, 3 blocks, The Sl collection

### **Last Work**

36. Snake, July, 1969, Woodcut, printed from 3 blocks, National Gallery of Art DC

In 1970,M.C. Escher moved to an artist's retirement home in Laren, Holland. He died on March 27, 1972 at the age of 73.