



Giacomo Balla (Italian, 1871–1958). *The Hand of the Violinist*. 1912. Private Collection. Photo credit: Alinari/Art Resource, NY. Credit: © Artists Rights Society (ARS), New York.

Balla painted this work as he was transitioning from more concrete depictions of movement to the more abstract (see the January 2007 cover of **PTJ**). Here he reveals the movements of the violinist's hand in repeated sequence, analyzing with the specificity of a scientist. The bright linear brushstrokes illuminate the relationships among fingers, strings, and bow; among hand, speed, and sound. Like most of the Futurist painters, he was initially influenced by photography, especially geometric chronophotographs, in which images of motion were superimposed.

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