Working with Subject Matter

Given any subject, artists can present it either imitatively (eye-derived) or symbolically (mind-derived). Eye-derived work leans toward identification and reportage; mind-derived work leans toward interpretation and/or enhancement.

“Under the Hedge” and “I Like Mine Fresh”, watercolor, both by Ellen Fountain

Artists can emphasize intellect or feeling:

Persistence of Memory by Salvador Dali, and The East Wind by Charles Burchfield

Art can be about the medium / process:

(Left) Phenomena Oracle Whisper, 1983, watercolor by Paul Jenkins

Art can be about formal art elements and principles:

(Right) Homage to Gaudi - Casa Vicens, 1977, mixed water media, 29x35 by Edward Reep

Art can be about ideas/imaginings:

(Left) Catch of the Day, watercolor by Scott Moore and (Below) The Pleasant Truth by Rene Magritte, 1966, oil on canvas