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Discovered the cause of optical illusions

By [admin](#) • Nov. 10, 2008

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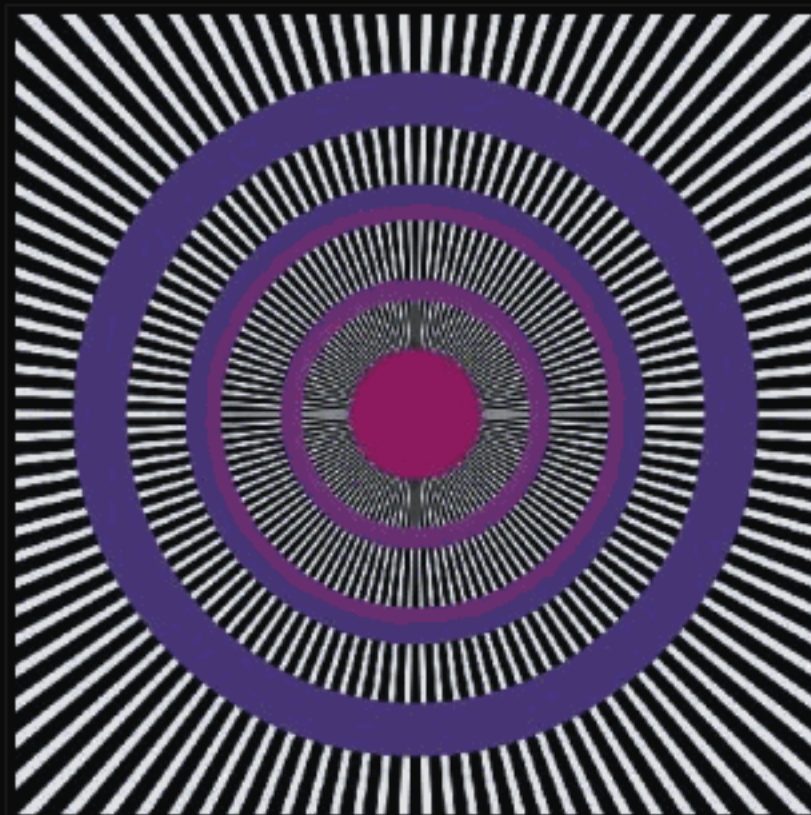
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In 1981 it became a famous painting of **island Leviant** entitled **Enigma**. Was composed of concentric circles that by looking, produced an optical illusion of movement.

27 years later, the neurologist Susana Martinez-Conde and his team at the **Barrow Neurological Institute** in Phoenix (USA) seem to have discovered the cause of this phenomenon after making an experiment to see if the effect is related to small involuntary movements of the Known as **microsacadas** eyes. It appears that these movements without visual perception vanishes.



The study consisted of recording eye movements of three volunteers while watching paint Enigma. Individuals had to push a button when they appeared that the speed of motion generated by the optical illusion was beginning to fall and drop when you accelerate. The scientists found that the illusion is intensified when the microsacadas took place over pace. By contrast, when the pace down the illusion faded.

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