

Giorgio de Chirico use of oil paint represent a strong contrast between light and darkness. Through the use of this shadowy effect in this painting suggests the eerie tension as the little girl playing a hoop heads towards the darker surrounding area. His imagery suggests child's play and innocence which were an on-going interest for the surrealists as emotions and child's play creates a dreamlike quality to the painting.

1

Through the use of a limited palette gives appearance of a dream like world. Through the use of rectilinear buildings the feeling of an endless journeys or dream is created as they become stretch as far the eye can see.

1

De Chirico paints a metaphysical art using limited ranges of colour to push us to a point where the banal street could be seen in a sinister way yet it disturbingly beautiful creating a ominous feeling as the sense of reality beyond the conscious mind (1).

2



Through the use of geometric forms of the painting the dreams and reality applies to De Chirico painting of Mystery and melancholy as the work relates to the unconscious mind where we see shadowy archways and desolate streets giving a dream like atmosphere of haunting beauty. Andre Breton, the leader of surrealists described its purpose as trying to resolve the previously contradictory conditions of dream and reality into an absolute reality, a super reality or surreality.

2

Through the process of minimising angular forms through light and shadow de Chirico creates an atmosphere of anxiety. This could suggest the state of the world as the world was approaching the first world war. As the process De Chirico uses creates a coexistence between the polar opposites through light and darkness in order to reflect the mind.

