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Engineering News

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Kingdom, Yoonessi & Gheorghiu: The Leaning Tower Illusion

Posted May 16, 2007 9:13 AM

From Neural Correlate Society - Best Visual Illusion of the Year Contest:



Here is a novel illusion that is as striking as it is simple. The two images of the Leaning Tower of Pisa are identical, yet one has the impression that the tower on the right leans more, as if photographed from a different angle. The reason for this is because the visual system treats the two images as if part of a single scene. Normally, if two adjacent towers rise at the same angle, their image outlines converge as they recede from view due to perspective, and this is taken into account by the visual system.

[Read the whole article](#)

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"Perplexity is the beginning of knowledge." -- Kahlil Gibran

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