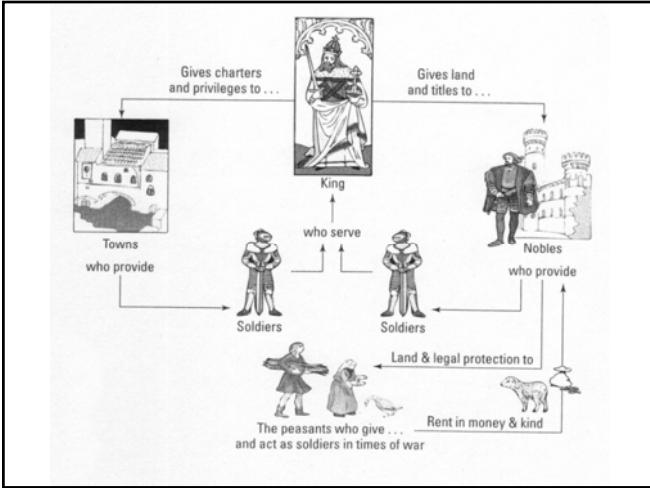
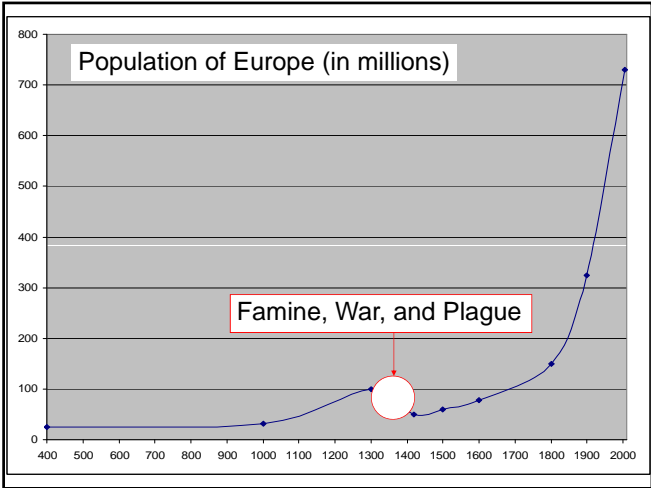




- ### Renaissance Outline
- The Rise of the City
 - Pre-Renaissance Authors (to about 1370)
 - Individual geniuses, The “Three Fountains”
 - (Renaissance) Humanism
 - The Florentine period (to the 1470's)
 - Civic Humanism
 - Medici patronage, Great artists
 - After 1470's, the Renaissance spreads to Rome and becomes more courtly. After 1500, it crosses the Alps.

- ### The Rise of the City
- Two consequences of the Black Plague
 - The poor were empowered by the shortage of labor.
 - Consolidation of family fortunes.
 - "Stadluft macht frei!" (City air makes you free.)
 - Serfs might flee their feudal lords for the city.
 - The city was a place where people might have the opportunity to rise above their 'station' in life.
 - Cities served as centers of trade and industry
 - Cities gave rise to a new 'middle class'.
 - Some cities were essentially run by guilds associations of merchants of the same trade, formed to protect mutual interests and maintain standards, e.g., bakers, cobblers, stone masons, carpenters, etc.





Florence, Italy – Birthplace of the Renaissance

Florence, Italy



- A center of medieval European trade and finance, the city is often called the birthplace of the Renaissance.
- Evidence in support of this position:
 - Writers: Links to Dante, Petrarch, and especially Boccaccio
 - Medici Family: Bankers, patrons of the arts
 - Art and Architecture: Brunelleschi, Donatello, Masaccio, Botticelli, Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, and Raphael all worked there.

The “Three Fountains” of Italian Renaissance Poetry

- Dante (1265-1321)
 - The “Father of the Italian language”
 - The *Divine Comedy* (1308-1321)
- Petrarch (1304-1374)
 - “Father of Humanism”
- Boccaccio (1313-1375)
 - The *Decameron* (1350-1353)



Dante and *The Divine Comedy*

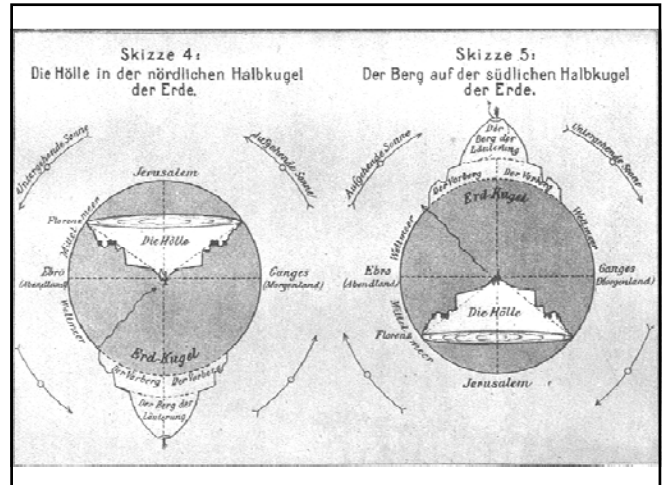
- Dante (1265 –1321) was an Italian poet from Florence.
- *The Divine Comedy*, written between 1308 and his death in 1321, is widely considered the central epic poem of Italian literature, and is seen as one of the greatest works of world literature. A culmination of the medieval world-view of the afterlife, it helped establish the Tuscan dialect in which it is written as the Italian standard.



A painting with Dante before the world of the *Comedia*.

How is Dante representative of his time? (Between the Middle Ages and the Renaissance)

- **Medieval:**
 - Devoutly Christian.
 - Literal interpretation of the bible.
 - Ignorant of Greek.
- **Modern:**
 - An original thinker who rejects old rules.
 - Writes in Italian, his native tongue.
 - Very critical of the powers that be, including the Catholic Church.



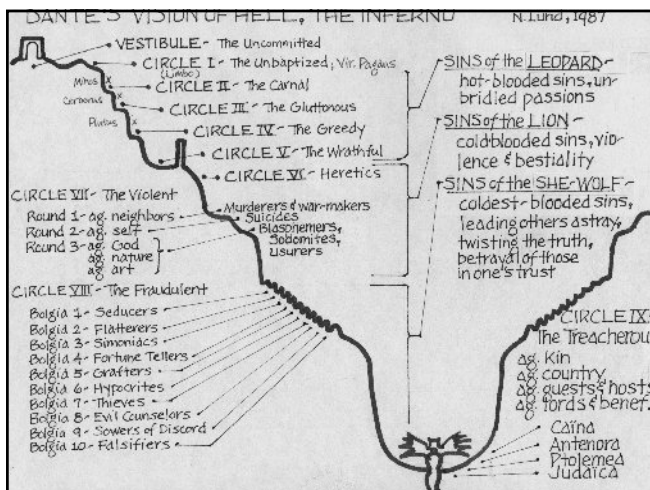
Nine Circles of Hell

- First Circle (Limbo)
- Second Circle (Lust)
- Third Circle (Gluttony)
- Fourth Circle (Avarice or Greed)
- Fifth Circle (Wrath and Sullenness)
- Sixth Circle (Heresy)
- Seventh Circle (Violence)
- Eighth Circle (Fraud)
- Ninth Circle (Betrayal)



Second Circle: Lust

- Helen of Troy
- Cleopatra
- Achilles
 - Dante thought Achilles was in love with Polyxena, a daughter of Priam.
 - Medieval view of Achilles based on Latin writings.
 - Nobody knew Greek.
 - Nobody read Homer.





Petrarch (1304-1374)



- The “Father of Humanism”
- The son of a notary, he grew up in exile.
- Learned Latin (fluently) at a young age.
- He was concerned with who he was and how he related to the world. He couldn't find the answers he was looking for in medieval theology or philosophy, so he sought answers in ancient (Latin) literature.

Petrarch, Father of Humanism

- He found that the style of ancient Latin was much more clear and pleasing than medieval Latin.
- According to Petrarch, clear, persuasive language (like Cicero's) is a virtue in itself, because it provides a guide to correct information and convinces the audience to follow the right path.
- Petrarch discerned an indissoluble link between good letters, good thoughts, and good men.

Renaissance Humanism

- Renaissance humanism was a European intellectual movement that was a crucial component of the Renaissance, beginning in Florence in the latter half of the 14th century.
- The humanist movement developed from the rediscovery of Latin and Greek literary texts by European scholars.
- By the mid-15th century, humanism described a curriculum — the *studia humanitatis* — comprising grammar, rhetoric, moral philosophy, poetry and history.

Renaissance Humanism

- The humanists were often critical of Scholastic scholars, philosophers, and theologians.
- Renaissance humanists tended to focus relatively more attention on Plato's dialogues (some of which were brought from the dying Byzantine Empire to Western Europe for the first time) and less attention on the Aristotelian texts that had already been so intensively studied by scholastics during the High Middle Ages.

Humanism is associated with...

1. A fascination with the literary culture of classical antiquity (ex. Petrarch)
2. A devotion to, and education in, the liberal arts (but not necessarily theology)
3. A concern for human beings (ex. Pico della Mirandola)
4. Civic humanism
5. A preoccupation with this world (ex. Machiavelli)

Pico della Mirandola (1463-1494)

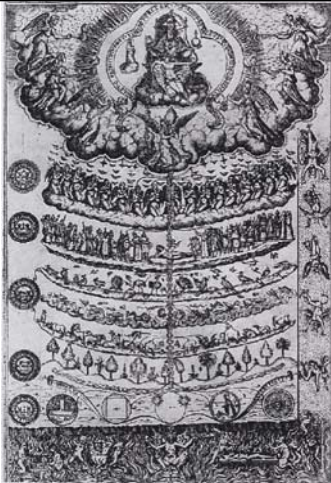
In *Oration on the Dignity of Man* (1486), which has been called the "Manifesto of the Renaissance," Pico wrote the following concerning the creation of the universe and man's place in it...



From *Oration on the Dignity of Man*

"But when [creation] was finished, [God] kept wishing that there were someone to ponder the plan of so great a work, to love its beauty, and to wonder at its vastness. Therefore, [God created Adam and] addressed him thus:

... The nature of all other beings is limited and constrained within the bounds of law. Thou shalt have the power to degenerate into the lower forms of life, which are brutish. Thou shalt have the power, out of thy soul's judgement, to be born into the higher forms, which are divine."



Civic Humanism

- Florence converted Petrarch's Humanism - the study of ancient texts and their application to contemporary life - into Civic Humanism.
- Education in classical literature
 - Hope that readers would emulate the values found in classical literature
 - Cicero was taken as an ideal by some
 - Example of balancing family life and public service
 - Florence likened itself to Rome: emphasizing the liberty of free citizens and republican government
 - Rhetoric replaces strict logic
 - Florence became an environment of graceful language.
 - A humanistic education was key for social mobility.

Civic Humanism

- The belief that the community should benefit from the collective wealth and talent of the city was a key principle of Civic Humanism, and the beautification of the city formed a major part of this belief.
- These public works also served to clean the money and reputations of people who made their living through usury, lending money and charging interest, which was considered a sin.

The Medici Family

- Giovanni de' Medici (1360–1429)
 - Founded the Medici Bank
- Cosimo de' Medici (1389-1464)
 - Under Cosimo, the Medici became the *de facto* rulers of Florence.
- Lorenzo de' Medici (1449-1492)
 - Continued his grandfather's great patronage of the arts.
- And many others, including two popes:
 - Pope Leo X (1512-1513)
 - Pope Clement VII (1519-1523)



Cosimo de' Medici

- Ruled Florence from 1434 to 1464
– *Pater Patriae* (Father of the Country)
- Supported the acquisition and translation of ancient manuscripts.
- Supported the Platonic Academy
- Patron of the arts:
– Marsilio Ficino, Brunelleschi, Donatello, Fra Angelico, etc.



1453 - The Fall of Constantinople

- A thousand years after the fall of Rome, the Eastern Roman Empire, which had become Byzantium, fell to the Ottoman Empire
- Refugees fled to the West.



Marsilio Ficino (1433-1499)

- Humanist philosopher
- One of the first Europeans to learn to read ancient Greek, he translated Plato's complete extant works into Latin.
- Lead the Platonic Academy, a discussion group modeled after Plato's school.
- Tutored Lorenzo de Medici and Pico della Mirandola.



Lorenzo de Medici

- Grandson of Cosimo
- Ruled Florence from 1469-1492
- Accomplished vernacular poet
- Laurentian patronage of learning
– University of Pisa
– Greek as export from Florence
- Patron of: Leonardo da Vinci, Sandro Botticelli, Michelangelo, Giovanni Pico della Mirandola



A (mostly) Chronological Review of Renaissance Art and Architecture

(Beginning in the late Middle Ages)

The Renaissance Style

- Classical influence, Christian subject matter
- The Renaissance aesthetic
 - Realistic and beautiful
 - Balance, symmetry, linear perspective
 - Subjects have depth and volume
 - Emotional content
 - High Renaissance: dramatic use of color
- Triangular (pyramidal) composition
- Art as the independent achievement of the (well-known) artist.

Giotto (1266?-1337)

- Realism
 - Depth, volume through use of light and dark
 - Three-dimensional modeling of figures
- Naturalistic style
 - Emotion and drama



Cimabue, c. 1285

Giotto, c. 1308

Scrovegni Chapel

- The Scrovegni Chapel, also known as the Arena Chapel, is a church in Padua, Italy.
- The Chapel contains a cycle of 38 frescoes by Giotto, completed about 1305, that is one of the masterpieces of Western art.
- Many believe that the Enrico Scrovegni built the chapel in penitence for his father's sins (usury, they were bankers).



The Kiss of Judas, Giotto, in the Scrovegni Chapel



Lamentation of Christ, Giotto, in the Scrovegni Chapel



Florence Baptistery (Giotto's bell tower on the right)

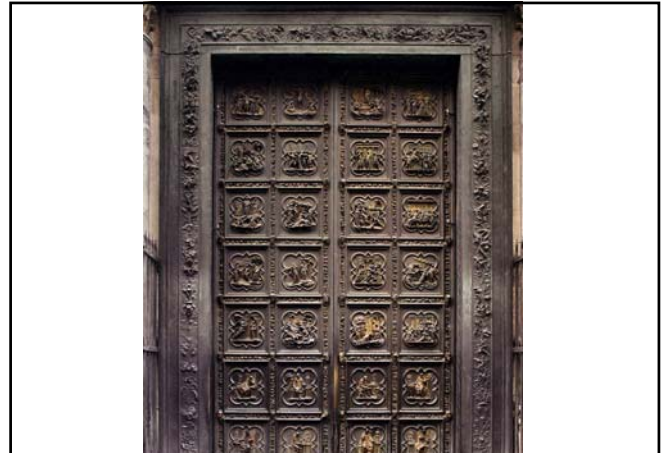
Florence Baptistery: North Door competition, 1401

- Lorenzo Ghiberti (1378-1455)
 - Trained as a goldsmith, then sculptor
 - East Doors = “Gates of Paradise”
- Filippo Brunelleschi (1377-1466)
 - Trained as a sculptor with Ghiberti
 - First to demonstrate geometric (linear) perspective, c. 1415



Brunelleschi, *The Sacrifice of Isaac* (1401-1402)

Ghiberti, *The Sacrifice of Isaac* (1401-1402)

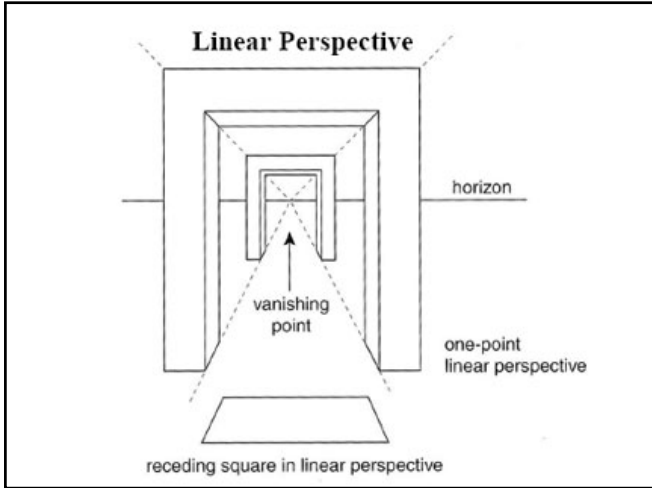


Ghiberti, North doors of the Baptistery (1402-1425)



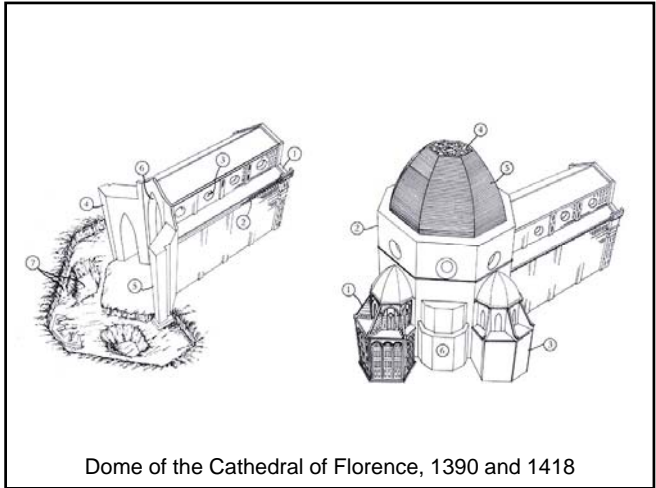
Ghiberti, East doors of the Baptistery (1425-1452)





Filippo Brunelleschi (1377-1466)

- After losing the door competition, Brunelleschi (and his friend Donatello) visited Rome to study the ancient Roman ruins around 1402-1404.
- Supported by Cosimo de' Medici, Brunelleschi built the dome to finish the Florence Cathedral, 1420-1436.
- He also designed the Pazzi Chapel and the Foundling Hospital
 - Reaffirmation of Classical ideals
 - Inspired by Roman arches and Corinthian columns





Brunelleschi, Pazzi Chapel (1430-1433)



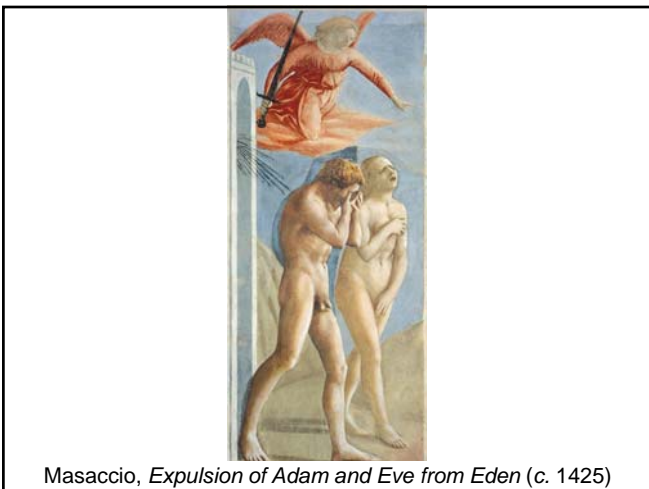
Brunelleschi, Foundling Hospital (1419-1426)

Masaccio (1401-1428)

- *Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden* (c. 1425)
 - Profound sense of emotion
 - “...brought into existence the modern style”
- *The Tribute Money* (c. 1427)
 - Realistic depiction of human beings
- *The Holy Trinity* (c. 1428)
 - Clarity of line, perspective, realism



Brancacci Chapel, Basilica of Santa Maria del Carmine



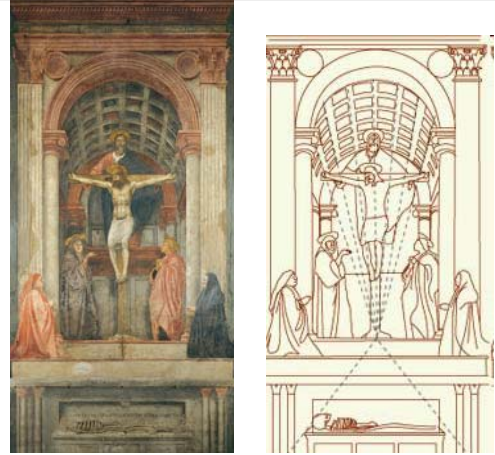
Masaccio, *Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden* (c. 1425)



Masaccio, *The Tribute Money* (c. 1427)

Naturalism

“Masaccio’s frescoes are still presented as one of the seminal moments of Renaissance naturalism, and naturalism is still the sine qua non of Western art. The young Michelangelo studied in the Brancacci Chapel, diligently copying Masaccio’s figures, and generations of art historians have put the Brancacci Chapel among the highest Renaissance achievements. It remains famous for its amazing realism: the feeling that the figures are standing, with us, in our space, breathing real air and walking on real ground.”



Masaccio, *The Holy Trinity* (c. 1428)

I was what you are, and what I am, you shall be.



Some recipients of the patronage of Cosimo de' Medici.

- Donatello (1386-1466)
 - Sculptor
- Michelozzo (1396-1472)
 - Architect
- Fra Angelico (1387-1455)
 - Painter, Dominican friar

Donatello (1386-1466)

- Assisted Ghiberti with the north door artwork.
- In 1417 he completed the St. George for the Confraternity of the Cuirass-makers. The elegant St. George and the Dragon relief on the statue's base is one of the first examples of central-point perspective in sculpture.
- Donatello's David was the first known free-standing nude statue produced since ancient times.



Donatello, *David* (1428-1432)

Some recipients of the patronage of Lorenzo de' Medici.

- Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510)
- Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)
- Michelangelo (1475-1564)



Sandro Botticelli, *Adoration of the Magi* (1475)



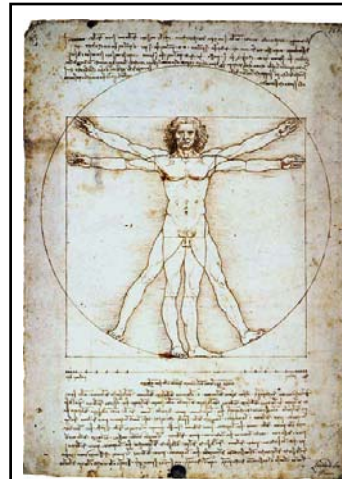
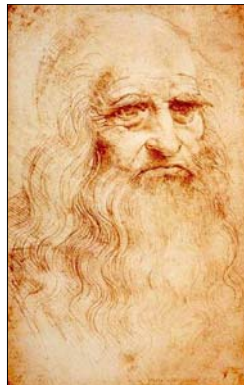
Botticelli, *La Primavera* (c. 1478)



Botticelli, *The Birth of Venus* (c. 1482)

Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

- Ideal "Renaissance" man.
- From the town of Vinci
- Illegitimate son of a lawyer
- Restless, moved often, left much unfinished.
- Only a handful (~15) of his paintings survive.



The *Vitruvian Man* is a famous drawing by Leonardo da Vinci made around the year 1492 in one of his journals.

It is an example of the blending of art and scientific thought during the Renaissance.



Leonardo, *The Last Supper* (c. 1495-1498)



L.d.V., *Mona Lisa* or *La Gioconda* (c. 1503-06)

Michelangelo (1475 –1564)

- Michelangelo was an Italian Renaissance sculptor, painter, architect and poet.
- Born near Florence to a middle-class family.
- Apprenticed at the age of 13, but left after one year to go the Medici 'Academy.'
- Made *Pieta* at the age of 24.



Michelangelo, *Pieta* (1498-1499)



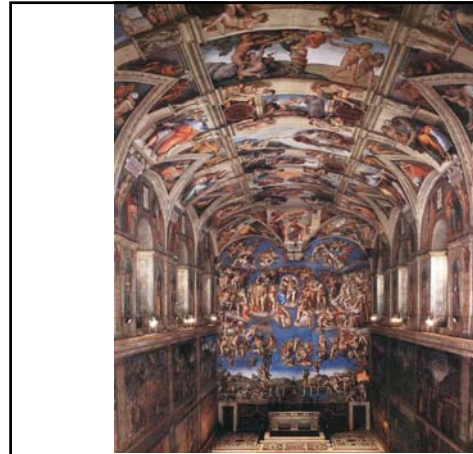
Michelangelo, *David* (1501-1504)



Palazzo Vecchio, Overlooking the Piazza della Signoria



Michelangelo's Slaves (Aka the Boboli Captives)

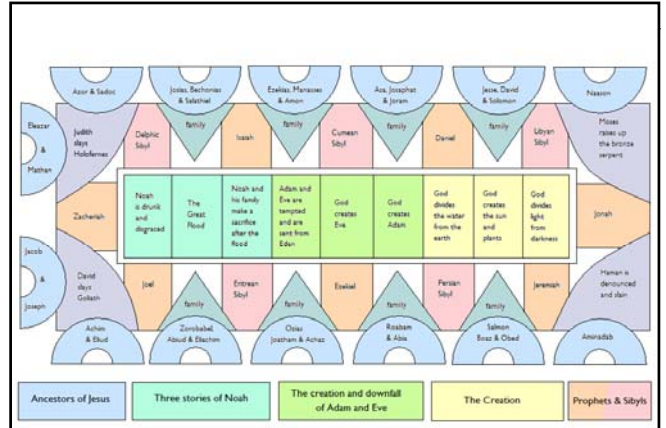


Commissioned by Pope Julius II

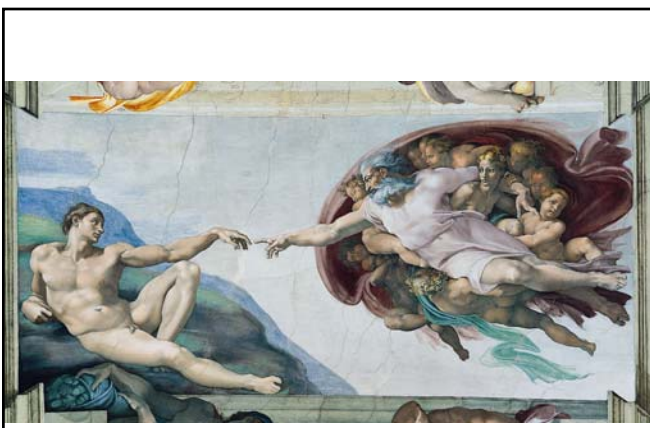
The Sistine Chapel



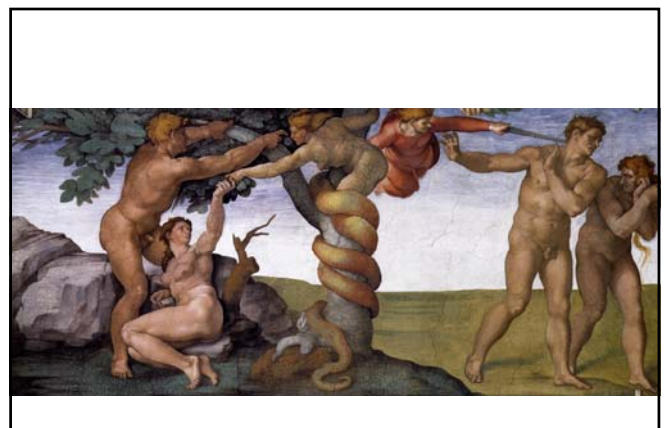
Ceiling of the Sistine Chapel, Michelangelo, 1508-1512



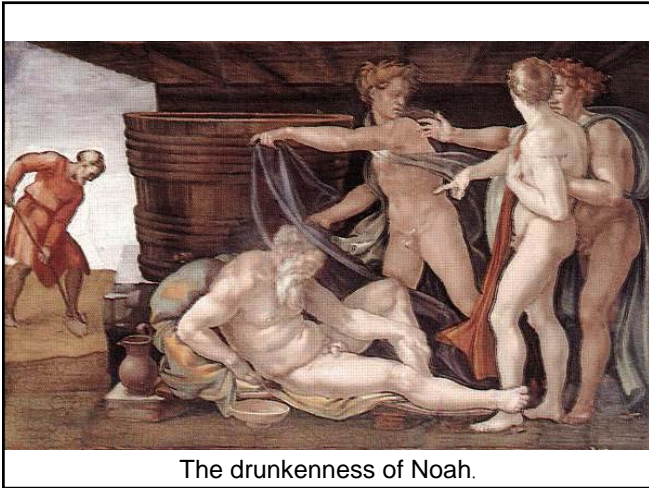
<http://www.wga.hu/tours/sistina/index1.html>



The Creation of Adam



Michelangelo, The Fall and Expulsion, 1508-1512.



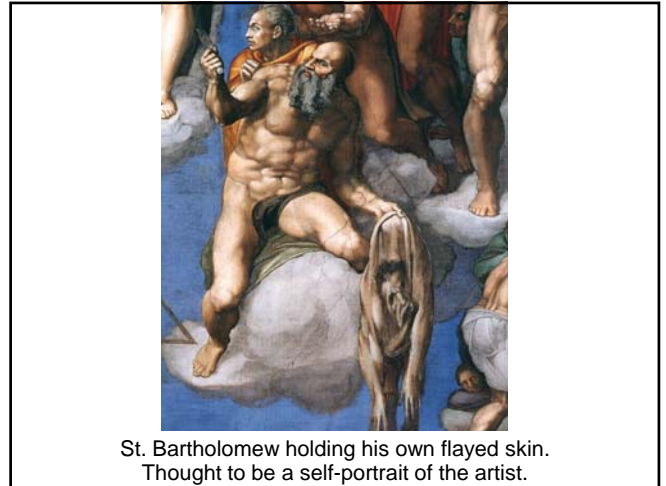
The drunkenness of Noah.



- The Sistine Chapel in Rome
- Michelangelo painted the ceiling around 1508-1512
- He painted *The Last Judgment* c. 1538



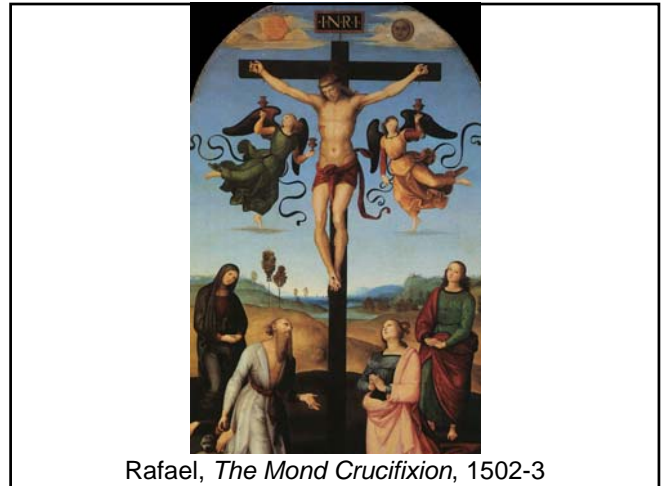
Michelangelo's *The Last Judgment*; circa 1538.



St. Bartholomew holding his own flayed skin. Thought to be a self-portrait of the artist.

Raphael (1483-1520)

- Born and trained in Urbino
- High Renaissance style
- 1504-1508 studied in Florence
- 1508-1520 worked in Rome
- Prodigious output



Rafael, *The Mond Crucifixion*, 1502-3





Raphael, *Madonna of the Meadow*, 1508.



Raphael, *The School of Athens*, 1509-1510.

The Book of the Courtier

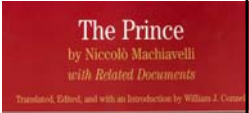

- Baldassare Castiglione (1478-1529)
- *The Courtier* addresses the subject of what constitutes a perfect courtier.
- The courtier is described as having a cool mind, good knowledge of the humanities, Classics and fine arts, a good voice (with beautiful, elegant and brave words) along with proper bearing and gestures.
- At the same time though, the courtier is expected to be athletic and to have a warrior spirit.

Rafael, *Portrait of Baldassare Castiglione*, c. 1515

Niccolò Machiavelli (1469-1527)

- *The Prince* (written 1513)
 - Secular study of political theory
 - Inspired by Republican Rome
- Realistic pragmatism
 - Success in governing is key to power, “*The end justifies the means.*”
 - Wisdom and ruthlessness
 - Christianity’s (Rome’s) role in politics is disastrous (from the Florentine perspective).

Women and the Renaissance

- Humanistic education possible:
 - Aristocratic families saw education as a priority
 - Rise of printing / accessibility of books
- Woman writers from two sources:
 - Upper-class culture
 - Convent life
- However, women were still criticized if they didn’t follow traditional roles.

Significant Years of the Renaissance

1397	Medici Bank founded
1420-1436	Brunelleschi completes the <i>Duomo</i>
1428	Masaccio’s <i>The Holy Trinity</i>
1434-64	Cosimo de Medici rules Florence
1453	Fall of Constantinople
1456	Printing press: <i>Gutenberg Bible</i>
1469-92	Lorenzo de Medici rules Florence
1498	Leonardo’s <i>The Last Supper</i>
1504	Michelangelo’s <i>David</i>
1509	Raphael’s <i>School of Athens</i>
1513	Machiavelli’s <i>The Prince</i>
1513-21	Pope Leo X (son of Lorenzo de Medici)
1523-34	Pope Clement VII (nephew of Lorenzo)