

# Art of the Italian Renaissance



## Focus on the Individual

Sculptors, artists, and architects combined classical ideas with the humanists idea of emphasis on the individual.

Florentine sculptor  
Donatello's *David*

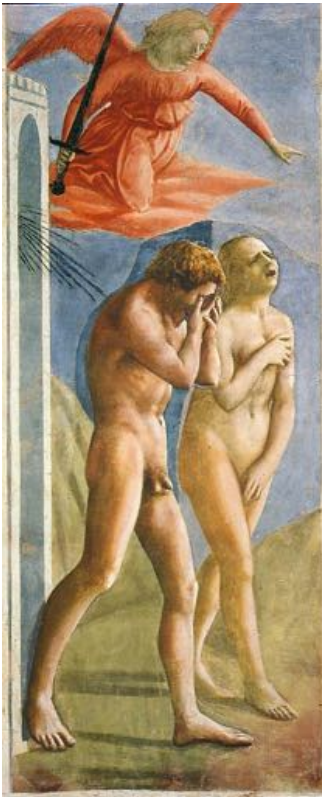


Michelangelo's *David*  
exemplifies the  
idealistic human body  
and the Renaissance  
focus on the individual.



# Realism & Expression

First nudes since classical times.

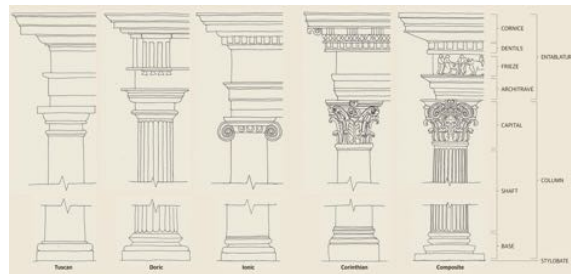


Expulsion from the Garden  
Masaccio, 1427

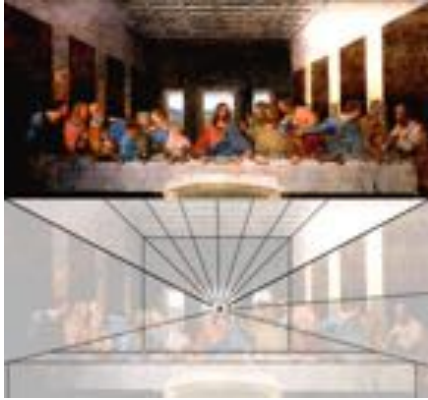


# Classicism

The first major revival of classicism occurred during the Renaissance.



# Perspective



Most artists in Medieval Europe had never actually seen heaven, so the background was left to the imagination and the teachings of the church.

When people became more interested in the world around them and the ideas of other people rather than heaven and the teachings of the Church, landscapes and buildings began to show up in paintings.

Perspective  
Perspective!  
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Perspective!

Renaissance painters needed to be able to translate the three-dimensional world around them onto the two-dimensional surface of a painting, called the "picture plane." The solution was "linear perspective," the idea that converging lines meet at a single vanishing point and all shapes get smaller in all directions with increasing distance from the eye.



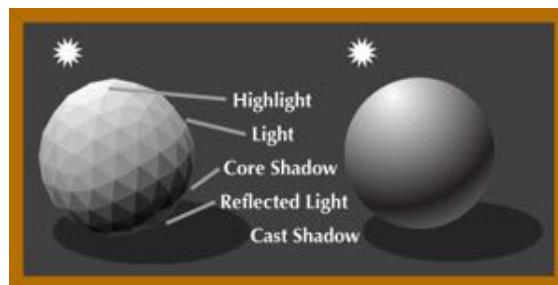
# Use of Light and Shadowing

## Chiaroscuro

the use of strong contrasts between light and dark



Artemisia Gentileschi  
*Judith Slaying Holofernes* (1614–20)  
Oil on canvas  
Galleria degli Uffizi, Florence.



## Sfumato

Sfumato means "to tone down" or "to evaporate like smoke."

The most prominent practitioner of sfumato was Leonard da Vinci, who described sfumato as "without lines or borders, in the manner of smoke or beyond the focus plane."



Leonardo da Vinci  
*Mona Lisa*



**Example of Medieval Art:**

Giotto

*Ognissanti Madonna*

1310

Tempera on panel

325 cm × 204 cm

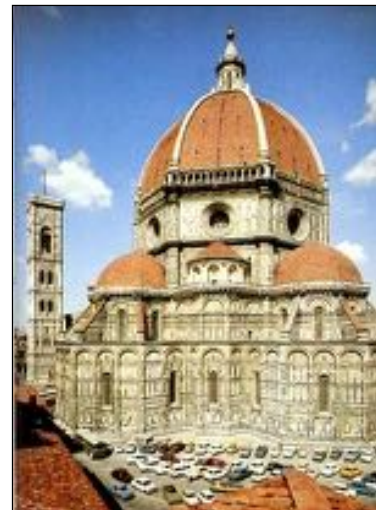
Uffizi Gallery, Florence

Filippo Brunelleschi

Architect

Cuppolo of St. Maria  
del Fiore

1436





## Lorenzo Ghiberti

### East doors, or *Gates of Paradise*

part of the Baptistry of Saint John in the Piazza del Duomo and the Piazza di San Giovanni, across from Basilica di Santa Maria del Fiore and the Campanile di Giotto, Florence



This panel depicts the story of Joseph, including his sale into slavery, the gold cup in Benjamin's sack of grain and Joseph revealing himself to his brothers.

## A Contest to Decorate the Cathedral: *Sacrifice of Isaac* Panels

### Brunelleschi



### Ghiberti





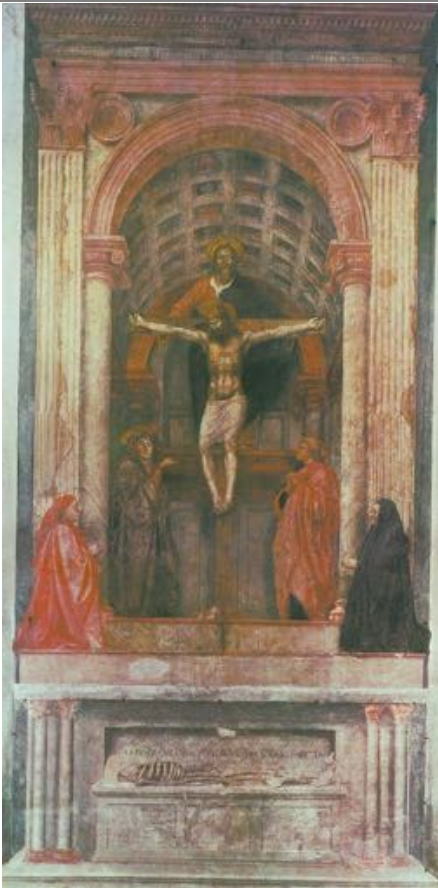
Brunelleschi

*Crucifix*

1410-1415

wooden sculpture

Gondi Chapel of Santa Maria Novella,  
Florence



Masaccio, *The Trinity*

1425-28

Fresco, 667 x 317 cm

Santa Maria Novella, Florence



Masaccio,  
*The Expulsion from the Garden of Eden*

1426-28

Fresco, 208 x 88 cm

Brancacci Chapel of Santa Maria della Carmine in  
Florence



Fra Angelico

*Deposition of Christ*

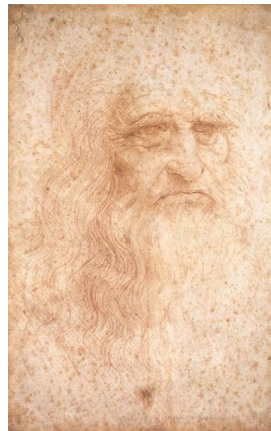
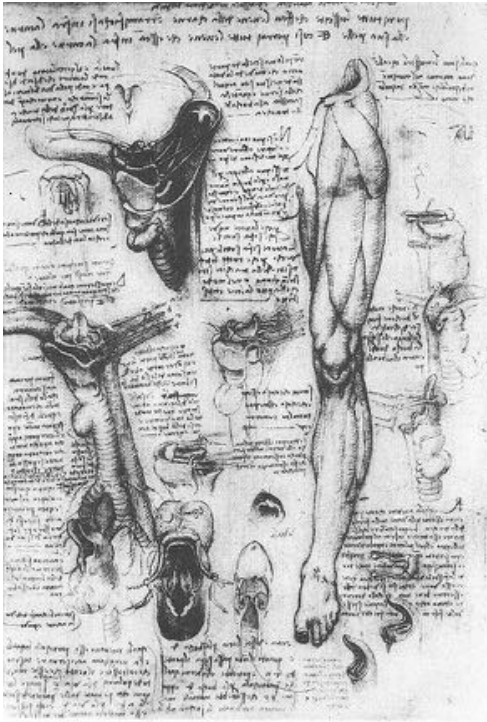
1432-1434

Tempera on panel

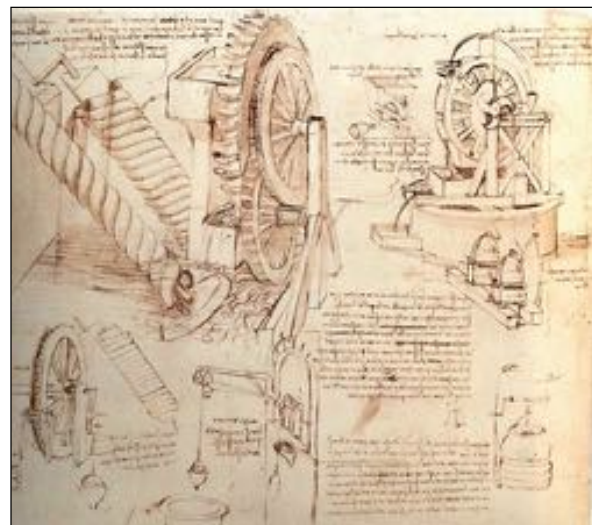
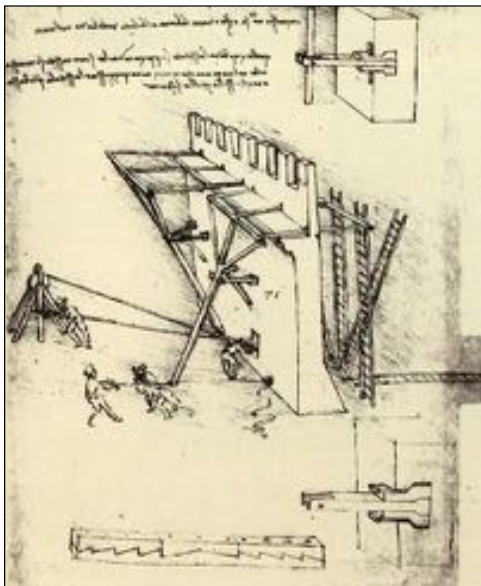
176 cm × 185 cm

National Museum of San Marco, Florence

Leonardo da Vinci,  
*Notebooks*  
1476-1508



Leonardo, the Engineer  
Pages from his *Notebook*



A study of siege defenses.

Studies of water-lifting devices.





Sandro Botticelli,

Primavera

1482

Medium oil on panel

203 × 314 cm

Uffizi Gallery, Florence



Leonardo da Vinci

*Virgin of the Rocks*

1483-1486

Medium oil on panel

198 × 123 cm

Louvre Museum, Paris



Sandro Botticelli

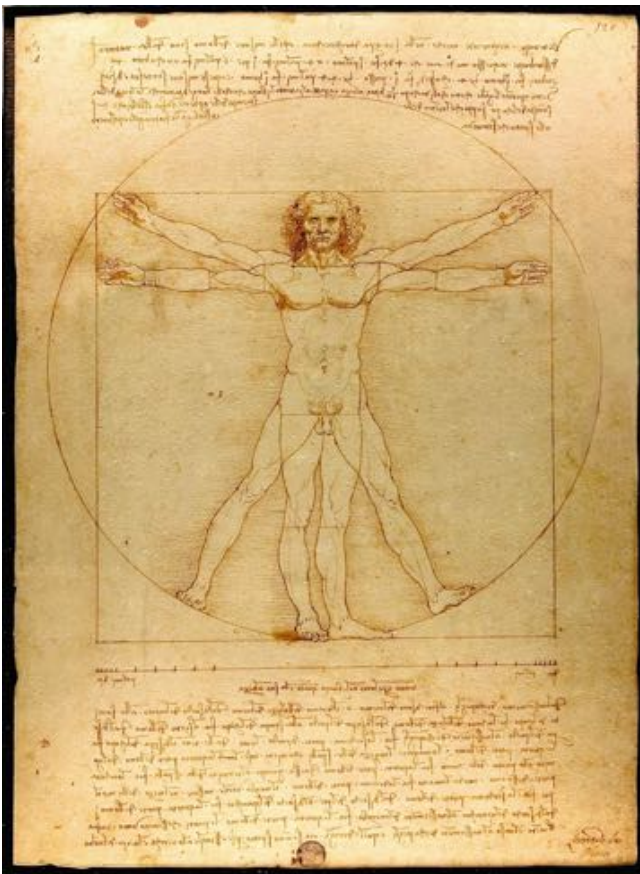
*The Birth of Venus*

1486

tempera on canvas

172.5 cm × 278.9 cm

Uffizi, Florence



Leonardo da Vinci

*Vitruvian Man*

1490

Pen and ink with wash over  
metalpoint on paper

34.4 cm × 25.5 cm

Accademia di Belle Arti,  
Venice, Italy



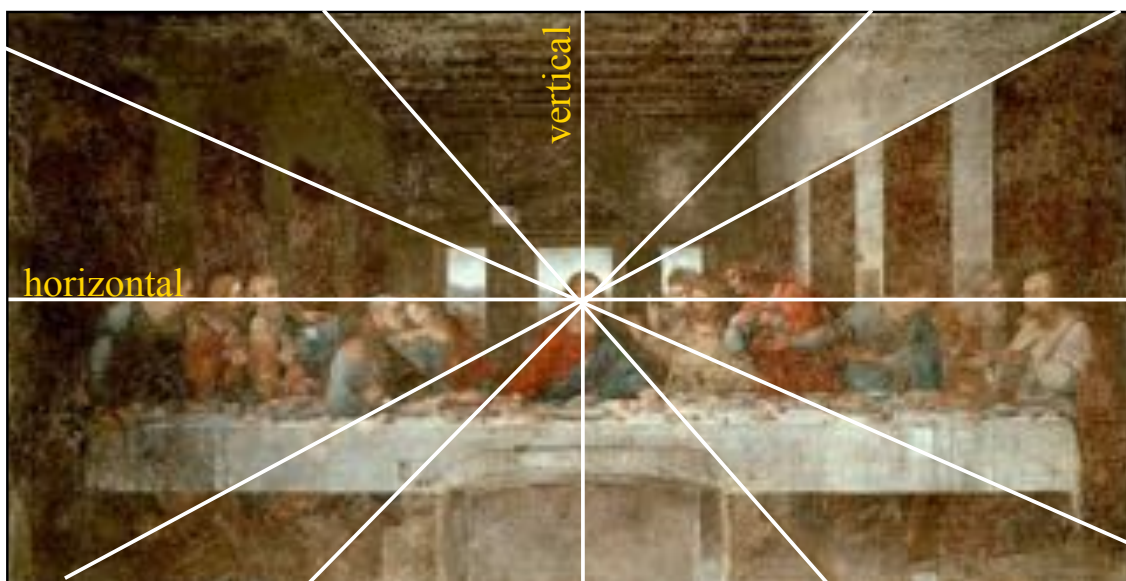
Leonardo da Vinci, *The Last Supper*

1498

Fresco 460 x 880 cm

Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie (Refectory), Milan

## *The Last Supper* - perspective!



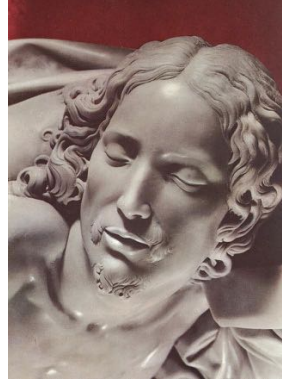
# Michelangelo

## *La Pieta*

1499

Marble Sculpture

St. Peter's Basilica, Vatican, Rome

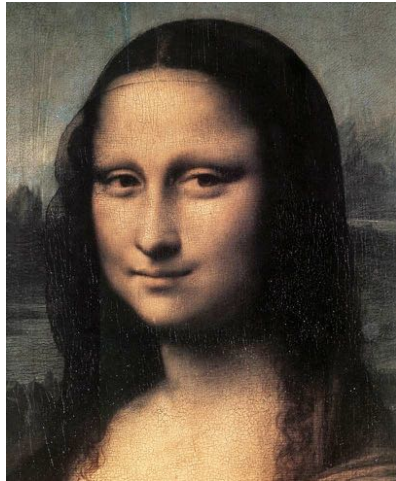


# Michelangelo's *David*

1501-1504



Leonardo's  
*Mona Lisa*  
1503-1506



Michelangelo  
*Sistine Chapel*

1508-1512

Fresco, 40.5 m x 14.0 m

Vatican, Rome



## Sistine Chapel

About a year after creating David, Pope Julius II summoned Michelangelo to Rome to work on his most famous project, the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel.



Creation of Eve



Creation of Adam



Separation of Light and Darkness



The Last Judgment

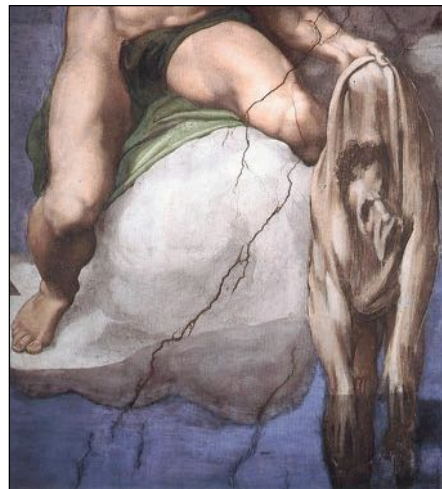




## *The Sistine Chapel Details*



The Last Judgment









Raphael Santi, *The School of Athens*

1509-10

Stanza della Segnatura, Palazzi Vaticani, Rome

Fresco, 770 cm wide



Pythagoras



Socrates



Plato and Aristotle

Raphael (back)

Euclid



Zoroaster & Ptolemy



Raphael  
*Portrait of Pope Julius II, The Liberation of St. Peter,*  
1511-1512



Raphael  
*The Liberation of St. Peter,*  
1514





Benvenuto Cellini

*Perseus with the Head of  
Medusa*

1545 - 1554

Bronze

at the Loggia della Signoria, a  
building on a corner of the Piazza  
della Signoria adjoining the Uffizi  
Gallery in Florence, Italy