The AGE of the ITALIAN RENAISSANCE
Dr. Nikolaus Hohmann

Renaissance FLORENCE

Lorenzo GHIBERTI (c. 1378 – 1455)
- wins the commissions for the new doors to the Baptisterium, (1403 and 1425)
  - quatrefoils and panels
  - *I Commentarii* (which included an autobiography)

- Michelangelo’s praise: the doors are “worthy of the Gates of Paradise”
- Giorgio Vasari: “undeniably perfect in every way and must rank as the finest masterpiece ever created”

Filippo BRUNELLESCHI (c. 1377 – 1446)
- wins the commission to build the “impossible” dome for the new cathedral of Florence
  - the Duomo / Santa Maria del Fiori (St. Mary of the Flowers)

- Emphasis on balance and harmony: the arithmetic ratios that determine musical harmony must also govern architecture -- for harmony occurs throughout the universe, and it must therefore be divine in nature

- for drawing and painting: the development of the technique “linear perspective” based on a “vanishing point”

- renovation and a dome for San Lorenzo (for the Medici family)

- a new Medici palazzo
  - 3 stories of graded sequence topped by a cornice
  - rustication

Guillaume DUFAY (c. 1400 — 1474)
- writes music for the dedication of the new cathedral of Florence
  (*Nuper Rosarum Flores*)

SCULPTURE

Statues for the church of San Michele in Florence

- Nanno di Bianco

- DONATELLO (c. 1386 – 1466)
  - *DAVID*
  - equestrian statue of the Venetian general Gattamelata in PADUA
PAINTING

FRA ANGELICO (c. 1400 – 1455)
-ANNUNCIATION

Tommaso di Ser Giovanni MASACCIO (c. 1401 – 1430)

-Madonna and St.Anne
-The TRIBUTE MONEY (in the Brancacci Chapel, Florence)
-techniques: linear perspective, atmospheric perspective, chiaroscuro [“clear / dark”]
-continuous narration

Fra FILIPPO LIPPI (c. 1406 – 1469)

-MADONNA and CHILD with 2 ANGELS

UCCELLO (c.1397 – 1475)

-BATTLE of SAN ROMANO
-stereometric shapes and foreshortening

Piero della FRANCESCA (c. 1420 – 1492)

-The Legend of the True Cross
-MADONNA and CHILD with SAINTS (and Frederigo da Montefeltro, Duke of Urbino)

Andrea MANTEGNA (c. 1431 – 1506)

-the Gonzaga family in Mantua
-The Circumcision of Christ
-“the wet-drapery look”
-St. Sebastian
-unusual vanishing points
-TONDO

The “NORTHERN RENAISSANCE”

Jan VAN EYCK (c. 1390 – 1441)

-Madonna and Child with Chancellor Rodin (1435)
-The Arnolfini Portrait (the Wedding Portrait / 1434)
-Portrait of a Man (possible self-portrait / 1433)
-the Bruges Madonna (1436)

Rogier VAN DER WEYDEN (c. 1400 – 1464)

-Descent from the Cross
-Antoine, Marshall of the Lists

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at nhohmann@sfc.edu