The AGE of the ITALIAN RENAISSANCE

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Renaissance FLORENCE

Cosimo de’MEDICI (c.1389 – 1464)
- establishes the PLATONIC ACADEMY
  led by:
  - Marsilio FICINO (c.1433-1499) / Theologica Platonica
  - the ideal of PLATONIC LOVE

Lorenzo de’MEDICI (c.1449 – 1492)
- vs Pope SIXTUS IV (Francesco della Rovere / 1414 / r. 1471 – 1484)
  - the Pazzi Conspiracy (1478)
    - assassination of Guiliano de’Medici

Andrea del VERROCCHIO (c.1435 – 1488)
- DAVID
- equestrian statue of the Venetian general Colleoni in Venice

Pico della MIRANDOLA (c.1463 – 1494)
- The 900 Theses (to reconcile Christianity with the philosophy of Plato)
  > NEO-PLATONISM
- The Oration on the Dignity of Man
  - Truth is eternal and universal; therefore, truth echoes in all cultures
  - the ideal of Renaissance humanism: the great glory that is man

Guillaume DUFAY (c. 1400 – 1474), singer and composer

Sandro BOTTICELLI (c.1444 – 1510)
- SELF-PORTRAIT

- BIRTH of VENUS
  - the Neo-Platonic ideal of Aphrodite (Venus): the goddess of Divine Love
  - the relationship between Beauty and Love:
    objects of physical beauty move the soul to bond with Beauty, which is God, since God is the source of all beauty
{ Sandro BOTTICELLI continued }

- *La PRIMAVERA* (Spring)
  - the transformation of love: from the sensual to the contemplative to the Divine

- *The Adoration of the Magi*
  - a Medici family portrait

- *The ANNUNCIATION*

Domenico GHIRLANDAIO (1449 – 1494)

- *The Madonna Enthroned with Saints*
- *Portrait of Old Man with Child*
- *St.Jerome* (writing the Vulgate)

Pope SIXTUS IV  (Francesco della Rovere / 1414 / r. 1471 – 1484)

- the VATICAN LIBRARY
  - based on the 9,000+ documents collected by Pope Nicholas V [ r. 1447 - 1455 ]

- the SISTINE CHAPEL

PERUGINO (Pietro Vanucci / 1445 — 1523)

- *The DELIVERY of the KEYS*  - the supreme authority of St.Peter
  - receiving the “keys to Heaven”

- *MARY MAGDALEN*

JOSQUIN DESPREZ / DES PRES (c. 1440 — 1521) = The “Prince of Musicians”

- “geometric clarity”
- “word painting”  *El Grillo*

- a master of multiple voice lines = one of his motets has 24 simultaneous parts

- composer and musician for
  - the SFORZA court in the Duchy of Milan
  - the d’ESTE court in the Duchy of Ferrara
  - Louis XII, King of France

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at nhohmann@sfcm.edu
The **HIGH RENAISSANCE** (part 1)

Leonardo DA VINCI (1452 – 1519)
- studied in the workshop of Andrea del Verrocchio
- “the science of vision”

- *Ginevra de' Benci*  
  *Virtutem forma Decorat* (“Beauty is the ornament of virtue”)

- *Girl with Ermine*
- *The Virgin of the Rocks*

- *The Last Supper* (completed 1497)
  - refectory of the Sforza monastery Santa Maria delle Grazie
  - DaVinci: the highest and most difficult aim of painting is to depict
  
  “the intention of men’s souls”

The **RENAISSANCE POPES**

includes:

Pope SIXTUS IV (r. 1471 – 1484)

Pope INNOCENT VIII (r. 1484 – 1492)

Pope ALEXANDER VI, Rodrigo de Borja (r. 1492 – 1503) / “the Borgia Pope”

- LUCREZIA BORGIA (1480 – 1519)
  - becomes Duchess of Ferrara (marries into the d’ESTE family)

  [ Victor Hugo (1802 - 1885) and Gaetano Donizetti (1797 - 1848) ]

- CESARE Borgia (1476 – 1507)
  - made Duke of Valence (in France) = IL VALENTINO
  - made Duke of Romagna (1501) and Duke of Urbino (1502) within the Papal States

- Girolamo SAVONAROLA (1452 – 1498)
  - the “Bonfire of the Vanities”

- Niccolo MACHIAVELLI (1469 – 1527)
  - *The Prince* (c. 1513)

Pope JULIUS II (r. 1503 – 1513)

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The **ITALIAN WARS** (1494 — 1559)

- 1494: invasion of Charles VIII, King of France (r. 1483 – 1498)

- 1499: invasion of Louis XII, King of France (r. 1483 – 1498)