

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

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If you have questions or suggestions, please contact me at [nhohmann@sfc.edu](mailto:nhohmann@sfc.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)