

ITALIAN ARTISTS (PAST)

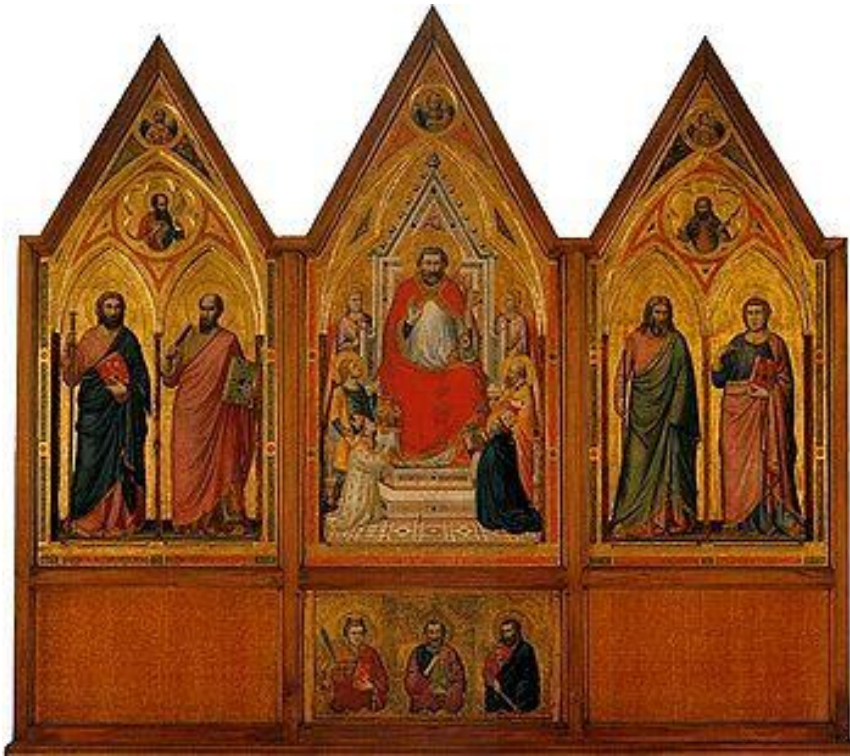


GIOTTO

Giotto was an Italian painter and architect from Florence during the late Middle Age. He worked during the Gothic/Proto-Renaissance period.

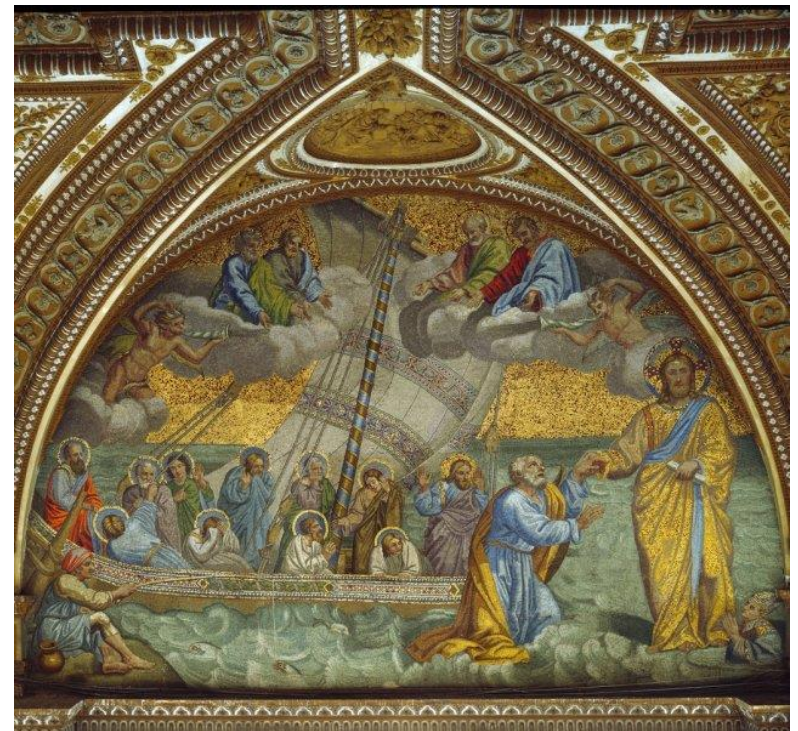
He is described as making a decisive break with the prevalent Byzantine style and as initiating of the great art of painting as we know it today, introducing the technique of drawing accurately from life, which had been neglected for more than 200 years. Giotto's masterwork is the decoration of the Scrovegni Chapel, in Padua, also known as the Arena Chapel.

He was chosen by the city of Florence in 1334 to design the new campanile (bell tower) of the Cathedral



Polittico stefaneschi, Giotto (1320)
This painting is kept in the Vatican
Pinacoteca

Nacelle mosaic, Giotto (1305-1313)
the remains of the mosaic are
found in the atrium of St. Peter's
basilica



PINTURICCHIO

(1454-1513)

Pinturicchio was an Italian painter whose nickname (small painter) derives from his small build. He was a complete artist, capable of mastering both the art of panel painting, the fresco and the miniature, working for some of the most important personalities of his time.

He was one of the great master of the Umbrian school of the second half of the 15^o century, with Pietro Perugino and Raffaello.

He also contributed to the decoration of the Sistine Chapel and Santa Maria del popolo Church in Rome with Caravaggio.

Pinturicchio stands out as one of the architects of the great Renaissance season of rediscovery of classicism: in fact he would be among those who ventured into the roman subsoil, copying the frescoes of the Domus Aurea, starting the taste of archeological revival and contributing to the spread of the grotesques.

The painter Pinturicchio died in Siena in 1513.



**Borgia apartment, Pintoretto
(1494)**

It is a series of six monumental rooms in the Apostolic Palace of the Vatican City, which are now part of the path of the Vatican Museums where it is partly housed.



MICHELANGELO BUONARROTI

(1475-1564)

Michelangelo was an Italian sculptor, architect and poet, formerly recognized in life as one of the greatest artists of all time.

Ingenious and restless artist, protagonist of the Italian Renaissance.

His works are known all over the world and among the most important we find: The David, The Pietà of the Vatican, The Dome of Saint Peter and the cycle of frescoes in the Sistine Chapel.

The study of his works marks the following generations giving life to a school that goes by the name of Mannerism.

Michelangelo learned an advanced painting technique in the Ghirlandaio's workshop. He began to attend San Marco's garden, a sort of artistic academy supported economically by Lorenzo the Magnificent, a true centre of advanced training.

His life is full of travels, he spent most of his life travelling between Florence and Rome.

He died in 1564 in Rome.



The creation of Adam, Michelangelo (1511)
it is part of the decoration of the vault of the Sistine Chapel



The pietà, Michelangelo(1498-1499)
It is a marble sculpture located inside the Basilica of St.Peter

TIZIANO

(1488-1576)

Tiziano was an Italian painter, a citizen of the Republic of Venice, an important exponent of the Venetian school. He made a renewed use of painting with the personal use of color and was the master of Tonalism. Tiziano first used the expressive power of the material color and then abandoned the balanced spatiality, the sunny and sumptuous character of the Renaissance colour, assuming the dynamism of Mannerism. For his characteristic style he soon became a painter sought after by very important personalities.

Important in the life of Tiziano was Giorgione appreciated for the use of light as a tool to build shapes and interact with the surrounding environment.

Unlike Giorgione's figures, Tiziano's are much more humanized and with undoubted life force. Tiziano soon moved away from Renaissance ideals and for this reason he is considered the first master who broke with tradition through the school he founded in Venice which allowed him to experiment with the use of colour.

He worked hard on profane and allegorical subjects.

He died in 1576 in Venice.



Sacred love and Profane love, Tiziano (1514)
This painting is exposed in the Borghese Gallery

CARAVAGGIO

(1571-1610)

Caravaggio, pseudonym of Michelangelo Merisi, was an Italian painter. Trained in Milan and active in Rome, Naples, Malta and Sicily between 1593 and 1610, he is one of the most famous painters of all time, however, he rose to universal fame only in the XX century, after a period of oblivion.

His paintings, which combine an analysis of the human state, both physical and emotional, with a scenographic use of light, have had a strong influence of Baroque painting. Particularly restless soul, in the short existence he faced serious vicissitudes. Crucial date for the art and life of Caravaggio was May 28, 1606: he was responsible for a murder during a fight and he was sentenced to death, he always had to try to escape capital punishment.

His artistic style directly or indirectly influenced the painting of the following centuries, constituting the current of Caravaggism.

Caravaggio overturns the artistic technique by representing reality in his paintings as a presented himself, without a hierarchy in the choice of subjects or any idealization. The subjects are represented at natural size, taken at the height of the action. The plan of the pictorial space and that of reality come together to raise maximum involvement of the spectator who is depicted in the middle of the scene.



Vocation of St. Matthew, Caravaggio (1599)
This painting is kept in St. Louis of the French.

Conversion of St. Paul, Caravaggio (1601).
this painting is kept in basilica of Santa Maria del Popolo



GIAN LORENZO BERNINI

(1598-1680)

Gian Lorenzo Bernini was an Italian sculptor, urban planner, architect, painter, set designer and playwright. Multifaceted artist, Bernini is considered the greatest protagonist of Baroque figurative culture.

His work met with resounding success and dominated the European scene for more than a century after his death; similarly, Bernini's influence on contemporaries and posterity was enormous.

He devoted himself early to sculpture, soon becoming one of the main protagonists of Roman artistic life.

In Rome, in fact, his entire artistic life took place, almost always in the service of the papal court.

With Bernini marble comes alive and comes to life.

The scene, therefore, is full of pathos and discordant feelings.

In him we find the balanced presence of fantasy and Classicism due to the fact that he perceives art no longer separately as in the Renaissance, but a union of the three arts: architecture, sculpture and painting.



Apollo and Daphne,
Bernini(1622-1625)
this sculpture is exposed in
the Borghese Gallery

St.Peter's canopy, Bernini (1623-1634)



FABIO FERRONE VIOLA

Fabio Ferrone Viola is a contemporary artist who creates works of art in a very particular way, using crushed tins, bottle caps but also plastic waste.

The name of the technique he uses is Crushism, a term he coined to indicate the sound produced by the tin when it is crushed by the machine.

Ferrone uses his art to narrate the suffering he feels in the face of the waste of modern consumer society.

In fact, his works are born from abandoned waste that he finds around the world from which he takes a story to tell.

Coca-Cola have a preponderant role in his works as in the creation of the American flag or in the face of the American president J.F. KENNEDY.

