

# [Bernini in france](https://assignbuster.com/bernini-in-france/)

Bernini in France Bernini’s work in Paris: Bernini was the famous italian sculptor and artist who lived during 1598-1680. he was called to Paris in 1865 to take part in the rebuilding of the Louvre by the intermediery and minister of Louis XIV, Colbert. Lois XIV designated Chantelou to welcome Bernini and accom pany the artist during his stay in the capital of France. Chantelou kept an apt and uptodate record of Bernini’s affairs in Paris from his arrival to his departure. All the events were recorded in the journal without any leftovers(Harrison, Wood& Gaiger).   
This journal reveals the personality of the artist as well as his conceptoin fo the art he pursues. It also reveals the confrontation between the king and the artist of italian orgin. He was in Paris for few months and presented some designs for the east front of the Louvre. But his desgns were rejected by the French court. His only notable work was a bust of Louis XIV which was regarded as a standard in royal portaiture during the era. Berninis projects in France were turned down by the court in favour of the stern and classic propasals of Frerch architect Claude perrault(Harrison, Wood& Gaiger)..   
It is an irony of history that Bernini’s plans were never realised. All his plans failed to please the kings powerful minister, Colbert. Moreover he encountered considerable opposition from local sculptors because of pure jealosy (Harrison, Wood& Gaiger).   
Bernini did not have much regard to french culture and Frrench artists. During his short stay in Paris he had many disagreements with them. He did not waste a single oppurtunity is degrading them too. The journal by Chantolou depicts that Bernini often had a prejudice against French culture and society. He regarded French artists inferior from their Italian counterparts. He often had heated discussions with French artists , namely Charles Perrault, Jean Warin and Louis Le, Vau who was Colberts chief architect(Wolfe).   
Bernini’s work at the Saint Peters bascillica:   
During his childhood days, the young Bernini visited visited Saint Peters. He wished to built a mighty throne for the apostle. In 1626, he received patronage from the Pope Urban VII and worked for the basilicca for 50 years. Berninis work at the bascillica include the baldacchino, the chapel of the sacrament, the plan of the niches , loggias in the piers of the dome of the bascillica and the chair of Saint Peter(Lavin).   
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The first work baldacchino was a bronze masterpiece. It was thirty meters tall and claimed to be the largest bronze piece of art in the world. Bernini also built new structures and made modifications and extensions to existing ones without losing the sanctity of the place. The Saint Peters square on the eastern side of the bascillica is the construction made by Bernini based on his Baroque inspirations (Lavin).   
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During his tenure at the Saint Peters bascillica, Bernini transformed the place into a true masterpiece. No other city in the world can claim such a wideswept approach to its cathedral church. It is also sure that no othe architect could have concieved a design having better notability. His works at Saint Peters is the greatest of all atriums before the greatest of all churches of Christianity(Lavin).   
Works cited:   
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Lavin, Irvin. ST PETERS IN THE VATICAN Bernini at St. Peters. (2005). November 13, 2010  Wolfe, Brooke. Artist profile: Gian Lorenzo Bernini. (2010). November 13, 2010