

The italian renaissance



The Italian Renaissance Art was an important part of the Italian Renaissance, where artists were using the ??? rebirth??? of classical paintings. So towards the end of the Middle Ages, attitudes began to change, which was about the 1400s. The Romans were beginning to think about the world around them, instead of only thinking about the next life (Blashfield 47). Explorers such as Christopher Columbus wondered what lay across the oceans. Also Italian churchmen and scholars saw amazing ancient buildings all around them and took an interest in the classical world of Rome and Greece (Blashfield 47). This was also the period in which the Romans began to spend their money on beautiful buildings, sculpture, artwork, and scholarship.

This also brought the idea of this period be called the ??? Renaissance??? because of the ??? rebirth??? of classical learning (Blashfield 47). This new concentration of wealth and power in the cities led to new configurations of the social class that had wide-ranging effects across the face of Europe during the Italian Renaissance (Italian Renaissance). So that meant what social class you were in decided on if you could afford the ??? new??? founded wonders. In the Italian Renaissance society consisted of five classes in general, which varied in nature and number depending on which area of Italy you were in (Italian Renaissance). In the five classes that the society had, at the top were the hierarchies, who were the old nobility and the merchant class that had traditionally ruled the cities. Below them were the emergent capitalist and banker class that identified with the lower classes and wished to become as powerful as the top class. Below them were the less wealthy merchants and trades people and below them, were the poor

and destitute that was made up of one fourth to one third of the urban population in Italy during the Renaissance.

However even the poor and destitute had a class beneath them, which were the domestic slaves, though few in numbers, they represent the first attempts by post-classical European society to institute slavery as an economic practice (Italian Renaissance). When the Christian faith started to spread around, it called for a new art form that could communicate the essence of God and spirituality, since they called the Roman art inadequate, with its emphasis on man and nature. So gradually the Romans of the middle ages had inherited highly sophisticated arts from ancient Greece and had adapted them for their own purposes, such as developing highly stylized, abstract art that used symbolism more than images from the visible world (Bonomi 81-83).

The Romans were already especially gifted as architects, as they had invented a method of building walls using what they called the ??? brick-and-mortar??? method. They also perfected the use of the arch as a doorway, a window, and used as roof support. They also showed modesty, straightforward, and honest artistic portraits (Bonomi 81-82). Most of the famous artists of the Renaissance either grew up or worked in Florence. Among some of them were the painter Masaccio; a revolutionary innovator with an austere, realistic style. Fra Filippo Lippi who made frescoes (wall paintings on wet plaster) and was known for his decorative style.

More famous artists in Florence were Fra Angelico who painted colorful, complex frescoes. Domenico Ghirlandajo another fresco painter who taught

Michelangelo. There were also sculptors such as Lorenzo Ghiberti, the creator of the Florentine Baptistery's bronze doors (Bonomi 82-84). Thought of, as one of the greatest painters in Venice during the Renaissance was Titian, who had apprenticed with the Bellini sons. Titian developed an expressive style using many layers of brilliant colors. Titian reds were so notable during his time that the word "titian" has come to mean a rich shade of auburn (Bonomi 84-85).

Another famous sculptor was Michelangelo Di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni, who had apprenticed under Domenico Ghirlandajo. He was known for his "terribilita'" his awesome power. He had completed his first masterpiece at the age of 25, which was a marble sculpture, called the Pieta' that is now on display in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. The masterpiece called Pieta'; made pilgrims from all over the Christian world flock to admire this gleaming figure of the virgin Mary cradling the corpse of her crucified son.

After that he went on to create a statue of David in the Galleria Dell'Accademia, Florence, and a marble statue of Moses in the church of San Pietro in Vincoli, Rome. Even though he was a great sculptor, his life consisted of frequent drunken brawls, jail terms, and a murder he had committed over a bet on a tennis match (Bonomi 84-85). Some of the more common famous artists that people know; include Raphael, Leonardo Da Vinci, Pablo Picasso, and Vincent Van Gogh. Raphael was born in 1520. Popular with the popes of the period, he was able to decorate the Papal apartments of Julius II, and continued to do so under Leo X; and following Bramante, served as architect of St. Peter's. He is credited with

revolutionizing portrait painting because of the style he used in the portrait of Julius II.

Also he designed the ??? cartoons??? that are on the tapestries of the Sistine Chapel (Artist of the Italian Renaissance). Vincent Van Gogh was born in Holland in 1853. He worked at many jobs, such as at an art gallery, a school, a bookstore, as a preacher, and at last, he became an artist. After he got deeply depressed he painted one more gloomy painting, it was called Wheatfield with Crows, and the sad thing was that after he had finished the painting he killed himself by shooting himself. Lastly one of the most common people know was Leonardo Da Vinci who was born in 1452, in an Italian town called Vinci.

He also lived during the Italian Renaissance. Even though Vinci was a great artist, he had become famous because he was also a sculptor, a scientist, an inventor, an architect, a musician, and a mathematician. His most famous works were the Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, and The Virgin of the Rocks (All About Art). So since the Renaissance began in Italy, some of the world??™s greatest western painters, architects, and sculptors have come from Italy, including Giotto, Donatello, Titian, Bernini and many others. So that meant the Romans would play a key role in the development of Western architecture, using techniques such as the arch, dome, and vault to build larger, more structurally sound buildings. So it is safe to say Italy has been a birthplace and center of the arts for centuries, and shaping art movements throughout Europe and the world. The famous museums in the Italian cities such as Florence, Naples, Rome, and Venice house internationally renowned art collections.

So with all this on Italy??™s back they are still the center of all the arts in the world, and still produce some of the famous artists we know today (???

Italy,???

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