

CULTURAL ENRICHMENT

The Italian Renaissance: The Century that Transformed Art

The Italian Renaissance lasted about 120 years and Western art can not really be understood without knowledge of this movement. These works have established a canon of beauty and a way of seeing that influences Western art and culture to this day. We will discuss why these works were created, what they meant to the people of the time, and how they reflect the culture of the era.

September 9 – 1300-1430

From Giotto to Masaccio

From its embryonic beginnings, a new mindset emerges in Italy around 1400 which is reflected in a new style of art. It is seen first in both the painting and sculpture produced mainly in and around Florence.

September 16 – 1435-1470

Florence and Humanism

Cosimo de Medici comes to power in Florence. He and other wealthy Florentine citizens commission talented artists to produce a dazzling array of religious and secular art for their own palaces and for public buildings.

September 23 – 1470-1500

From Lorenzo the Magnificent to Savonarola

Botticelli produces masterpieces in Florence, Leonardo da Vinci emerges as a supreme master of painting and an example of a true "Renaissance Man," and Raphael's painting career begins in the town of Urbino.

September 30 – 1500-1525

The Emergence of Rome

Florence loses some of its dominance as an artistic leader, while the center of power shifts to Rome. A succession of Popes commission Raphael to paint and Michelangelo to sculpt works at the Vatican.

October 7 – 1508-1512

The Sistine Chapel

Over Michelangelo's protests, Pope Julius II commissions him to paint the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican. Michelangelo returns to the Chapel from 1536 to 1541 to paint the end wall over the altar.

October 14 – 1500-1600

Venice and Mannerism

As Venice comes into contact with Renaissance Humanism, Venetian art changes from Byzantine to classical and a Venetian school of painting arises that gives us Giorgione, Titian, Veronese, and Tintoretto.

Class code: CUL100.101

Dates: Tuesdays, Sept. 9-Oct. 14 (6 sessions)

Time: 1:00-2:30 p.m.

Fee: \$72 (series only)

**Location: Stiemke Hall in Notre Dame Hall,
second floor**

Lecturer: Martha R. Bolles, M.A., Art History

Registration deadline: Wednesday, Aug. 27

(\$5 late fee will be assessed to registrations received after Aug. 27)



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The Artist and the Biblical Text

Leonardo da Vinci once pondered whether the word, God, written on the wall was more compelling than an image of God painted there. This four-part series of lectures and discussions concentrates on how the major artists from Leonardo to Pablo Picasso have turned directly to the Biblical text as their source of inspiration.

October 2 – Art and the Joy of Christianity

Focusing on the great Italian masters of the Renaissance and age of the Baroque, we will explore how artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Antonio da Correggio, and Gianlorenzo Bernini celebrated visually the joy, “the good news” recorded in Scripture.

October 9 – Art in the Wake of the Reformations

We will investigate how the challenges of reform from the Protestants win the North and the Catholic Church in Rome affected how the great artists of the 16th and 17th centuries approached their subject matter. We will discover why a subject depicted by Michelangelo, for example, is so very different from that of Albrecht Durer.

October 16 – Early Christian Expressions

Against the backdrop of Roman Imperial art, we will consider how the early Christian Artists (albeit still anonymous) first drew upon metaphors from Scripture. Then we will turn our attention to the enduring, learned explications on the Biblical texts that are portrayed in sculpture and painting, once the Emperor officially recognized the new faith. How his legacy is evident in the works of Michelangelo and Rembrandt van Rijn, for example, also will be discussed.

October 23 – Religious Art in the Modern World

We shall see how the freedoms of the modern artist compelled him to try something new, even though Scripture fixed his religious subject. Beginning with Paul Gauguin and Vincent van Gogh, we will explore a variety of 20th-century religious works by such luminaries as Picasso, Henri Matisse, and Mark Rothko.

Class code: CUL103.101

Dates: Thursdays, Oct. 2-23 (4 sessions)

Time: 10:00-11:15 a.m.

Fee: \$45 (series only)

Location: Stiemke Hall in Notre Dame Hall, second floor

Lecturer: Geraldine Dunphy Wind,

Professor Emerita, faculty member of the Mount Mary College Art Department from 1974-2000.

Registration deadline: Friday, September 19

(\$5 late fee will be assessed to registrations received after Sept. 19)

IMPORTANT:

Please note that a confirmation of registration will no longer be mailed. Your confirmation will be available at the first class meeting. Please mark your calendar with the dates, times and location of your class/program at the time you register.