

Michelangelo Renaissance Artist

Michelangelo was born in Florence. His father was a minor noble who was opposed to his son becoming an artist.



At age 12, he became an apprentice to a famous artist. When he was 14 years old, he was "adopted" by Lorenzo the Magnificent and lived in the Medici palace.



Medici Palace in Florence, Italy where Michelangelo lived and worked at age 14

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Sculpture

Michelangelo loved creating sculptures in marble. At age 23, he created the Pieta – a marble sculpture of Christ taken down from the cross.



Christ lies in the arms of his mother. When you see it, you are filled with enormous pity. Today, this sculpture is in St. Peter's Church in Rome, Italy.

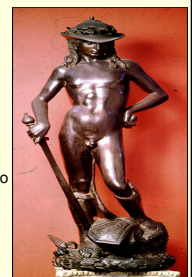
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At age 26, Michelangelo created David – a marble statue of the young man about to slay Goliath.

How does this statue of David compare to Donatello's statue?

- *Michelangelo's "David" is 14' 3" tall.
- *Donatello's "David" is 5' 2" tall.



It is the possibly the most recognizable statue in the history of art!

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COOL FACT!!!

On 24 April 1503 Michelangelo undertook to carve twelve over-life-sized Apostles, each four and a quarter "braccia" high (8' 1 1/4 ") for the cathedral of Florence, at the rate of at least one completed statue per year.

However, because he was repeatedly called away from Florence by Pope Julius II, Michelangelo produced nothing more than one unfinished statue of the Apostle Matthew.

What do you observe about this unfinished statue?
 Discuss with your group.
 Does it appear that the statue is coming to life?

Painting

At age 33, Michelangelo painted the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican in Rome. Lying on his back high in the air, Michelangelo spent four long years painting the ceiling.

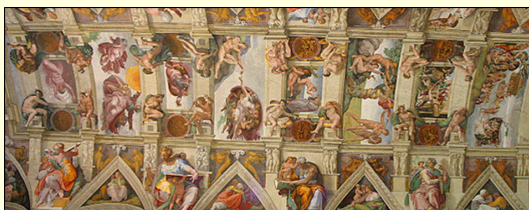


Tour of the Sistine Chapel

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The ceiling of the Sistine Chapel consists of scenes from the Old Testament:



- How God created the world
- Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden
- Noah and his ark



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Architecture

At age 71, Michelangelo became the chief architect for St. Peter's Church in Rome.

And at the end of his life he became very religious.



St. Peter's Basilica (Rome, Italy) Video

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