

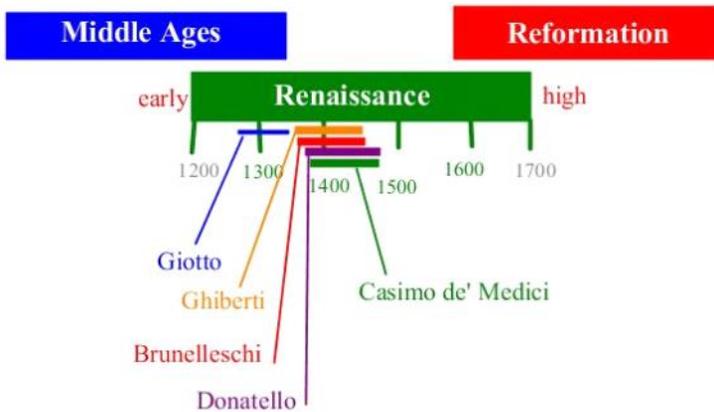
Artists of the Early Renaissance

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VoiceThread <http://voicethread.com/share/1502215/>

Slides	Notes
 <p data-bbox="240 821 893 1024">Artists of the Early Renaissance</p>	
<p data-bbox="375 1325 740 1541">Renaissance means rebirth</p>	<p data-bbox="1130 1209 1560 1465">Renaissance means rebirth. It was a rebirth of Greek thought. You didn't have access to books, so the knowledge was accessed in different ways. People also now started to live more in cities instead of the whole population being rural. It was a big culture change as people had more time to pursue art in all forms and knowledge.</p>

Chronological Context



The Middle Ages and the Reformation overlaps the Renaissance

You can see here who we will be talking about in this lesson. Giotto was the earliest artist in this era of art, but we will also be talking about Ghiberti, Brunelleschi, Donatello, and the grand patron of the arts of the day, Casimo de' Medici.

Giotto



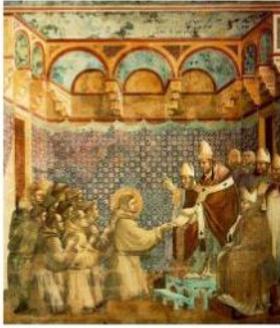
Cimabue of Tuscany

Giotto was a lowly shepherd boy.

A famous artist, Cimabue, passed through the area and happened to see a drawing that he made on a stone. He was impressed enough to take the time out of his travels to figure out who painted it.

He discovered that it was painted by a young shepherd boy. He ask the boy's parents if the boy could be his apprentice. That is the way most people learned trades back then. A master would be paid by the family to train in a child in a craft usually from the age of 8 to the age of 14.

Arena Chapel



1280 Rome
Cimabue

upper floor



Napoleon's stables

After a few years, in 1280, Cimabue was asked to paint the Arena Chapel. He and his apprentice, Giotto painted the upper and lower floor. Most of the upper floor was Giotto's work.

He used a technique called fresco. That means that the painting was painted into wet plaster

Giotto is well known in history as the first artist to use perspective

Why is this called Arena Chapel?

Later when Napoleon was conquering the area of Rome, he stabled his horses in the chapel to show he was powerful. The horses were even stabled on the top floor where all these culturally famous paintings were kept.



Palazzo Vecchio



Uffizi

Here is what Giotto looks like. This sculpture is in the Museum of Rome called the Palazzo Vecchio

It used to be the palace. When the new one was built nearby, the old one was turned in to a museum and offices for guilds. Each guild was run by a guild. Each guild had a place to decorate on the building. There were many guilds that were in charge of each trade: wool guild, sculpture guild, painters, metal workers, etc.

Palazzo Vecchio

1299

Old Palace



The Cow

Cosimo de Medici (the elder (1435))

1 handed clock until 1667



First courtyard
1453
Many Guilds

components of paint:
binder and pigment

apothecaries
doctors
artists
spice merchants

This is the building at the end of the street of the museum. It was the palace at one time including a tower for prisoners. The prison cell up there is called the Cow. At one time Cosimo de Medici the elder was held as a prisoner up there. In 1435 he was a banker that became wealthy, even wealthier than the king. The king though had more than money on his side, he had an army. So the king put him in the cow as punishment to put him in his place when they had a disagreement.

At the time it was built, clocks didn't use two hands.

Components of paint - pigment and binder will be studied even more in another lesson.

What trades combined for artists? Well, the components of paint would come from distant countries and it took special knowledge of chemistry to create and store them, so artists ended up becoming a combined guild from the guild of the apothecaries (medicines), doctors, and spice guilds.



There was a lot of pride and competition to show off in these guilds. Often each guild built their own church and it was a big deal to have yours better than the other guild's churches. This went beyond guilds. Each city competed against other cities to be considered the best too.

If someone else's cathedral was taller than yours, you wanted to build yours taller too. All this competition kept artists busy.



St. Mark
Donatello
wood and stone workers
1408



St. George
Donatello
armours guild
1416



St. John the Baptist
Ghiberti
wool guild
1414-16

Each guild would memorialize someone from their trade or a person from the Bible in their spot in the museum. Here are a few examples.

Donatello and Ghiberti stayed pretty busy creating these.

Cosimo
Medici



Patron of the arts means it is someone that hires artists (all different types of arts). Cosimo inherited more money from his banker father and he himself made lots of money from banking that he had more than he could have spent in his lifetime. He could have hired artists to create work for himself, but he didn't do that. He hired artists to beautify the city that he loved so much.

Master Goldsmith, Benincasa

Apprentices:

- Ghiberti** father was an artist/goldsmith
- Donatello** father wool comber's guild
- Brunelleschi** father was a lawyer

Setting - slums of Sanat Croce quarter

mounting
engraving
embossing

Benincasa had three important apprentices: Ghiberti whose father was an artist/goldsmith. Donatello whose father was in the wool comber's guild. And Brunelleschi whose father was a lawyer. The apprentices would be anywhere from 9 to 14 years of age. They all knew each other in the home of the master artist.

Even though Cosima kept the artists busy, the workshop was actually located in the slums of Sanat Croce quarter.

Donatello was poor for most of his life - Paid doctor with paintings.

Some of the things they would do were mounting things, engraving, and embossing.



1401
Contest

NT
doors to
the Baptistery

Brunelleschi

Ghiberti's
winning
entry

relief
sculpture

21 years

In 1401 there was this big contest. It was so important that artists even from other countries entered it.

The contest was for a design and creation of decorations that would go on a large door to the baptistery. It was to be covered in gold and was to be a relief (sculpture that isn't completely 3D)

Ghiberti had the winning entry.

Brunelleschi was so mad he left the city and Donatello went with him.

It took 21 years to make the New Testament doors of the baptistery.



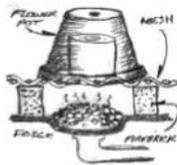
Wax Model



Pouring in the plaster to make the mold



Plaster Mold w/ wax still in it



Melting out the wax



Pouring in the metal



Dissolving or busting away the plaster

Here is how they would make castings at this time. It was a rediscovered art form that was well known by the Greeks.



Old Testament Gates of Paradise



27 years

This is what the doors looked like. After the New Testament doors were done, then the city wanted Old Testament doors made.

These are bigger doors than they may seem. A person standing in front of the one on the left would be only as tall as to the top of the second to the bottom panel. The doors are heavy too because they are covered with gold. The Old Testament doors took another 27 years to be completed.

Ghiberti and Bruneschelli go head to head in competition again
Dome of Florence

over 4 million bricks
double shell



Something about the way they did these always seemed to come back to contests.

Once again the three fellows competed against each other. This time Bruneschelli wins. That is good or he might have gone off to another city again like he did in the past.

This is short-sighted and rather funny. They built the cathedral so big that there was no architectural knowledge on how they could cover it. The artists were supposed to come up with ideas on how it could be done.

The Dome of Florence took over 4 million bricks and is double walled. Would you have imagined a roof made of bricks? There is enough space between the layers that people can walk in it.

1390 Master Brunelleschi Teaches Perspective

Horizon Line



Brunelleschi becomes an important teacher of perspective. People would travel to his classes from other countries.

Giotto was the first to do perspective, but Brunelleschi is known to teach it widely.

(Instructor does an example of how to draw a box in perspective)



Donatello

naturalism
realism
emotion
perspective

Worked in Ghiberti's workshop



A bit of information about Donatello. You may have heard of him from Mutant Teenage Ninja Turtles.

His health wasn't wonderful and he was not rich. He had to go to the doctor a lot, so he paid for doctor treatments with paintings.

He helped with making the dome.

The metal looking plate below is the mold for making the glass relief sculptures as you see in the cobalt glass plate to the left.

What a great time to be an artist!

1. Church unified once more, provided artists and architects with a seemingly endless list of church patrons. Grand tombs were popular too and it was considered proper to bury important Italians in artistic style.
2. Florence was determined to out-do its neighbors.
3. The Medici family literally could not spend all of its money (banking fortune). It funded all sorts of artists' academies and workshops. The better the artists that came, the better that talent that was drawn to the city. It was said that you could not swing a cat without whacking an artist. Artists were kept busy, fed, and appreciated.
4. Humanism changed the rules of art. Now paintings were not only of Biblical figures and saints. Portraits of the living, landscapes, daily scenes, and even nudes were encouraged.
5. Fame. It was the first time in history that artists were lifted up in society as something more than a common laboring class and this gave the birth of the craftsman/artist middle class that now had a significant role in politics.

Summary

Terms	Art	Giotto	Donatello	Ghiberti	Brunelleschi
<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$100</u>		<u>\$100</u>	<u>\$100</u>
<u>\$200</u>	<u>\$200</u>	<u>\$200</u>		<u>\$200</u>	<u>\$200</u>
<u>\$300</u>	<u>\$300</u>	<u>\$300</u>	<u>\$300</u>	<u>\$300</u>	<u>\$300</u>
<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$400</u>		<u>\$400</u>	<u>\$400</u>
<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u>	<u>\$500</u> ★

Now, Let's see how much you remember