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# Some Italian

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He Go		Good Night	
How Evening		How are you?	
Architecture Glossary	12	Fine, thank you	
Painting Glossary	16	Molto bene, grazie... / Very well, thank you	
Sculpture Glossary	18	Non c'è male	Not too bad
The Academy	20	Si	Yes
The Baptistry	24	No	No
		Per favore, per piacere	Please
		Grazie	Thank you (no thank you)
		Mi piace	I like
Don't like		Non mi piace	I do
O.K.		Va bene	
Use me		Scusi	exc
's O.K.)		Prego	don't mention it (it
Help!		aiuto!	
35	una cartolina	a postcard	
40	un francobolla (all'estero)	a postage stamp (for abroad)	
44	uno	one	
	duo	two	
	tre	three	
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	<b>Orsanmichele</b>		



# Time Line

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**Earlu Renaisance 1200-1400**

# Renaissance Artists and Writers

## Writers

**Giotto di Bondone (c. 1266-1337)**

Dante wrote, "Cimabue thought to of the other is obscured."

Although it is presumed that Cimabue was the teacher of Giotto, his real teacher was nature, the world of visible things. Active as a painter, architect and inspirer of sculptural forms, he embodied the idea of the "universal" artist which was to culminate later with Leonardo, Michelangelo and Raphael. In his work, Giotto was the first to appreciate his contribution to the Renaissance.

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rulers themselves dominated this vast expanse of territory. What is so daring is the sudden switch between the close-up renderings (showing warts and all) and the far distance. He also pays great attention to light and shadows, using it to make Battista Sforza's jewels shine, as well as to colour, using oil paints.

-1510

of Fra Filippo Lippi and must have learned from him the method of drawing. He is known as one of the great masters of line. Like other members of his generation, he chose themes from classical mythology, as in his most famous paintings, *The Birth of Venus* and *Primavera*. He was greatly influenced by Lorenzo de' Medici and his circle of friends who discussed the philosophy of Plato, the Greek philosopher and teacher. At the peak of his career, Botticelli was the most demanded painter in Florence. When Savonarola came and began preaching against the paganism of the Medici and their artists, he responded by denouncing his own work.

**Sandro Botticelli 1444**

Botticelli was the pupil of Fra Filippo Lippi, a firm, pure outline. He was born in the same generation, he often came to the birth of *Birth of Venus* and *Primavera* with his friends who studied at the peak of his career, he came and began preaching against the paganism of the Medici and their artists, he responded by denouncing his own work.

of the *Divine Comedy*, the account of the journey taken by Dante through the next world. He established the Florentine dialect as the basis for modern Italian. By 1301 he was in Florence's government, but was then accused of mishandling funds, found guilty and banished (sent away). He achieved his revenge by writing a book in which he populated Hell and Purgatory with his enemies.

**Dante (1265-1321)**

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**Arnolfo Di Cambio**

Arnolfo di Cambio was an Early Renaissance architect who designed Santa Croce church, the Cathedral of Santa Maria del Fiore (Duomo), and Palazzo Vecchio. The work on the Duomo began in 1296 and took more than 140 years to complete. Palazzo Vecchio took 16 years to build and was added to by Buontalenti and Vasari.

**Filippo Brunelleschi (1377-1446)**

When the competition for the Baptistery doors was won by Ghiberti, Brunelleschi was bitterly disappointed and turned instead to architecture. How fortunate for the rest of the world that he did! He went to Rome and there he studied the Roman monuments and was the first person since antiquity to seriously attempt to figure out the building methods of the ancient Romans. In doing so, he developed the revolutionary system of linear perspective that was so eagerly adopted by fifteenth-century artists. Brunelleschi's knowledge of Roman construction principles combined with an analytical mind and inventive genius enabled him to solve an engineering problem that no other person of the fifteenth century could have solved - the design and construction of a dome for the huge crossing of the unfinished Cathedral of Florence. (See the section on the Duomo).

His own unique architectural style is best expressed in the Ospedale degli Innocenti (Foundling Hospital). The basic element of its design - a series of round arches supported by slender columns - appears to have been inspired either by the church of San Miniato or by the Baptistery of Florence, both Romanesque buildings. He also designed the churches of San Lorenzo and Santo Spirito as well as the pulpit for Santa Maria Novella.

Artists and Writers

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# Architecture Class



**THE** **A** **J**





# u Glossar

aspect                    **abstract** In painting and sculpture, emphasising a derived essential character having little or no visual referenceto objects in nature.                    **crenelated** Notched or indented, usually with n to tops of walls, as in battlements.

i arch                    **dome** A hemispherical vault; theoretically, an

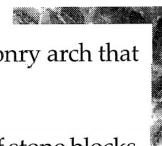


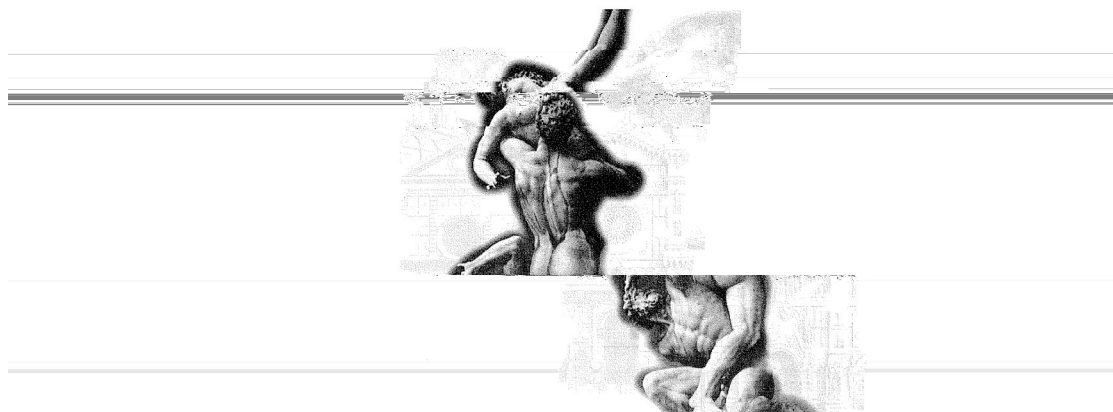
**mosaic** Patterns or pictures made by embedding small pieces of stone or glass in cement on surfaces such as walls or floors; also, the technique of making such works.

**octagonal**<sup>1</sup> Having eight sides.

**rib** A relatively slender moulded masonry arch that projects from the surface.

**rusticate** To bevel or rabbet the edges of stone blocks in order to emphasise the joints in between them. The technique was popular during the Renaissance, especially for stone courses at the ground floor level.





**THE** in Florence  
**RENAISSANCE**

THE ACADEMY • THE BAPTISTY • THE BARGELLO • THE  
 CATHEDRAL OF FLORENCE • THE DOME MUSEUM • THE  
 MEDICI CHAPELS • ORSANMICHELE • PALAZZO  
 DAVANZZATI • PALAZZO DELLA SIGNORIA • SAN LORENZO  
 • IN DETAIL: CELLINI CASTS THE PERSEUS • SANTA MARIA  
 NOVELLA • SCIENCE MUSEUM • THE UFFIZI GALLERY