



# THE RENAISSANCE 1450-1550 AD

▶ Essential Question:

▶ How did the Renaissance change art in Western Europe?

▶ Warm-Up Question:

▶ Why did the Renaissance begin in Italy?

▶ What factors led to the decline of the Middle Ages & rise of the Renaissance?

# The revival of trade in Europe helped bring an end to the Middle Ages & gave rise to the Renaissance



Increased trade gave rise to Italian city-states & a wealthy middle class of bankers & merchants

Wealthy bankers & merchants wanted to show off their new status by commissioning art

The most important Italian city-state was Florence;  
In this wealthy trade city, the Renaissance began



Florence was home to  
the Medici family, the  
wealthiest & most powerful  
bankers in Europe

The Medici used their  
wealth to commission  
art for themselves &  
to beautify Florence



The Medici paid to build a massive domed cathedral for Florence

# The Medici



# New styles & techniques of Renaissance art

- ▶ Realism & emotion
- ▶ Classicism: inspired by ancient Greek and Roman art
- ▶ Emphasis on humanism
- ▶ Geometric perspective

The first nude paintings & sculptures since the Romans



Sfumato



Greek



Renaissance

# Renaissance Artists



# Donatello

- ▶ Donatello was the 1<sup>st</sup> great sculptor of the Renaissance
  - ▶ Donatello revived the classical (Greco-Roman) style of sculpture that were realistic & could be viewed from all sides
  - ▶ Donatello's "David" was the 1<sup>st</sup> large, free-standing human sculpture of the Renaissance



# Michelangelo

- ▶ Michelangelo was one of the most famous Renaissance artists:
  - ▶ He was a painter, sculptor, architect, & poet
  - ▶ His sculptures & paintings showed realism, detail of the human body, & expression to show personality & emotion





Michelangelo sculptures “Pietà” & “David” are considered masterpieces

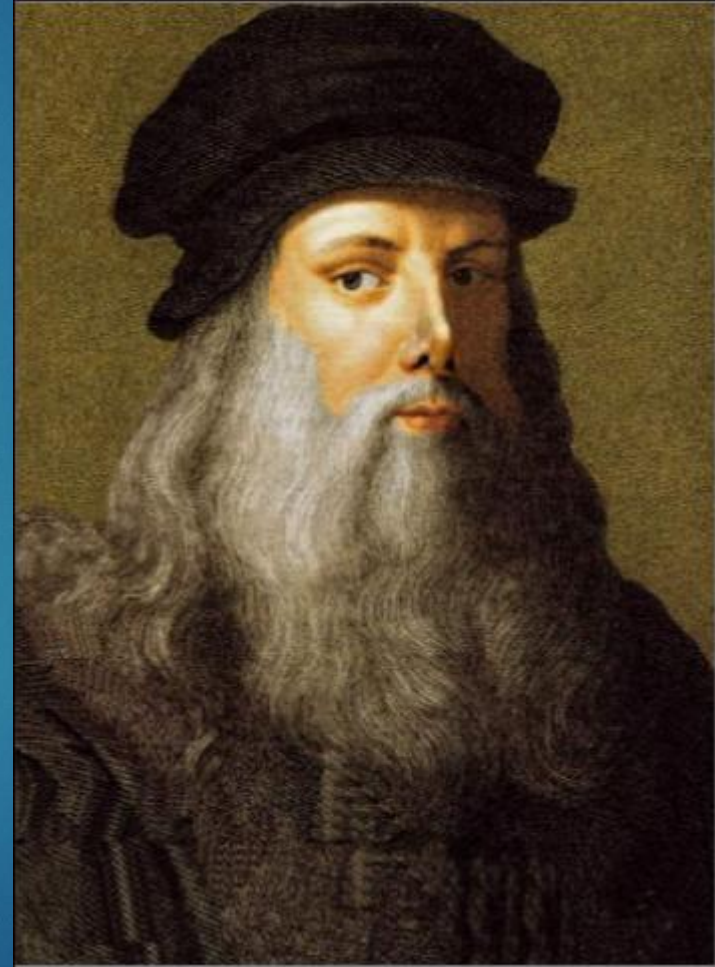


Michelangelo's greatest work is the 130 ft x 44 ft ceiling of the Sistine Chapel which shows Biblical images of amazing detail, power, & beauty

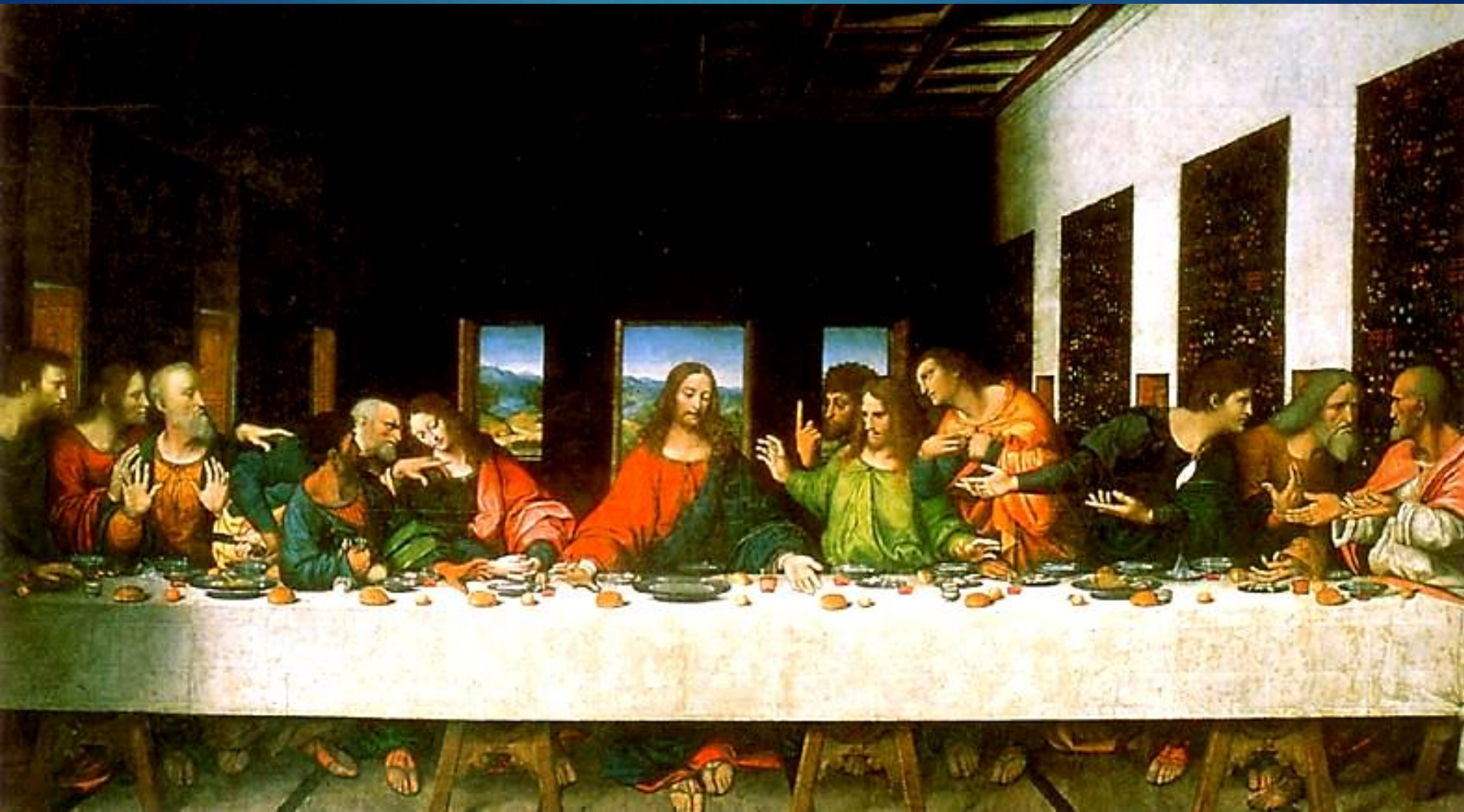


# Leonardo da Vinci

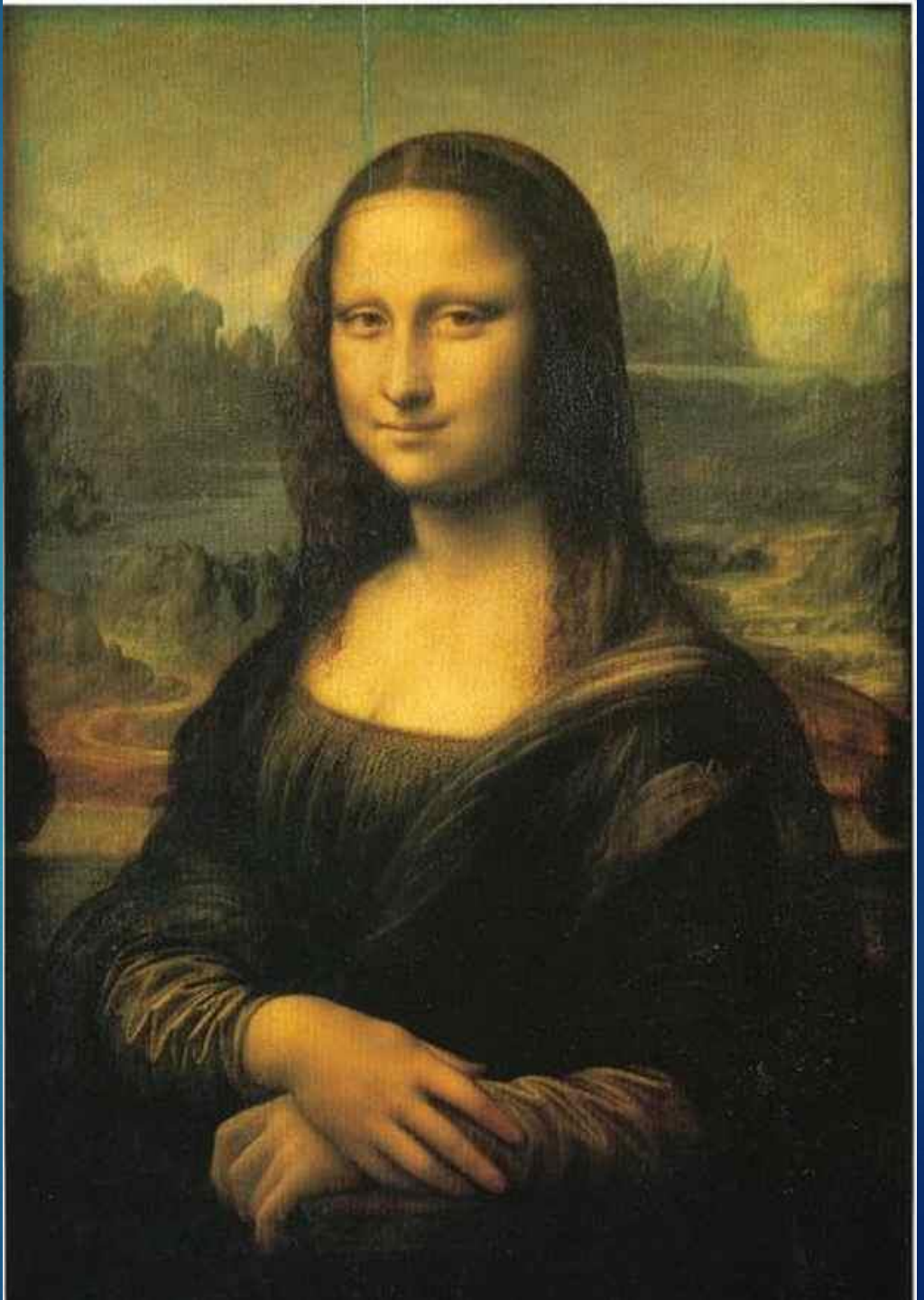
- ▶ Leonardo da Vinci was a true “Renaissance Man”
  - ▶ He was a painter & sculptor whose art was known for incredible realism & emotion
  - ▶ He was also an inventor & scientist whose sketches reveal observations about human anatomy & new engineering technology



His “Last Supper” shows Jesus’ last meeting with the 12 apostles before the crucifixion; the facial expressions, detail, emotion made it a masterpiece

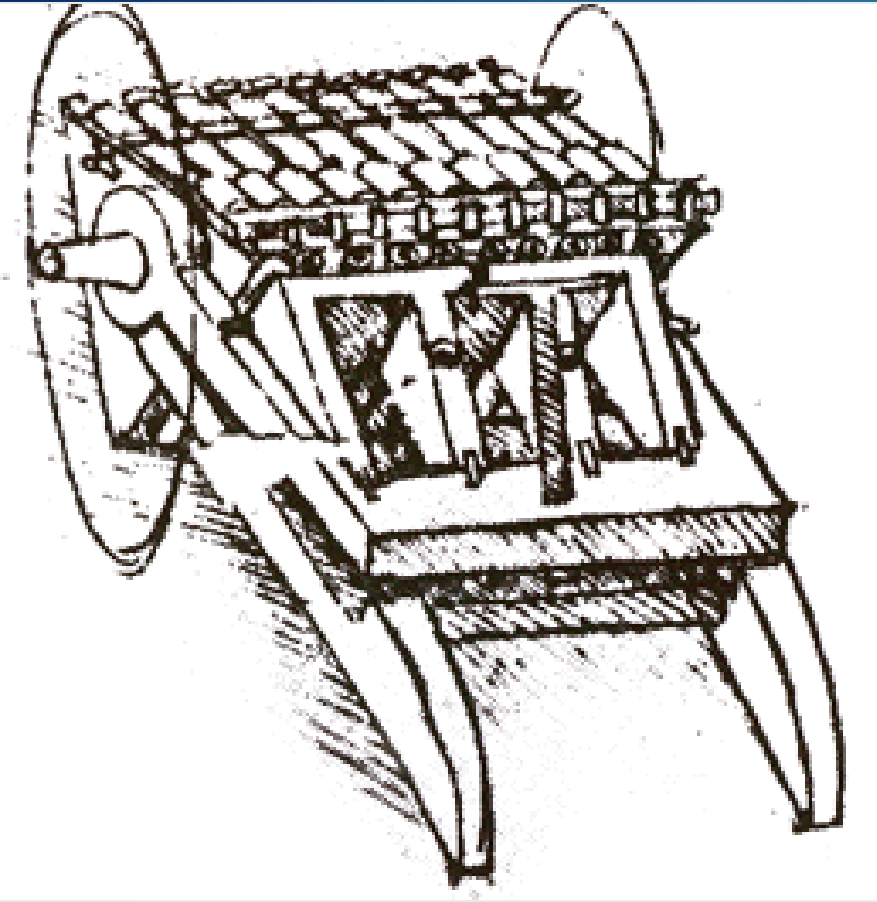


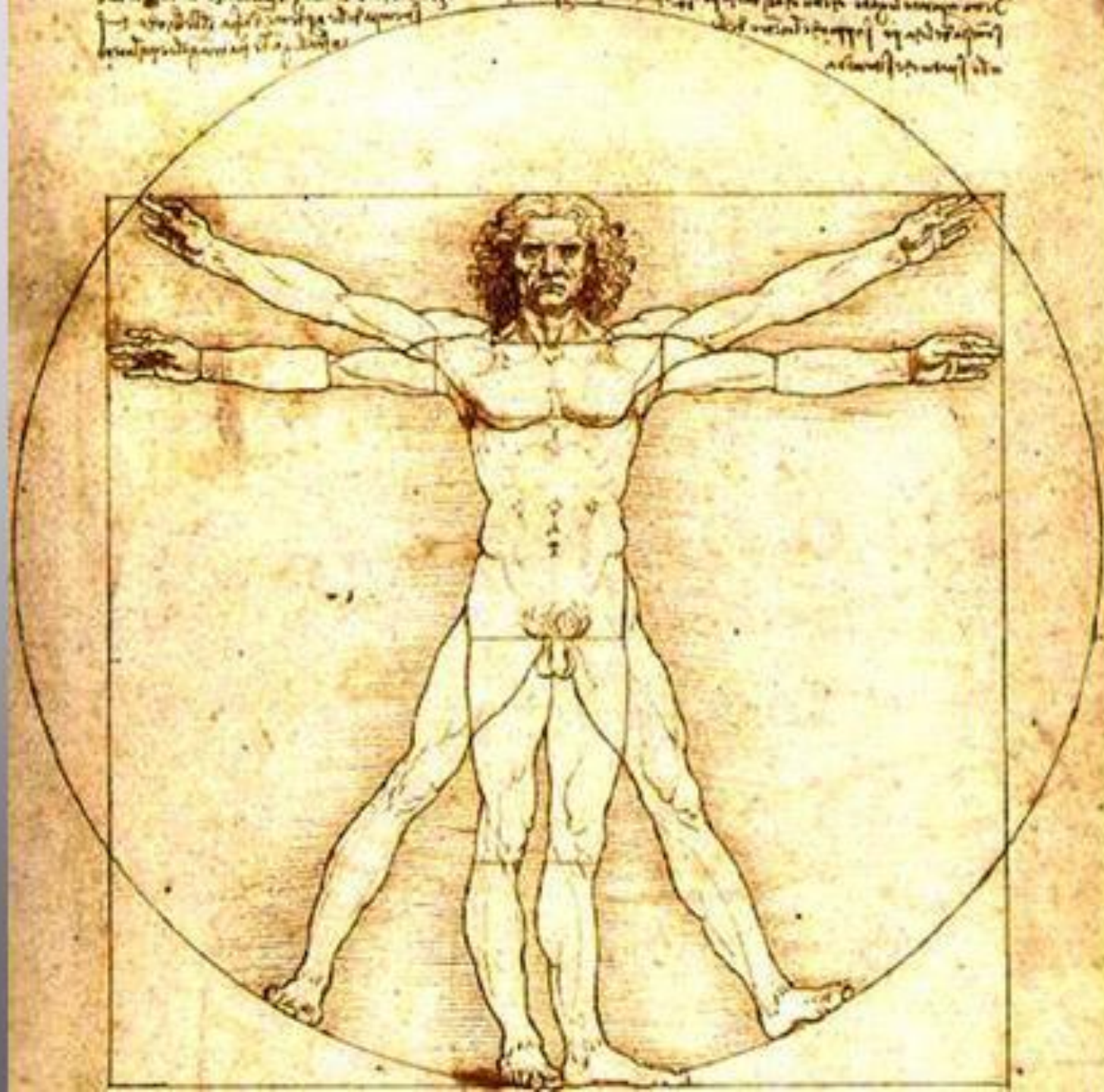
Leonardo da Vinci's greatest masterpiece was the "Mona Lisa" which was known for its emotion & depth





# Leonardo's Inventions



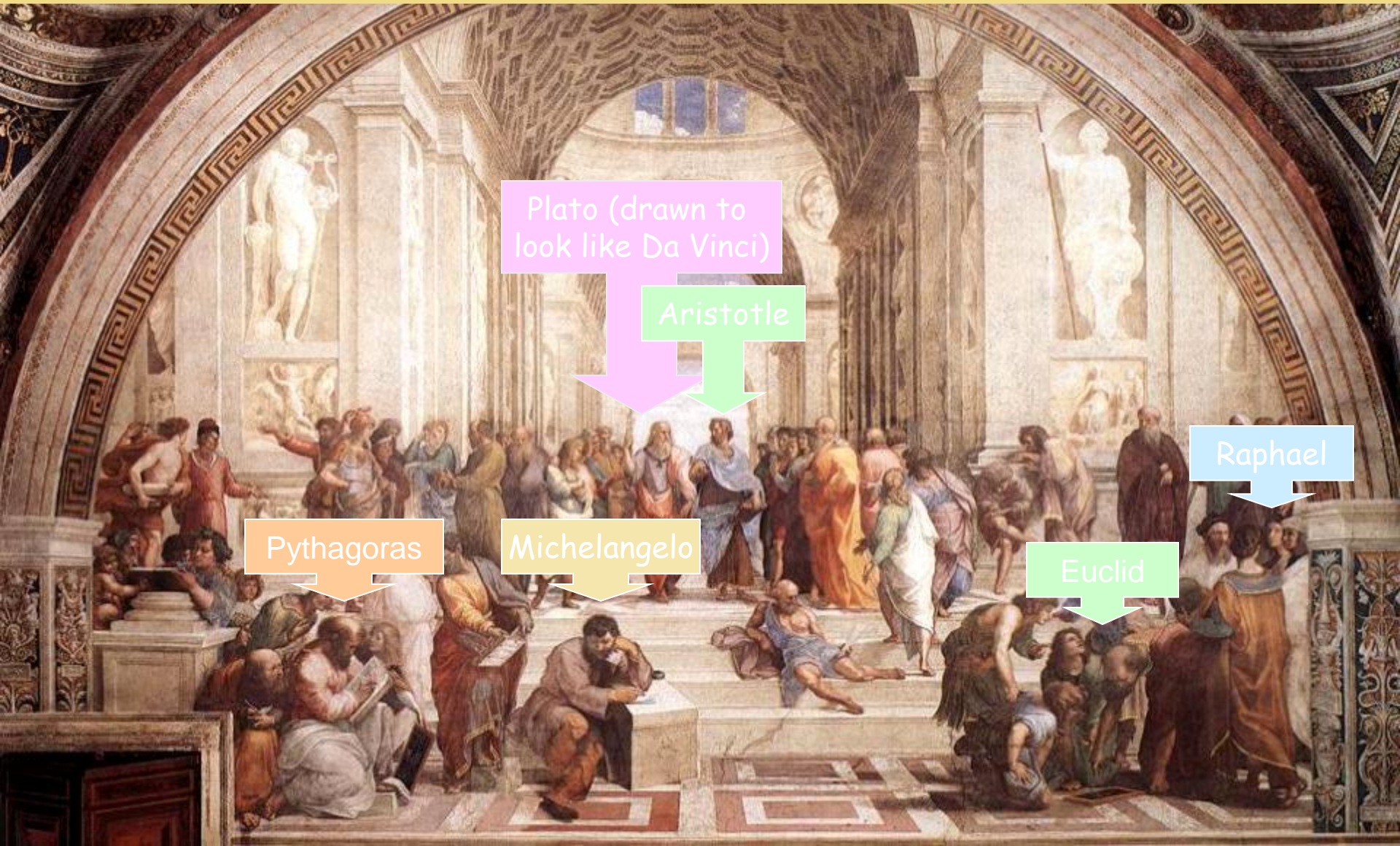


# Raphael

- ▶ Raphael “perfected” Renaissance painting
  - ▶ He improved perspective and realism by studying Leonardo & Michelangelo
  - ▶ Raphael became the favorite painter of the Pope because of his amazing detailed paintings showing a combination of famous Greeks & Romans along with Renaissance people



Raphael's greatest painting was "School of Athens" which blended Classical figures from Greece & Rome with important people from the Renaissance



Plato (drawn to look like Da Vinci)

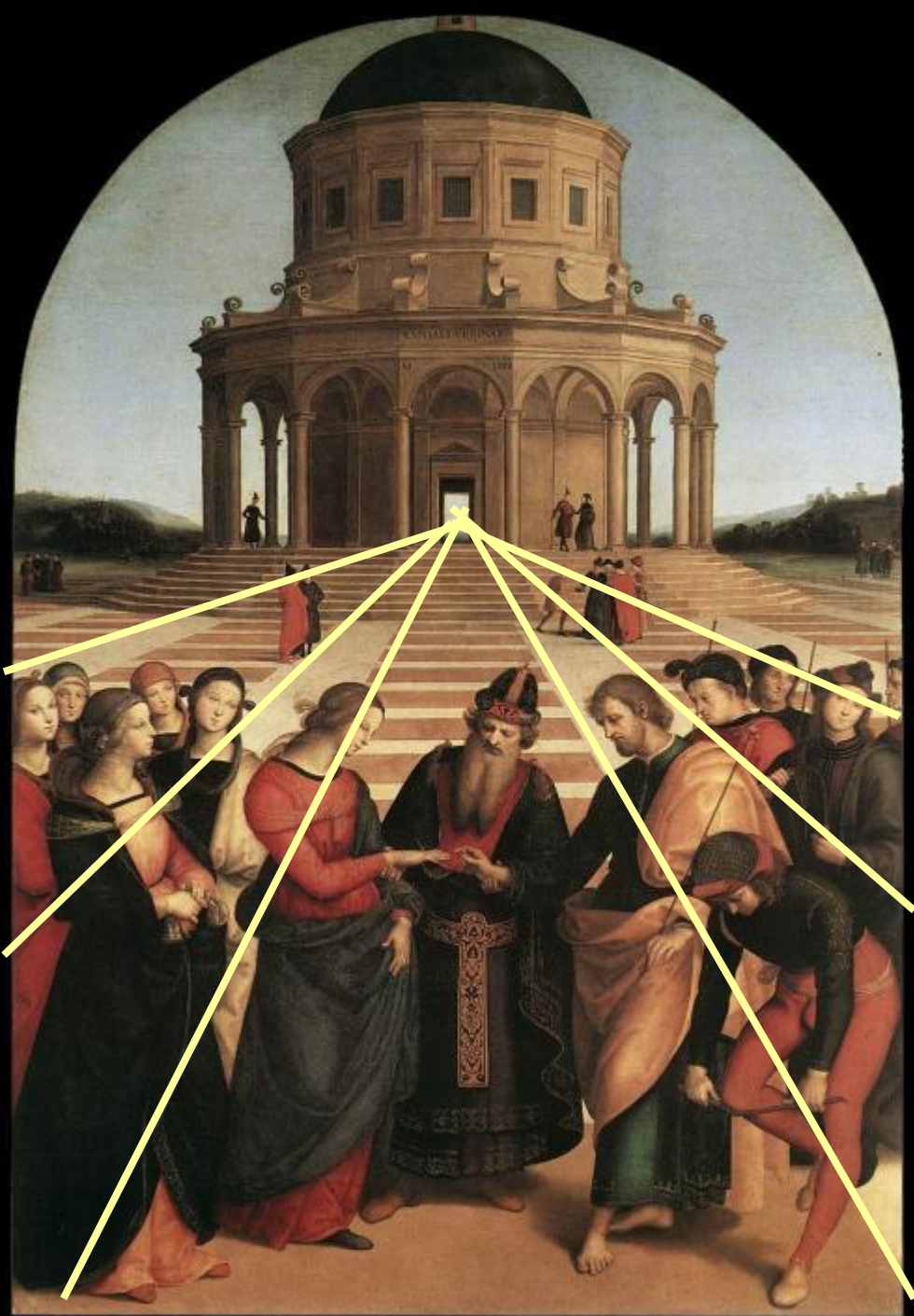
Aristotle

Raphael

Pythagoras

Michelangelo

Euclid



Raphael's  
"Betrothal  
of the Virgin"

# Filippo Brunelleschi

- ▶ Brunelleschi was Florence's greatest architect:
  - ▶ He studied the Roman Pantheon when he built the Cuppolo of Maria del Fiore cathedral in Florence
  - ▶ The dome inspired modern building



# Dome Comparisons



Il Duomo, Florence



US Capital,  
Washington, D.C.