

Happy Friday!

- ▶ I know you are devastated by the discovery of my absence this afternoon. I hope you are able to take a deep breath, recover from the shock, and take amazing notes on this content so you are highly prepared for the **note-check** that you will have **next week**. Did you make note of that?? ...

YOU WILL HAVE A NOTE CHECK NEXT WEEK!

Chapter 21: 15th Century Italian Art



FLORENCE



36°

0 75 150 mi
0 75 150 km

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Life in 15th Century Italy

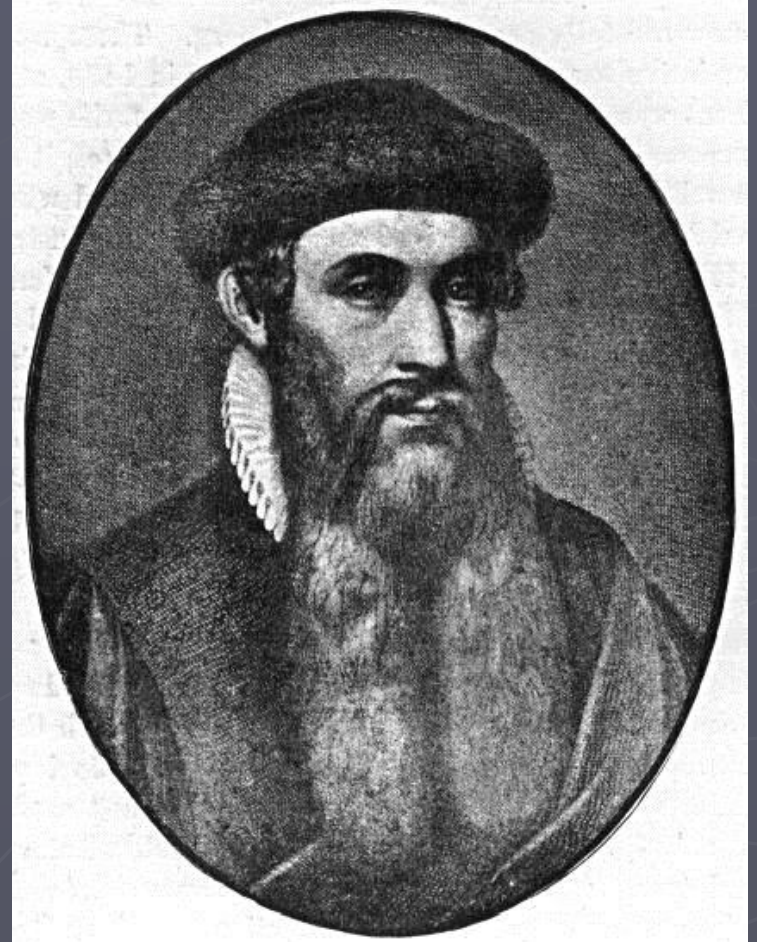
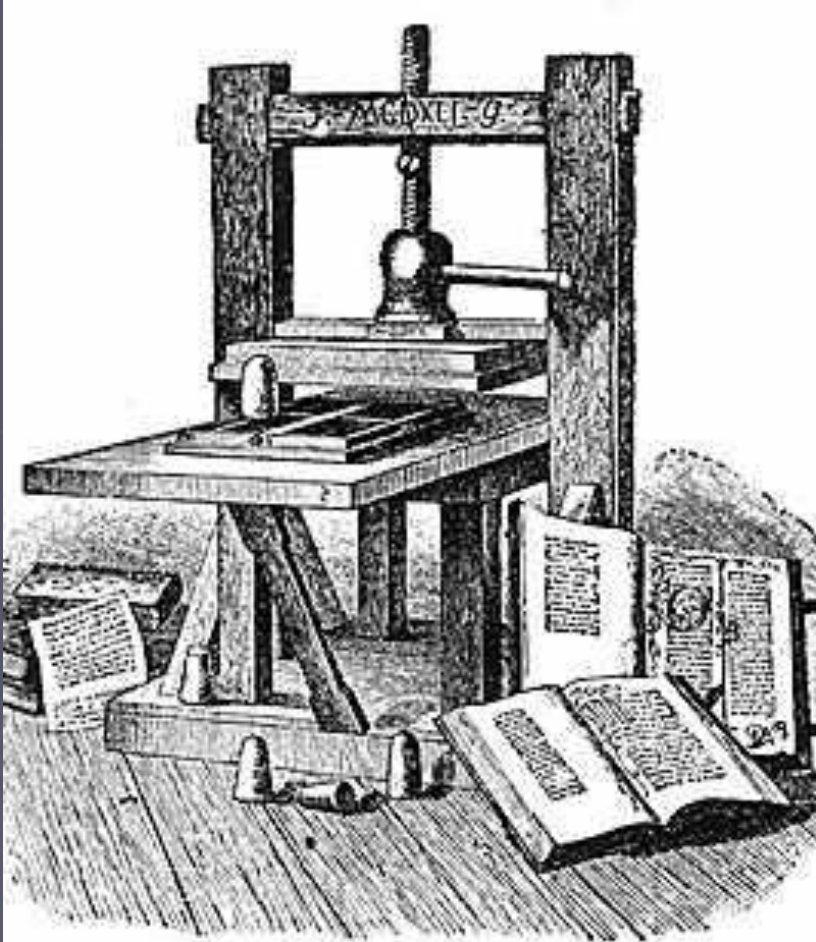
- ▶ Emphasis on education and on expanding knowledge (especially of classical antiquity)
- ▶ Exploration of individual potential and a desire to excel
- ▶ Studied botany, geography, medicine and engineering.
- ▶ The “Renaissance Man” was born

Interest in Classic Art

- ▶ Ancient Greece and Rome
- ▶ Striving to create realistic appearances, studying nature and surviving classical sculptures.



Johannes Gutenberg



Gutenberg invented the technique of printing from **moveable type**. He is also regarded as the originator of the first printed bible.

Patronage

- ▶ Individuals and families who had managed to prosper economically became the center of artistic circles
- ▶ **Medici family** — Bankers
 - Great patrons of art and architecture

LINEAR PERSPECTIVE

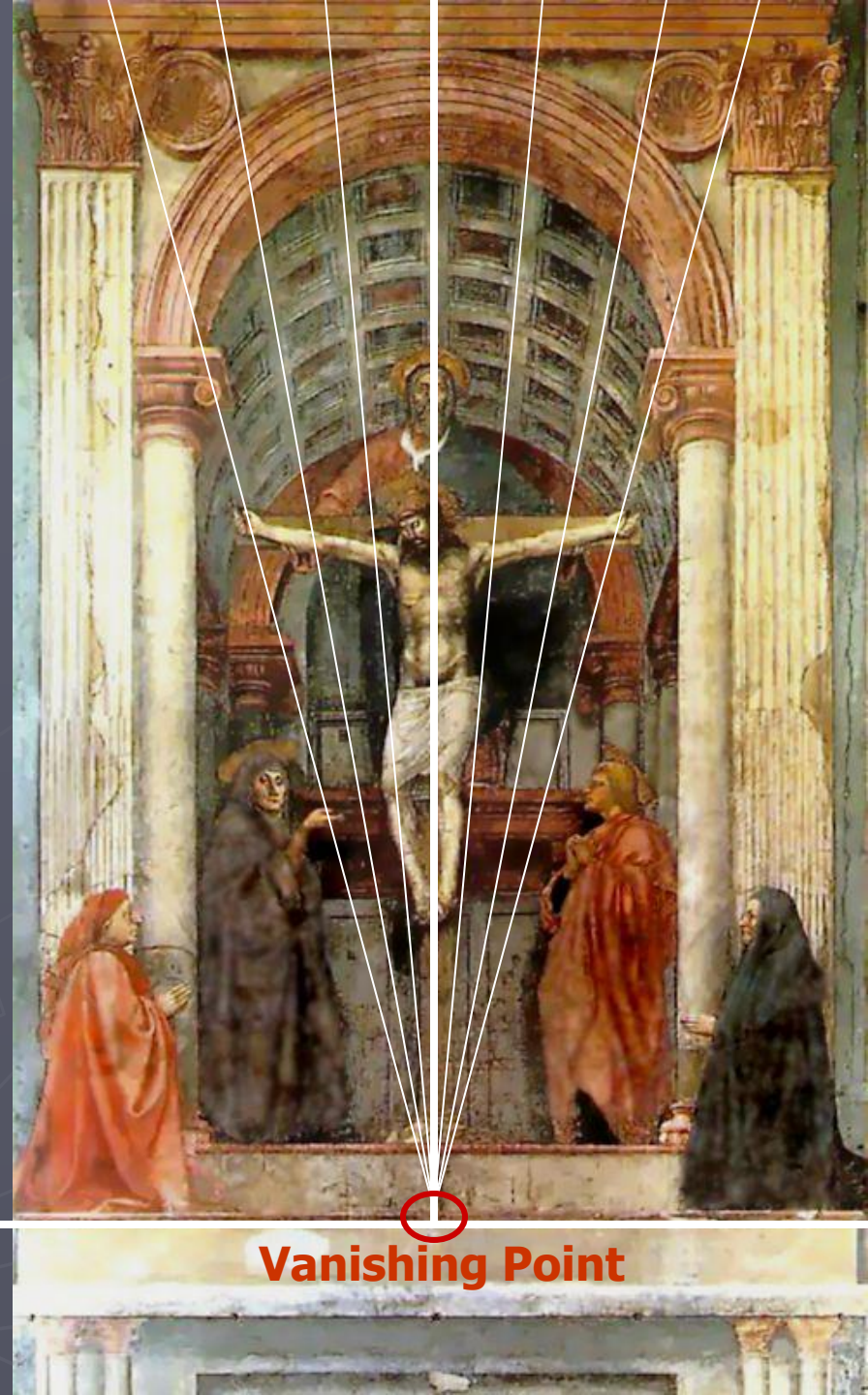
▶ BRUNELLESCHI
DISCOVERED LINEAR
PERSPECTIVE

LINEAR PERSPECTIVE

A graphic system that showed artists how to create the illusion of depth and volume on a flat surface.

The Holy Trinity. c.1428

Eye Level



Atmospheric Perspective

- ▶ Using hues, values, and intensity to show distance in a painting.

The Tribute Money. c.1427



- ▶ Masaccio, Holy Trinity - Fresco 1428

- ▶ God the father stands behind Christ
- ▶ Donor portraits – Lorenzo Lenzi & Wife

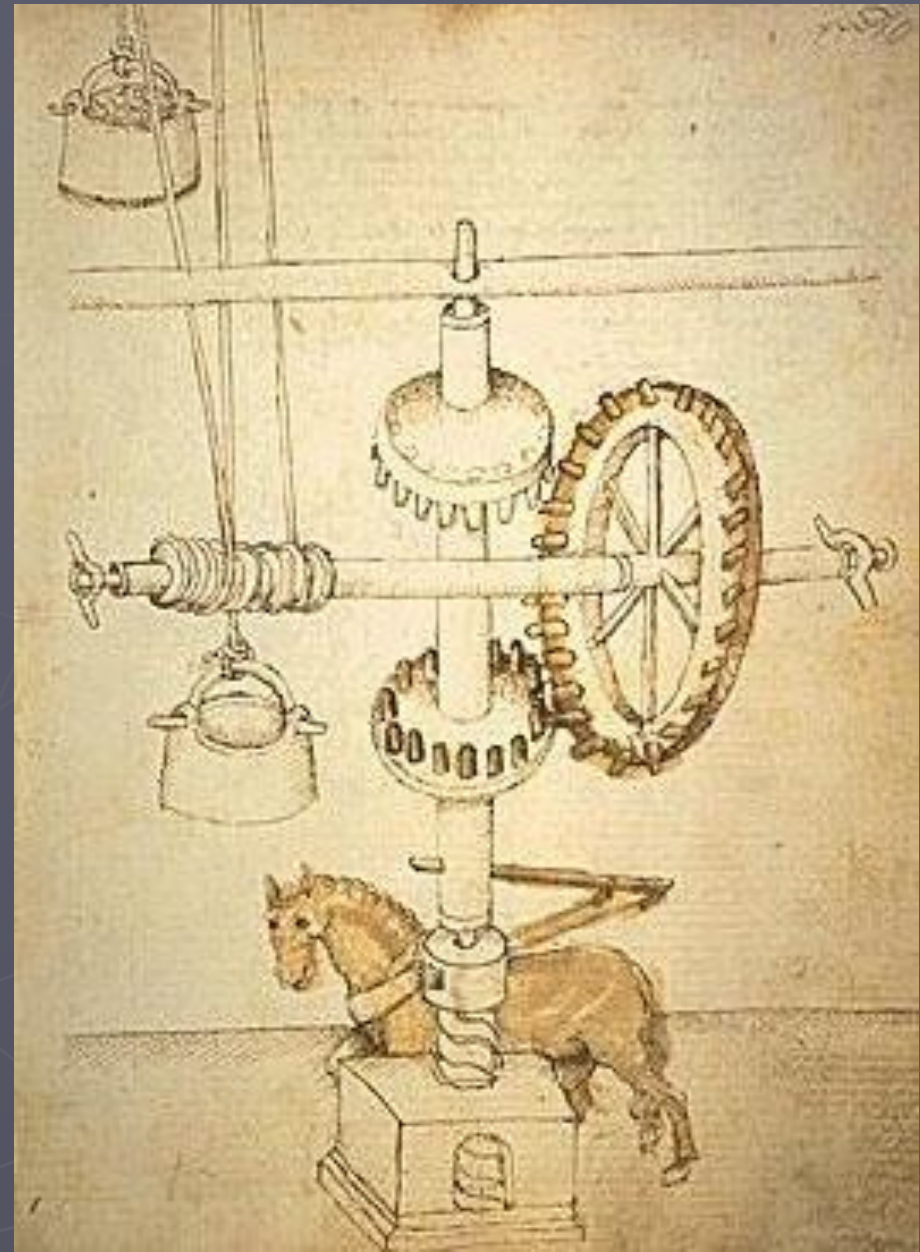


Masaccio, Tribute Money – Fresco 1427



FILIPPO BRUNELLESCHI

Sculptor and Architect
(1377-1446)

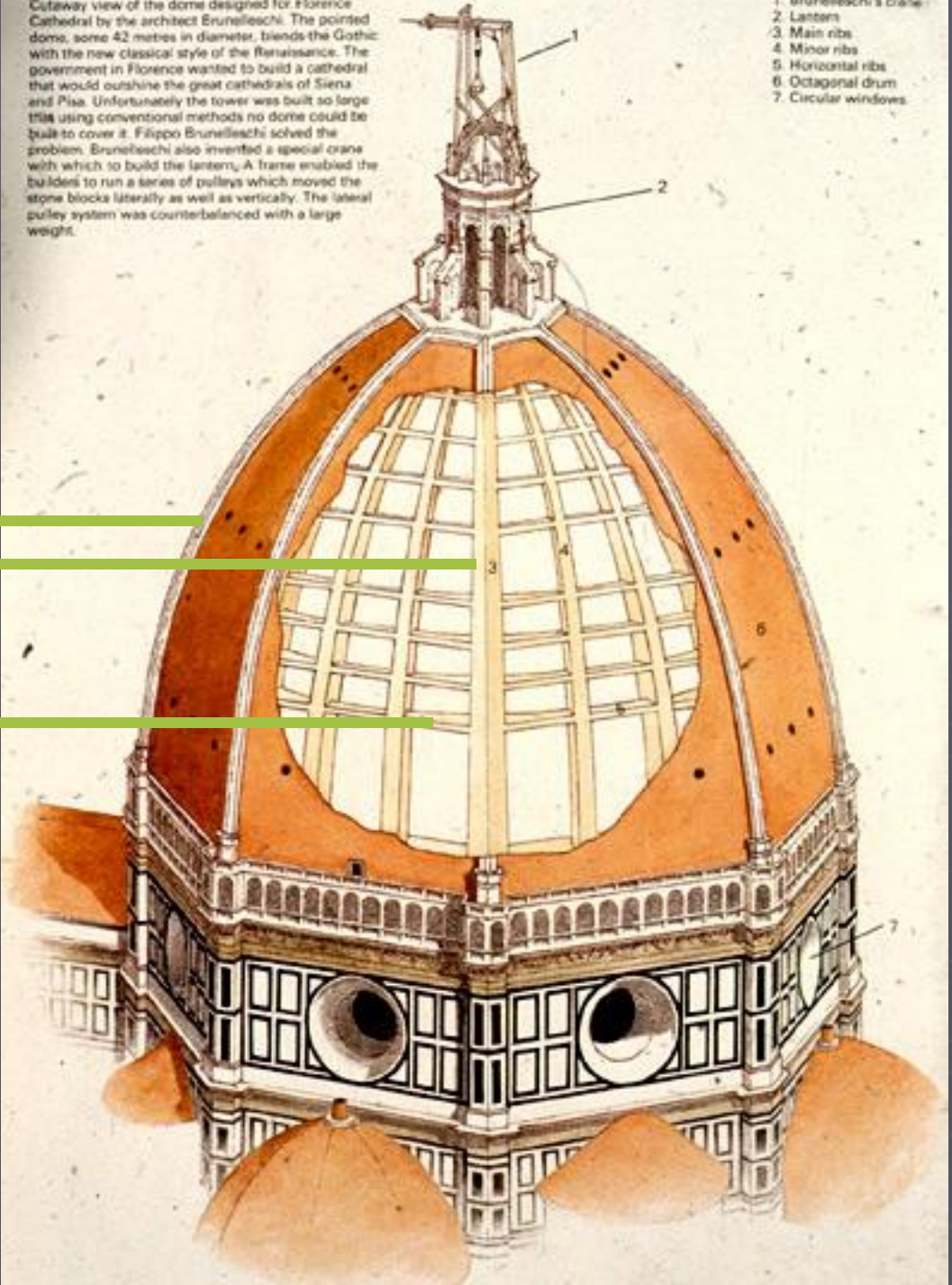


Dome of Florence Cathedral

- ▶ Challenged to design a dome for the crossing of the Florence Cathedral
- ▶ 140 Foot Span, dome could not be supported using buttresses
- ▶ Raised center of dome (compared hemispherical Roman domes)
- ▶ Lightened weight using double shell around 24 ribs

Cutaway view of the dome designed for Florence Cathedral by the architect Brunelleschi. The pointed dome, some 42 metres in diameter, blends the Gothic with the new classical style of the Renaissance. The government in Florence wanted to build a cathedral that would outshine the great cathedrals of Siena and Pisa. Unfortunately the tower was built so large that using conventional methods no dome could be built to cover it. Filippo Brunelleschi solved the problem. Brunelleschi also invented a special crane with which to build the lantern. A frame enabled the builders to run a series of pulleys which moved the stone blocks laterally as well as vertically. The lateral pulley system was counterbalanced with a large weight.

- 1 Brunelleschi's crane
- 2 Lantern
- 3 Main ribs
- 4 Minor ribs
- 5 Horizontal ribs
- 6 Octagonal drum
- 7 Circular windows



GOTHIC RIBS

HORIZONTAL SECTIONS

Florence Baptistery Competition

- ▶ Many traits that characterize Renaissance were evident
 - ▶ Development of new pictorial illusionism
 - ▶ Patronage as a civic imperative and a form of self-promotion



Brunelleschi.
The Sacrifice of Isaac.
1401 - 1402



Ghiberti.
The Sacrifice of Isaac.
1401 - 1402

**LORENZO
GHIBERTI
Sculptor
(1378-1455)**

Self Portrait (1450)
Florence Baptistery Door





"Gates of Paradise"



While some artists were very excited about exploring new ideas, others created a style combining the new Renaissance ideas with the traditional Gothic.

FRA ANGELICO

- ▶ Focused on serving the Roman Catholic Church
- ▶ Series of frescoes commissioned by the abbot of the Dominican monastery of San Marco in Florence

Blending Renaissance and Gothic Ideas

- ▶ Uses some perspective
- ▶ No overlapping figures
- ▶ Figures do not look round or solid
- ▶ Telling the religious story was more important than depicting a scene true to life.



Fra Angelico, The Annunciation. 1440-50



Sanctus Gabriel angelus et Maria

VIRGINIS IMMACULATAE CIVIC VENERENS ANTE FRONTEM DEITEREVENDO CAVE NE SILEGIATUR AVE

Paolo Uccello



- ▶ Obsessed with perspective
- ▶ Trained in the International Style
- ▶ Figures were not realistic – focus was on linear perspective

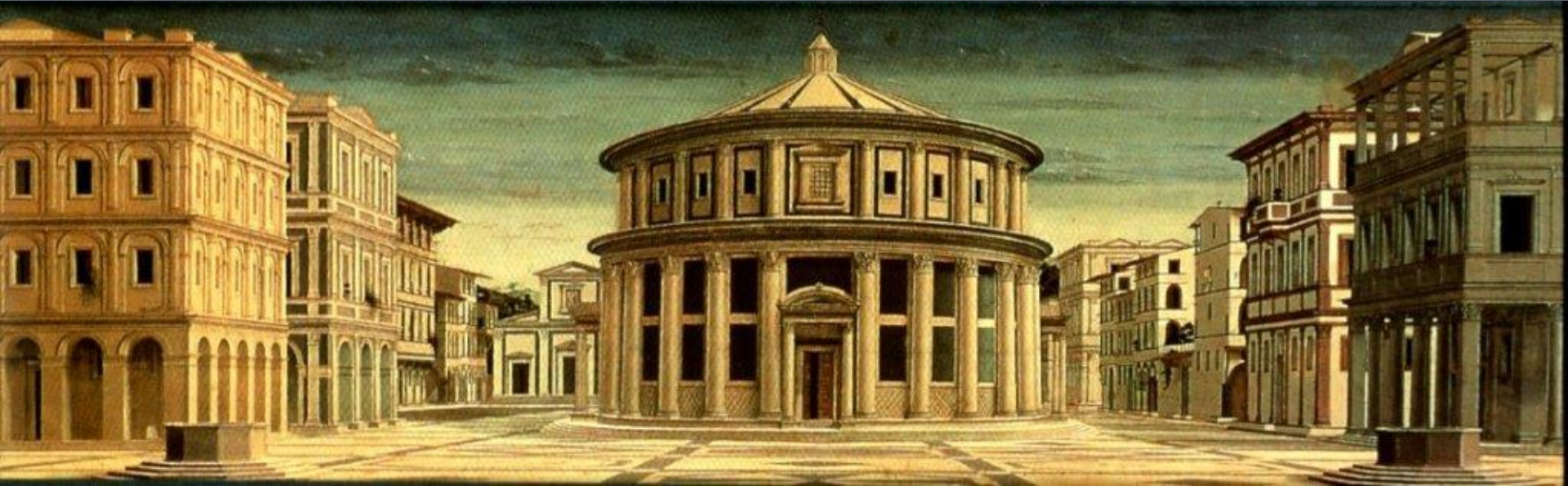


Commemorates the Florentine victory
over the Sienese in 1432



Saint George and the Dragon

Piero della Francesca



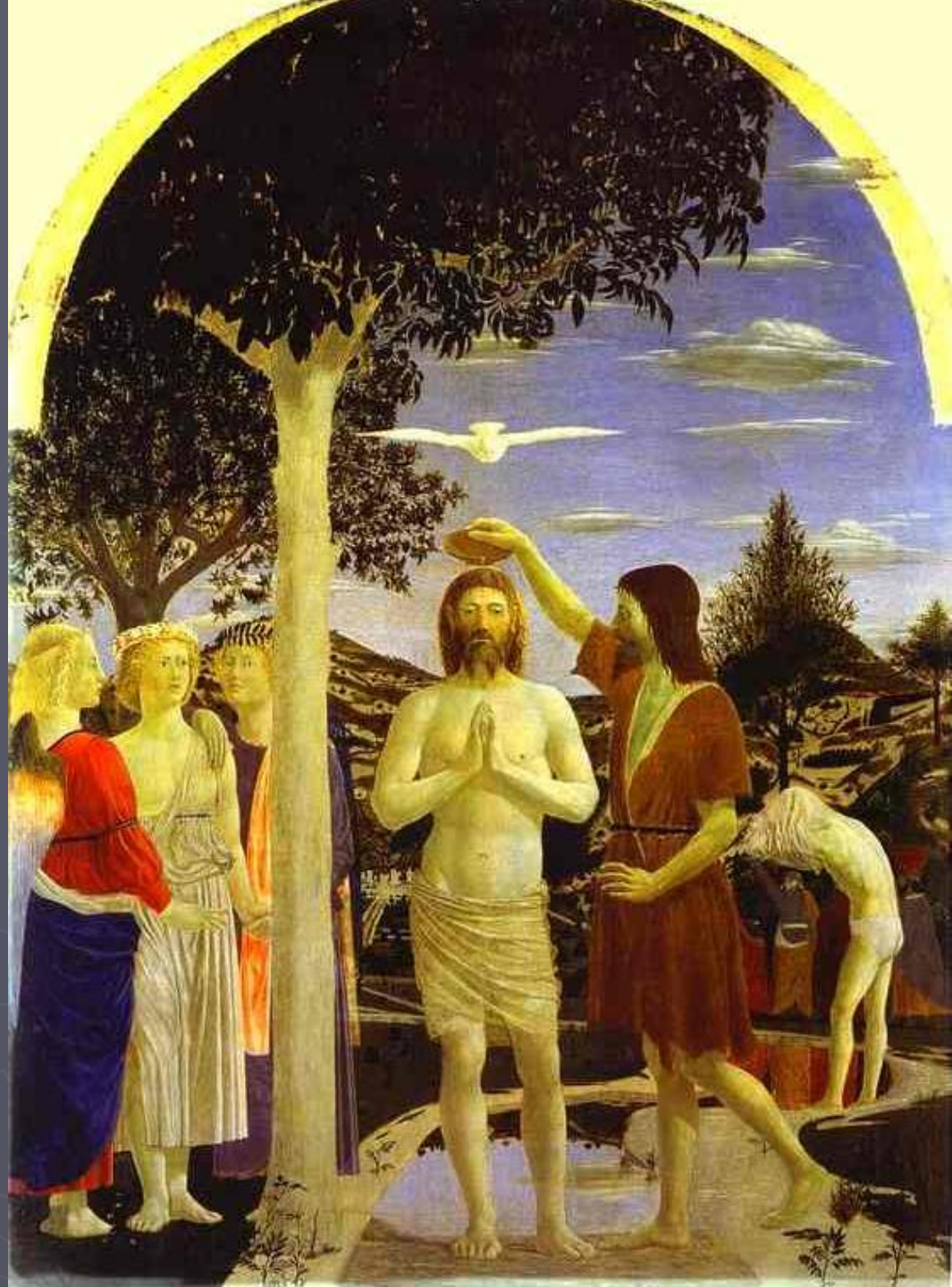
- ▶ Fully embraced the new style:
Combining perspective and realism
- ▶ Well known for the use of natural light and colors

Interested in light
and color

Flooded images
with light

Lacks relief-like
qualities of
Masaccio's
paintings, but
gains spatial clarity

Tempera on Panel

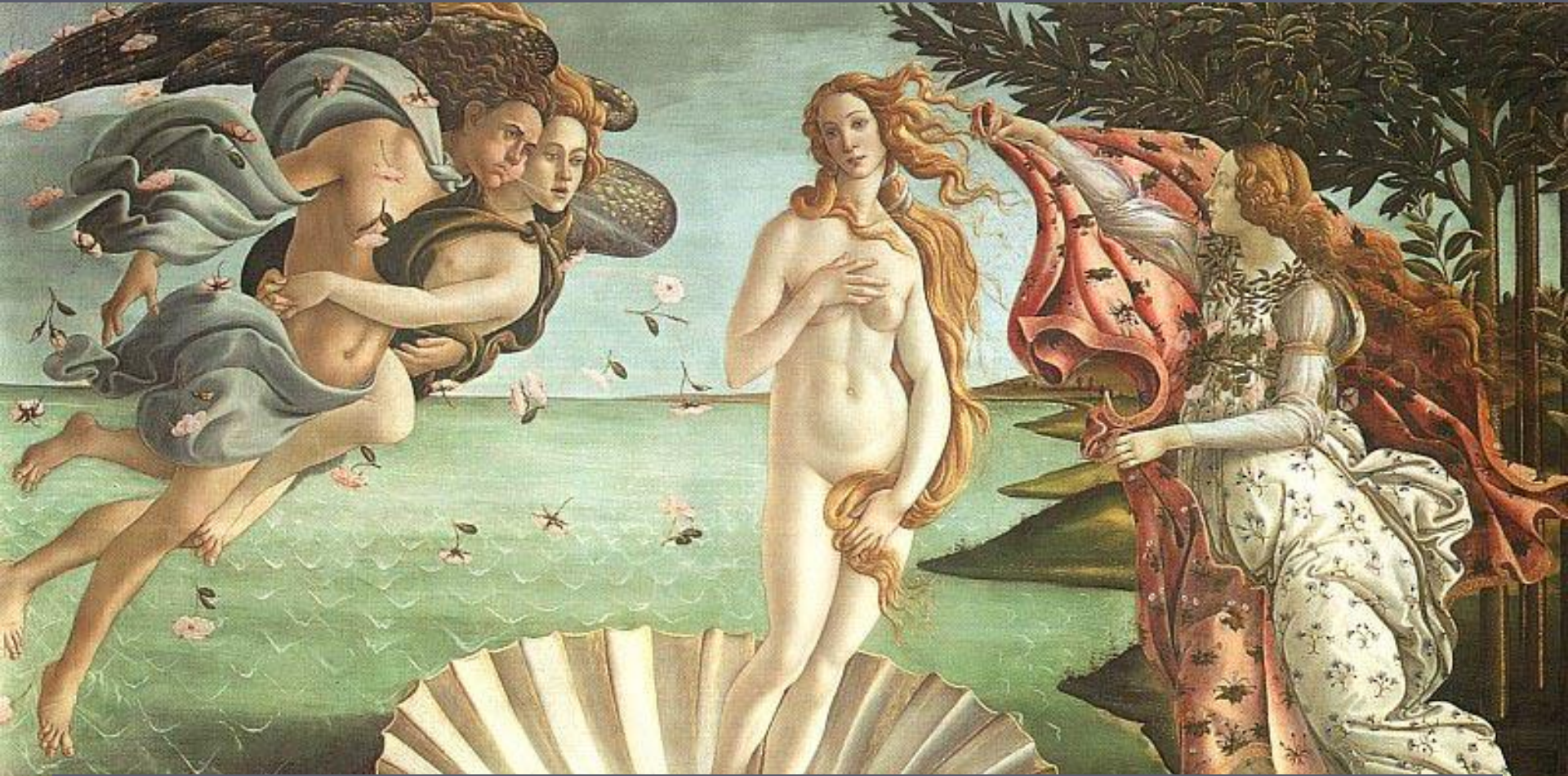


Sandro Botticelli

- ▶ Worked for the Medici family as a decorative painter
- ▶ Became more interested in decorative design than literal qualities
- ▶ Had a graceful style in painting



Botticelli, Birth of Venus. Tempera on Canvas - 1482

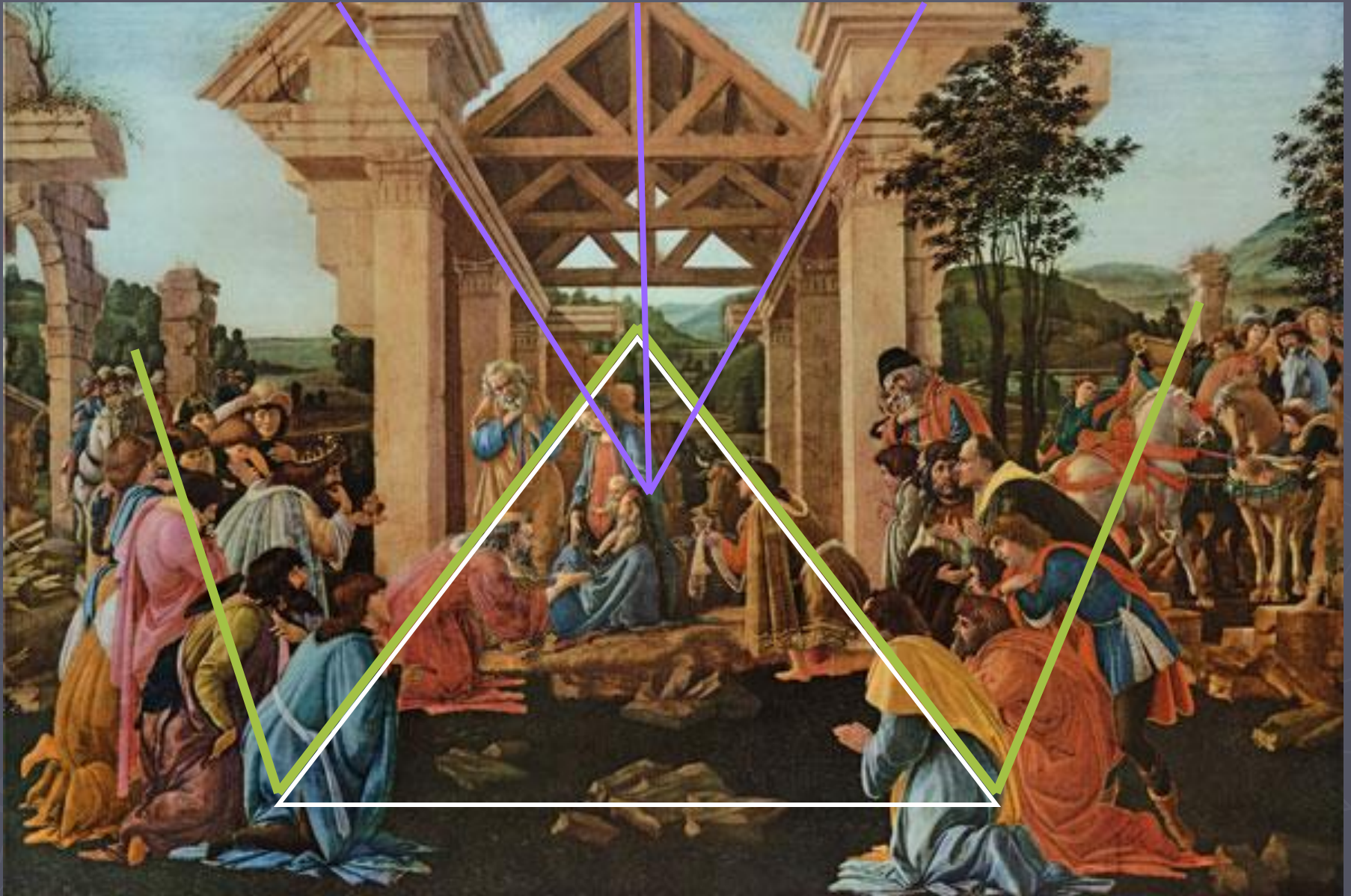


During Medieval times, artists had stopped depicting the nude female. The fact that Botticelli painted the Venus on such large scale was unusual.

- ▶ Botticelli, Potrait of a Youth.
Tempera on Panel 1480s



Element of Line



Botticelli, The Adoration of the Magi, 1481