

# The Renaissance



Europe 1300s – 1600s

# The word Renaissance = “rebirth”

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- ❑ The Renaissance was the period of “**rebirth**” and creativity that followed Europe’s Middle Ages
- ❑ It was a rebirth of interest in classical (Greek & Roman) art, literature and writing.



# Humanism

= new way of thinking that valued human creativity, education and reason

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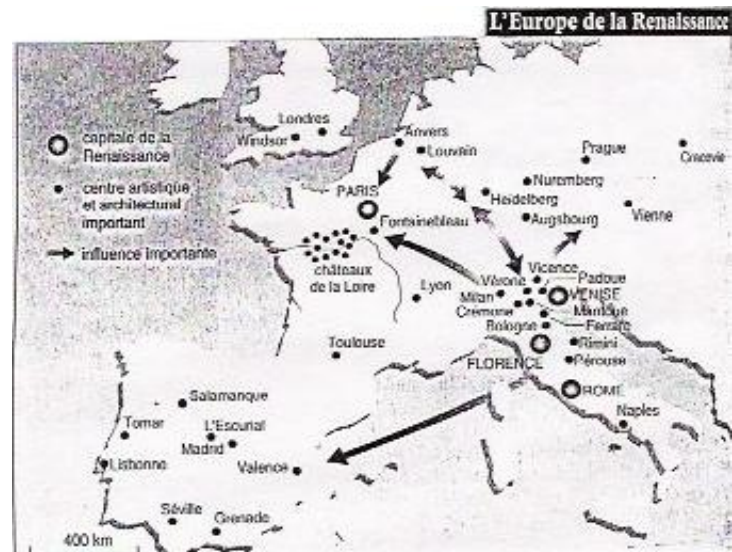
- Because of this rebirth, people became interested in subjects like history and art.
- Human nature and the dignity of man were considered important.
- Emphasis was placed on the present life as important in itself (instead of medieval emphasis on the present life merely as preparation for heaven).

# Spread of Renaissance



Renaissance began in Italian trade cities (e.g. Venice, Florence, Milan, and Genoa)

- Spread to rest of Europe



# Advances of the Renaissance: Architecture and Engineering

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Ren. architects and engineers were inspired by classical buildings and structure

- they added new ideas to the classical ones

Brunelleschi figured out how to create this 137 ft. wide, brick dome that stands without support structures.

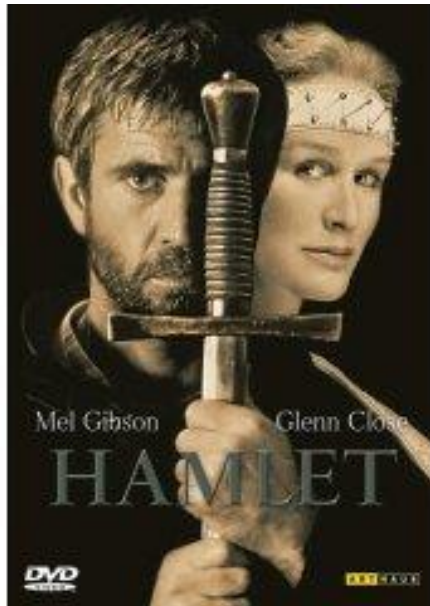


Duomo de Santa Maria del Fiore in Florence.

# Advances: Literature

## William Shakespeare (England)

- wrote over 30 plays + poems
- works still remade today



## Miguel de Cervantes (Spain)

- wrote *Don Quixote*

## Dante (Italy)

- wrote *The Divine Comedy*

# Advances: Art

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- Ren. artists created realistic, balanced works that valued human life in all aspects
- The use of **perspective** and the study of the human body made the art very realistic



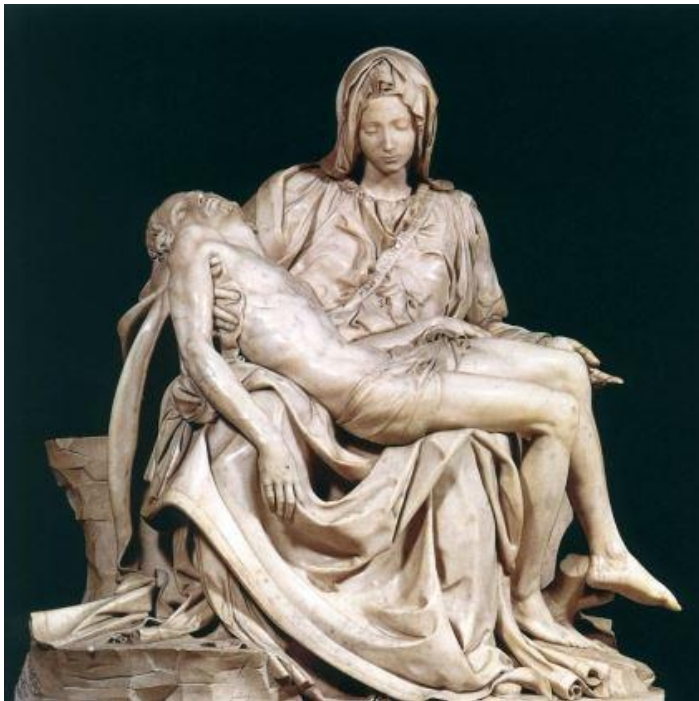
Mona Lisa, by da Vinci

Michelangelo (Italy) – 1<sup>st</sup> example of Ren. artist

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- architect, poet, sculptor, painter

- most famous painting covers ceiling of *the Sistine Chapel* in Rome



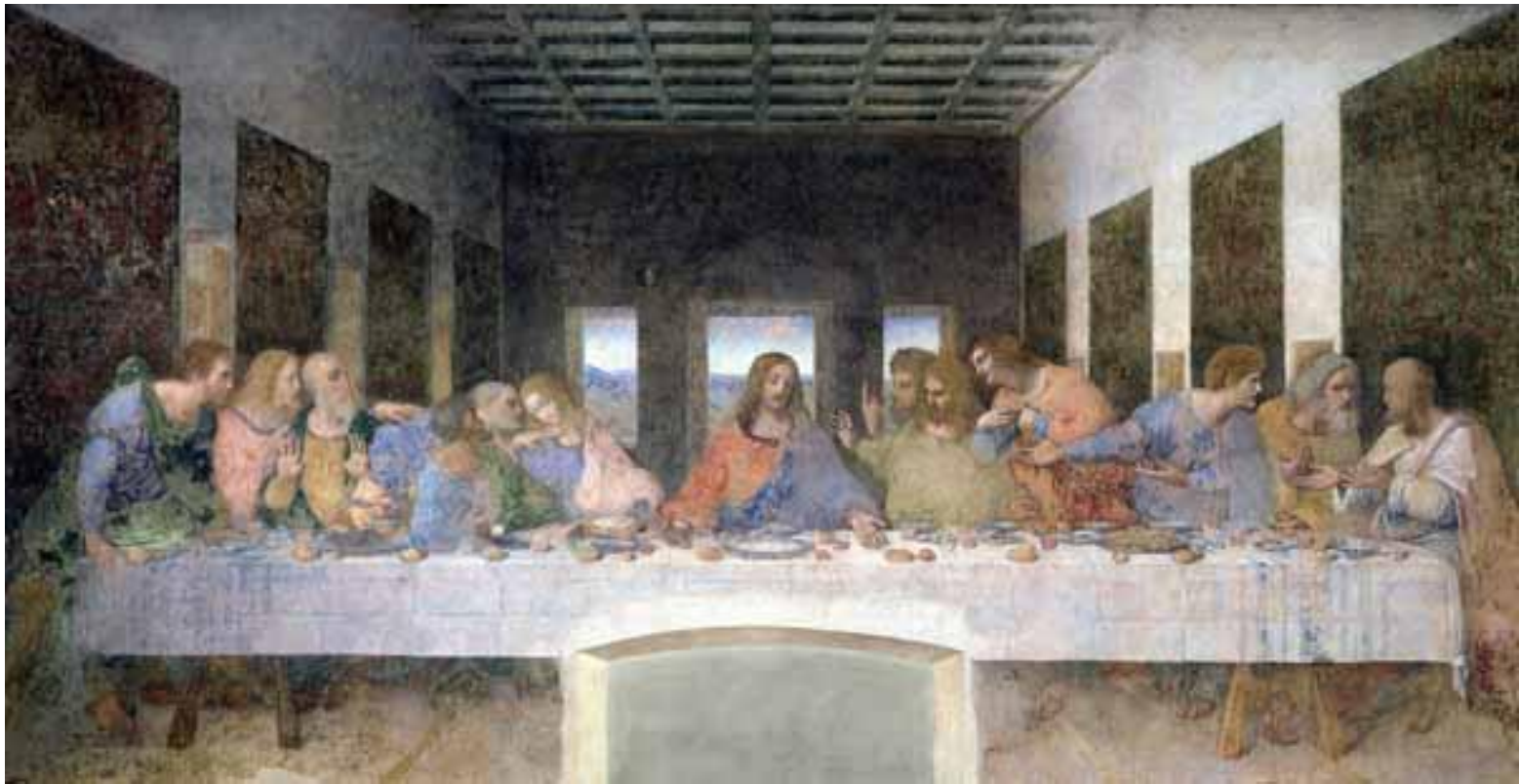
*The Pieta*, found in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome



Leonardo da Vinci (Italy) – 2<sup>nd</sup> example

- painter, sculptor, architect, inventor, and engineer, town planner, mapmaker
- some call him the greatest genius that ever lived

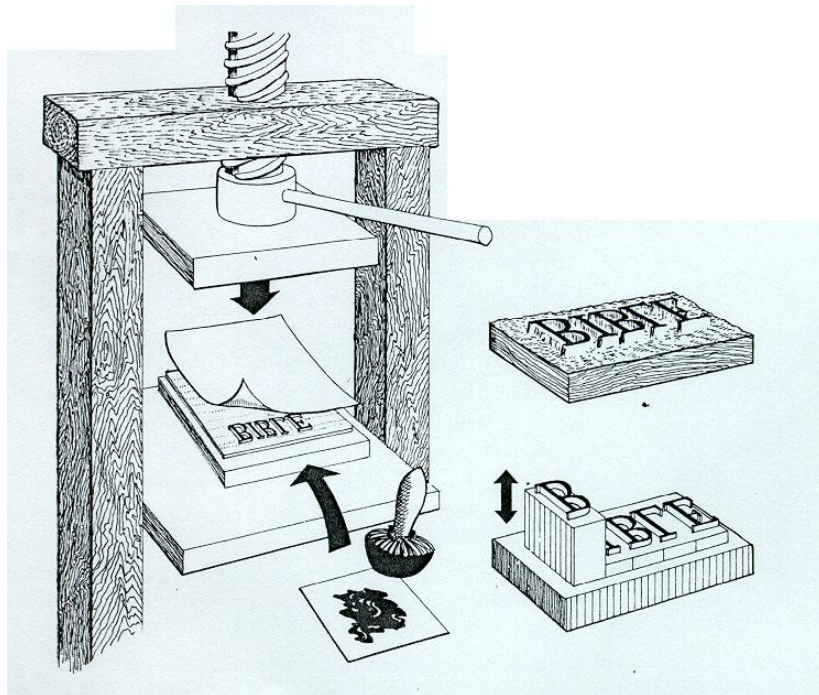
*The Last Supper* hangs in Milan, Italy



# Other Advances

## Science and Math

- Copernicus proved that the planets move around the sun
- Used math to figure out nature



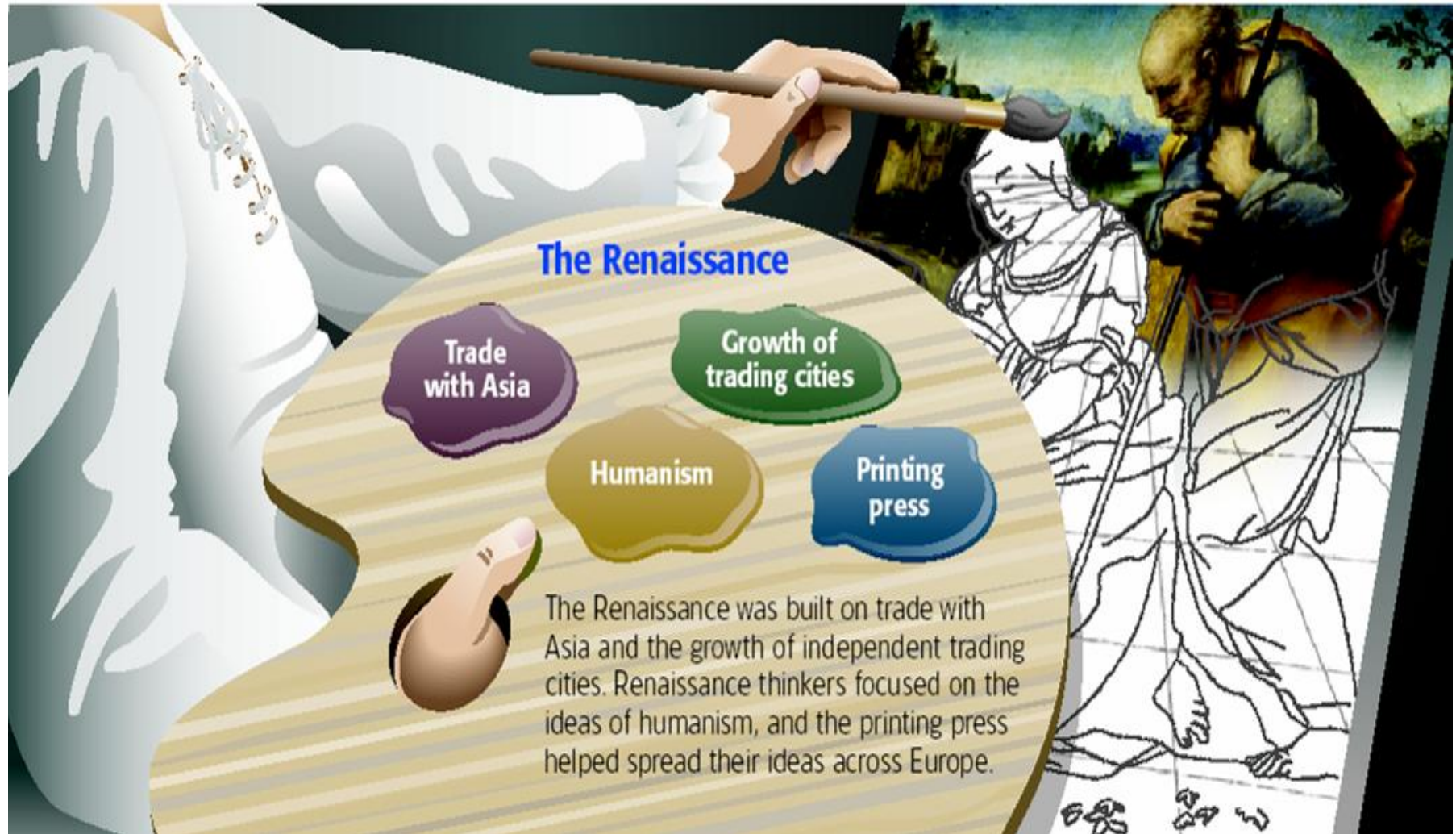
## Paper and Printing

- By the 1300s papermaking spread from China to Europe along the Silk Rd.
- c.1455 Gutenberg developed a printing press that used moveable type
- led to Bibles & other books being more available – more information and education

A Gutenberg printing press

# Summary of the Renaissance

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# Practice Test Question

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Which of these is *not* a characteristic of Renaissance painting?

- A. subject matter limited to Christian themes
- B. realistic portrait painting
- C. settings reflecting the world of the artists
- D. paintings showing depth and perspective

Correct answer: A

# Practice Test Question

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How did increased trade on the Silk Road lead to the Renaissance?

- A. It helped Marco Polo travel to India
- B. It increased prosperity in Italy
- C. People refused to believe Marco Polo's stories about China
- D. Kublai Khan reawakened an interest in Greek writings.

Correct Answer: B

# Practice Test Question

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- ❑ Artist, architect, mathematician
  - ❑ Studied anatomy to draw more realistic human figures
  - ❑ Painted a mural depicting the last meeting of Jesus and his disciples
  - ❑ Painted the portrait known as “Mona Lisa”
- ❑ The information in this chart best describes which of these individuals of the Renaissance?
    - A. Raphael
    - B. Michelangelo
    - C. da Vinci
    - D. Botticelli

Correct Answer: C

# Practice Test Question

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The first book Gutenberg printed with his printing press was

- A. a prayer book in Latin
- B. a Bible in German
- C. a Bible in Latin
- D. Marco Polo's adventures in China

Correct Answer: B

# Practice Test Question

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All of the following contributed to the spread of Renaissance ideas except

- A. monks copying books by hand onto animal skins
- B. Chinese methods of making paper arriving in Europe
- C. books becoming more available to Europeans
- D. artists, writers, and scholars studying in Italy and returning home with new ideas

Correct Answer: A