PRE-RENAISSANCE ART VS. RENAISSANCE ART
BYZANTINE ART

- The style that characterized Byzantine art was almost entirely concerned with religious expression; specifically with the translation of church theology into artistic terms.

- Byzantine Architecture and painting (little sculpture was produced during the Byzantine era) remained uniform and anonymous and developed within a rigid tradition.
Icon with the Archangel Gabriel, 13th century

The Cambrai Madonna, c. 1340
BYZANTINE MOSAICS

- Mosaic is the decorative art of creating pictures and patterns on a surface by setting small coloured pieces of glass, marble or other materials in a bed of cement, plaster or adhesive.
- A form of ornamental Christian art, mosaic was superseded during Renaissance times by fresco painting.
The advent of the Gothic style represents the summit of achievement for unified Christendom. "It represents the triumph of the papacy; a successful and inspiring synthesis of religion, philosophy, and art." Ultimately, the Gothic city was a representation of the unifying of secular and religious ideals.
GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE

- Its characteristics include:
- the pointed arch
- the ribbed vault (which evolved from the joint vaulting of Romanesque architecture)
- flying buttress
The Pointed Arch

- The pointed arch shape is the most recognizable shape from the Gothic period.
- A change from the rounded arch from the Romanesque period.
- More emphasis on the vertical (arch is “pointing” upwards).
• **Ribbed Vault**
  • The intersection of two to three barrel vaults
    • Allowed for windows to be higher up
    • Allowed for stronger stone supports
    • Taller more ornate churches
FLYING BUTTRESS

• To provide lateral support, flying-buttress systems are composed of two parts: (i) a massive pier, a vertical block of masonry situated away from the building wall, and (ii) an arch that bridges the span between the pier and the wall — either a segmental arch or a quadrant arch — the flyer of the flying buttress.
GOTHIC PAINTING

- Dark themes
- High emotions
- 2-dimensional
- Flat
- Lack of color
Painting (the representation of images on a surface) during the Gothic period was practiced in four primary crafts:

- frescos
- panel paintings
- manuscript illumination
- stained glass
FRESCOES
STAINED GLASS

• Frescoes (Painting on wet plaster), continued to be used as the main pictorial narrative craft on church walls in southern Europe as a continuation of early Christian and Romanesque traditions.

• In the north stained glass was the art of choice until the fifteenth century.
Panel paintings began in Italy in the thirteenth century and spread feverishly throughout Europe, so that by the fifteenth century they had become the dominating art form.
RENAISSANCE ART
ONE GREAT BEFORE THE GREATS

• Giotto di Bondone
MAJOR RENAISSANCE ADVANCES

- Perspective
- Chiaroscuro
- Sfumato
Chiaroscuro lighting: lighting that employs extreme contrasts of light and dark, thus creating dramatic shadows.
Sfumato Mode
Smoky effect by Leonardo Da Vinci

- Softened contrast and contours
- Gentle gradation from strong light to dark shadow
- Subtle transition between form and color
- Visible atmosphere

Virgin of the Rocks, 1495, Leonardo Da Vinci
RENAISSANCE SCULPTURE

• The qualities of Renaissance Sculpture that differed from Pre-Renaissance sculpture were:
  • More realistic detail
  • More movement
  • Less straight lines
David Matures...

Donatello, 15th century
Michelangelo, 16th Century
Bernini, 17th Century
Sekhmet Goddess vs. Kritios Boy vs. David

1450-1310 BC

480 BC

1501-1504