

RENAISSANCE ART HISTORY

Chronological Evolution of European Artistic Thought

1300 - 1400

Proto-Renaissance

The transition from Byzantine stylization to naturalism. Focus on human emotion and three-dimensional space.

Key Figures: Giotto, Duccio, Cimabue

1400 - 1490

Early Renaissance

The development of linear perspective and the study of classical antiquity in Florence. Focus on anatomy and mathematical proportion.

Key Figures: Brunelleschi, Donatello, Masaccio, Botticelli

1490 - 1527

High Renaissance

The pinnacle of artistic mastery and technical harmony centered in Rome. Characterized by "The Big Three."

Key Figures: Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo, Raphael

1520 - 1580

Mannerism

A reaction to High Renaissance perfection, favoring elongated forms, artificial colors, and exaggerated poses.

Key Figures: Pontormo, Parmigianino, El Greco

1430 - 1550

Northern Renaissance

Occurring simultaneously in the Low Countries and Germany. Characterized by oil painting precision and detailed symbolism.

Key Figures: Jan van Eyck, Albrecht Dürer, Hieronymus Bosch