

BAROQUE PERIOD

1600 – 1750

KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- **Grandeur:** Large-scale works and ornate detail.
- **Contrast:** Heavy use of Chiaroscuro (light/dark).
- **Emotion:** Focus on drama, tension, and movement.
- **Complexity:** Intricate ornamentation and layers.

VISUAL ARTS

- **Caravaggio:** Dramatic lighting and realism.
- **Bernini:** Dynamic movement in sculpture.
- **Rembrandt:** Master of portraiture and soul.
- **Vermeer:** Domestic life and interior light.

MUSICAL EVOLUTION

- **J.S. Bach:** Mastery of counterpoint and fugue.
- **Vivaldi:** The concerto and "The Four Seasons".
- **Handel:** Development of the Oratorio.
- **Forms:** Birth of Opera, Sonata, and Suite.

ARCHITECTURE

- **Versailles:** The ultimate symbol of Royal Absolutism.
- **St. Peter's Square:** Grand colonnades and scale.
- **Features:** Domes, colonnades, and swirling motifs.
- **Urbanism:** Monumental city planning.

PHILOSOPHICAL & SOCIAL CONTEXT

- **The Counter-Reformation:** Art used by the Church to inspire awe and devotion.
- **Absolutism:** Monarchs using grand art to project absolute power and divine right.
- **Scientific Revolution:** Influence of Galileo, Newton, and the expanding universe.