



The Italian Renaissance: Michelangelo



There are many masterpieces that we owe to Michaelangelo.

Born into a rich Florentine family, he first worked in the workshop of the painter Ghirlandaio.

At the age of 14 he was welcomed at the palace of Lorenzo de Medici, a great patron of the arts and letters of Florence.

It was the beginning of an artistic apprenticeship, which he accomplished on his own.

In Florence, he received his first orders for pictorial works; the Holy Family for the wedding of Angelo Doni. While Leonardo da Vinci, 23 years his senior, left no room for religious themes in his theory of knowledge, Michaelangelo placed the soul at the center of his artistic and intellectual preoccupations.

He met John and Julius who later became the popes Leo X and Clement VII, the primary commissioners of what became his greatest works.

In upsetting the traditional principles of art, he quickly became consecrated and was « The Divine One ».

A painter, sculptor, poet and architect, he gave us « La Pietà » at St Peter's Basilica, sculptures of David and Moses at the Vatican, a fresco narrating the Genesis on the vault of the Sistine Chapel and the famous « Last Judgment » on the altar's wall within the same chapel.

His work was deeply influenced by his studies on human anatomy, and his sculptures were extraordinarily accurate.

His work greatly influenced his peers, to the point that his way of painting and sculpting was mimicked with abandon by the representatives of what became known as « Mannerism », which prospered in the late Renaissance.

In recognition of his genius, he was buried in the Santa Croce Basilica in Florence and was accorded the national honours.

Directed by Jacques VICHET

French version
English Version

A documentary of 52'

High Definition

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