



The Italian Renaissance: Leonardo da Vinci, Raphaël, Michelangelo



Directed by Jacques VICHET

A documentary of 52'

French version
English Version

High Definition
HD Cam & Digital Betacam 16/9

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Italy in the 14th century, the centre of the Mediterranean Sea. A strategic commercial axis for trade between Europe and Asia, the silk and spice trade brought riches to the Italian merchant cities.

Economic development meant that Italian cities were able to become major centres for the arts, culture and sciences as well.

The Italian Renaissance originated in Tuscany and gradually spread to Rome.

The arts developed within a special political context. Italy at the time was not unified and each prince, each reigning family wanted to show off its splendor and its power.

Though the Tuscan artists were a reference, beginning in the XIVth century each artistic center had its own specificity and strong regional differences persisted in the XVth and XVIth century.

Florentine painting focused more on drawing, in Venitian painting color became all-important and in the early XVIth century Rome took on greater importance, with its pontifical and royal patronage.

The Renaissance artist was a complete artist, often a painter, sculptor and architect, theorist and poet, as were Leonardo da Vinci, Verrocchio and Michaelangelo.

The artist then was a learned man, who wrote and used theoretical treaties, who knew the laws of perspective and sought to gain understanding of the human body through dissections, the artist observed and experimented.

The presence of the Italian artists in the Moire Valley and in Fontainebleau turned the King of France's palaces into a laboratory and a site for the development of Italian art in Europe. .

The Italian Renaissance brought us the work of artists such as Michelangelo, Leonardo da Vinci, Raphaël, Titien, Botticelli, Giotto, Fra Angélico, Caravage, Véronèse...