



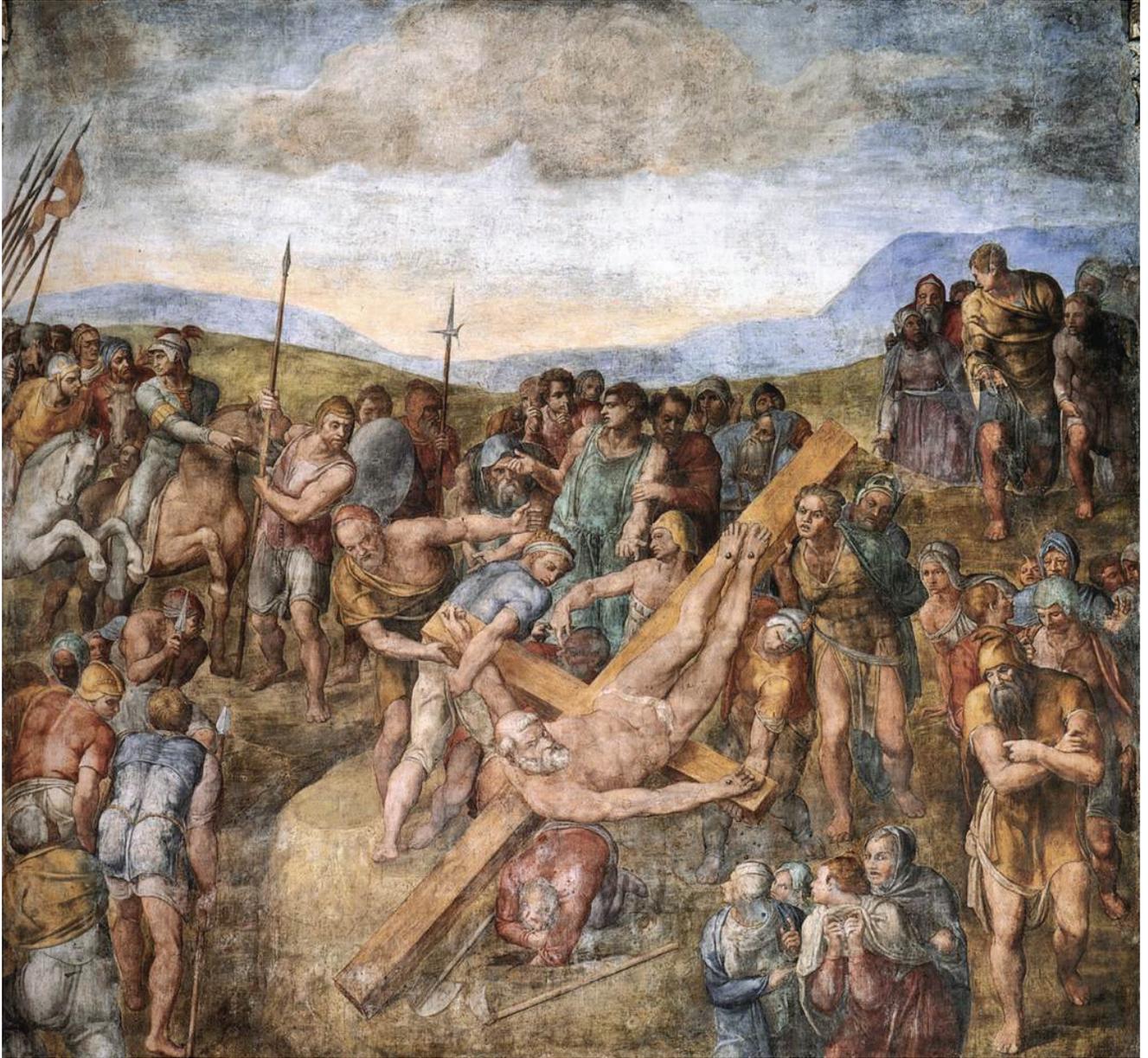
# Michelangelo

## Picture Study

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The Crucifixion of St. Peter  
Michelangelo, 1546-1550



# The Sistine Chapel: Isaiah

Michelangelo, c. 1508-1512



# The Sistine Chapel: Jonah

Michelangelo, c. 1508-1512



# The Sistine Chapel: David and Goliath

Michelangelo, c. 1508-1512



Moses

Michelangelo, c. 1513-1515



Pietà

Michelangelo, 1498-1499



# Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni

## ARTIST BIO NOTES

*These notes are provided to aid the teacher's own background research on the artist and his or her works. This is not meant to be presented to students as a list of facts and dates. When you first introduce the artist, tell students where the artist fits into the timeline of history, and where the artist lived and worked. Add a few more details with each new picture, but the information you share should be short and simple unless your students ask questions or wish to know more. Keep the main focus of your Picture Study time on observation and narration of the details of the picture.*

*Note: if a footnote appears with a fact that is not a direct quote, the fact comes from ONE source only.*

## LIFE & CHARACTER

*Italicized portions indicate historical events affecting the artist's life*

- ◆ Born 1475 in Caprese, Italy. His father the magistrate of Caprese. Soon moved to Florence.
- ◆ 1492, Lorenzo de' Medici died. Michelangelo began studying anatomy.
- ◆ *Turmoil in Florence: fighting factions, fall of the Medici, Charles VIII King of France takes over*
- ◆ 1494, with fall of Medici, Michelangelo left for Bologna.
- ◆ 1496, went to Rome
- ◆ 1500, *da Vinci returns to Florence*
- ◆ 1501, returned to Florence
- ◆ 1505, back to Rome to work under Pope Julius II (the two were similar: opinionated, ambitious; but had mutual respect for each other)
- ◆ 1513, Pope Julius II died. Pope Leo X succeeds (of Medici family with whom Michelangelo lived)

- ◆ Pope Clement VII succeeds in 1523
- ◆ *1527, Florence revolts to become republic, placed under siege*
- ◆ 1529, fled to Venice.
- ◆ *1530, Medici family reinstated to power; Michelangelo pardoned by Medici*
- ◆ 1534, left Florence never to return, settled in Rome
- ◆ 1564, died.
- ◆ A self-assured, ambitious, exceptionally gifted man: preferred to work without assistants, yet still able to complete masterpieces such as the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in four years, even though it was paint rather than his more comfortable mode of sculpture

#### TRAINING & CAREER

- ◆ Age 13 (1488), apprentice for only one year to Ghirlandaio
- ◆ Following year, noticed by ruler and famous art patron Lorenzo de' Medici and accepted into Medici household
- ◆ Age 16, created two relief sculptures which indicate an early development of his own style
- ◆ Continued working on sculptures in Bologna and Rome.
- ◆ 1498, while in Rome, sculpted Pietà, gaining fame in his day for this now world-renowned sculpture
- ◆ 1501, commission to sculpt David for the cathedral of Florence
- ◆ 1504, commissioned to paint a battle scene on a wall of Florence's city hall. His wall was opposite from a wall that da Vinci also was commissioned to paint a battle scene upon. Neither artist finished.
- ◆ 1505, commissioned by Pope Julius II to build the pope's tomb; never finished
- ◆ 1508, commissioned to paint the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel; preferring

sculpture, Michelangelo tried to get out of this commission, but had to do it; started with assistants, but fired all and did work completely on his own

- ◆ Worked under Pope Leo X and Pope Clement VII, both members of Medici family whom Michelangelo knew from living with the family, both commission Michelangelo to do architectural works
- ◆ 1527, built defensive structures for the republic in the siege of Florence
- ◆ 1534, commissioned by Pope Paul III to paint The Last Judgment on a wall of the Sistine Chapel; praised yet also criticized for use of nudity; after his death, nude figures were “clothed”
- ◆ 1546, chief architect for St. Peter’s. Noted for doing this project for God’s glory.

#### ART STYLE & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Painter, sculptor, architect, and poet of the Italian Renaissance
- ◆ Mainly marble but also bronze sculptures; sculptures marked by seriousness; preferred sculpting to other forms of art
- ◆ Anatomical study reflected in the size and sometimes depicted movement of his sculptures and paintings
- ◆ His works sometimes displayed reflections of Greek and Roman art and sometimes displayed the opposite, showcasing Michelangelo’s originality
- ◆ Like da Vinci, unable to complete many works due mainly to competing commissions, especially when working under the popes, and political upheaval.
- ◆ Mainly painted frescos
- ◆ Noted as being one of the greatest artists of all time.

#### ARTIST BIO LINKS

<http://www.michelangelo.com/buon/bio-index2.html> (very detailed)

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/379957/Michelangelo>

[http://www.wga.hu/bio\\_m/m/michelan/biograph.html](http://www.wga.hu/bio_m/m/michelan/biograph.html)

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/03059b.htm>

[http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic\\_figures/michelangelo.shtml](http://www.bbc.co.uk/history/historic_figures/michelangelo.shtml) (very brief, important dates and information)

## PICTURE SOURCES

<http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/2paintin/5peter.jpg>

[http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/3sistina/3prophet/03\\_7pr3.jpg](http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/3sistina/3prophet/03_7pr3.jpg)

[http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/3sistina/3prophet/10\\_3pr7.jpg](http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/3sistina/3prophet/10_3pr7.jpg)

[http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/3sistina/5spandre/00\\_4pe2.jpg](http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/3sistina/5spandre/00_4pe2.jpg)

[http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/1sculptu/giulio\\_2/moses.jpg](http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/1sculptu/giulio_2/moses.jpg)

<http://www.wga.hu/art/m/michelan/1sculptu/pieta/1pieta1.jpg>