



# Titian

## Picture Study

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# The Madonna of the Rabbit

Titian, c. 1525-1530



Ecce Homo

Titian, 1543



Sisyphus  
Titian, 1548-1549



Emperor Charles V at Mühlberg

Titian, 1548





Christ on the Way to Calvary

Titian, c. 1560



## Self-Portrait

Titian, c. 1550-1562



# Titian

## 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

- ◆ Born in Pieve di Cadore (alpine village), Italy. No definite date for birth. Around 1490.
- ◆ 1525, married Cecilia. Three children
- ◆ 1530, Cecilia died.
- ◆ 1530, introduced to Holy Roman Emperor Charles V
- ◆ Mid 1540s, short trip to Rome. Painted Pope's portrait.
- ◆ 1576, died from plague

## TRAINING & CAREER

- ◆ Around age 10, began training in Venice with mosaicist, next pupil of Gentile Bellini, next pupil to Gentile's renowned brother Giovanni Bellini
- ◆ 1508, worked with Venetian artist Giorgione on a fresco in Venice. Influence of Giorgione seen in pastoral style.
- ◆ 1510, finished fresco alone upon death of Giorgione.

- ◆ 1511, began his own career in Venice; established self well.
- ◆ 1513, opened his own shop
- ◆ 1516, the most sought after painter in Venice after he painted the altarpiece The Assumption for a church
- ◆ Commissions for religious works and altarpieces, mythological works, and portraits from churches, dukes, nobles, Holy Roman Emperor Charles V and his son Philip II, and Pope III
- ◆ 1533, appointed court painter to Charles V; knighted by Charles V
- ◆ 1540s, paintings for Pope III
- ◆ 1550s, paintings for Philip II
- ◆ Continued painting until his death

#### ART STYLE & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Greatest Renaissance artist from the Venetian School; famously called “the sun amidst small stars”
- ◆ Highly influential in the style of other artists (Rubens, Delacroix)
- ◆ Noted for stunning use of color
- ◆ Body of works: altarpieces, other religious compositions, mythological compositions, portraits, and pastoral landscapes
- ◆ Style: focus on color, movement, “poesie” = poetry in painting (in his mythological works)
- ◆ Baroque influence (Rubens, for example)
- ◆ Masterful characterization and subtle emotional depth in his portraits.
- ◆ Change from early to later style: looser, longer strokes and less realistic, but nevertheless highly praised for beauty

## ARTIST BIO LINKS

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

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/artists/titian>

[http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/tita/hd\\_tita.htm](http://www.metmuseum.org/toah/hd/tita/hd_tita.htm)

<http://www.abcgallery.com/T/titian/titianbio.html>

<http://totallyhistory.com/titian/>

## PICTURE SOURCES

[http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/03\\_1530s/2rabbit.jpg](http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/03_1530s/2rabbit.jpg)

[http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/04\\_1540s/6ecceho.jpg](http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/04_1540s/6ecceho.jpg)

<http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/09/01sisyph.jpg>

<http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/10/22/06charle.jpg>

[http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fd/Titian\\_-\\_Christ\\_Carrying\\_the\\_Cross\\_-\\_WGA22830.jpg](http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/fd/Titian_-_Christ_Carrying_the_Cross_-_WGA22830.jpg)

<http://www.wga.hu/art/t/tiziano/10/22/12selfpo.jpg>