

# Italian artistic masterpieces

ERASMUS+ KA229 PROJECT



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# Milan Cathedral – Duomo di Milano

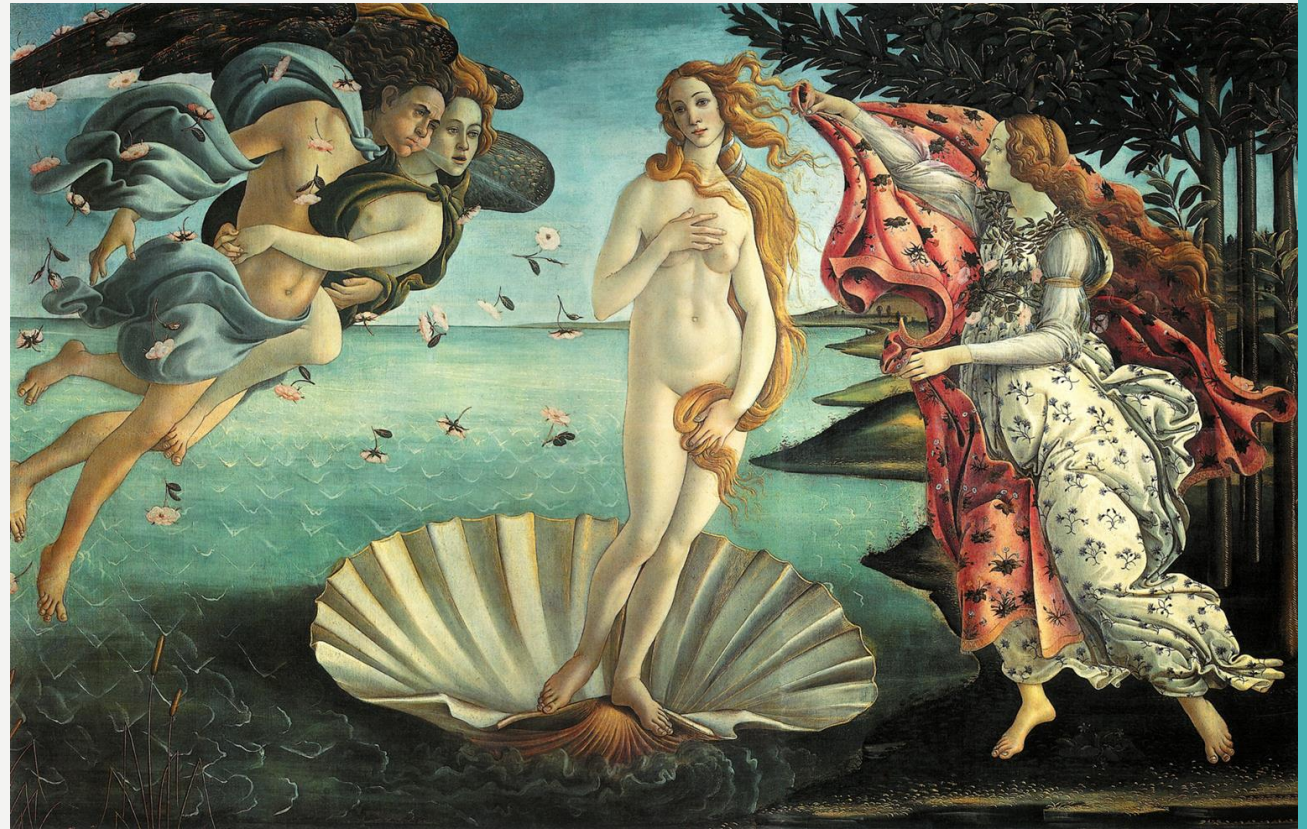
The *Milan Cathedral* tells a story of faith and art spanning over six centuries. Construction work on the Duomo of Milan probably began in 1386.

Work for the construction of Milan cathedral began in 1386 when the style of Gothic cathedrals had reached its peak. It was decided that the new church should be built in the area of the ancient basilicas of Santa Maria Maggiore and Santa Tecla, the remains of which, together with those of the Baptistery of San Giovanni alle Fonti, are still visible in the Archaeological Area.



# Birth of Venus - La nascita di Venere

*The **Birth of Venus*** is a painting by the Italian artist **Sandro Botticelli**, probably made in the mid 1480s. It depicts the goddess Venus arriving at the shore after her birth, when she had emerged from the sea fully-grown. The painting is in the Uffizi Gallery in Florence, Italy.



# Tower of Pisa - La torre di Pisa

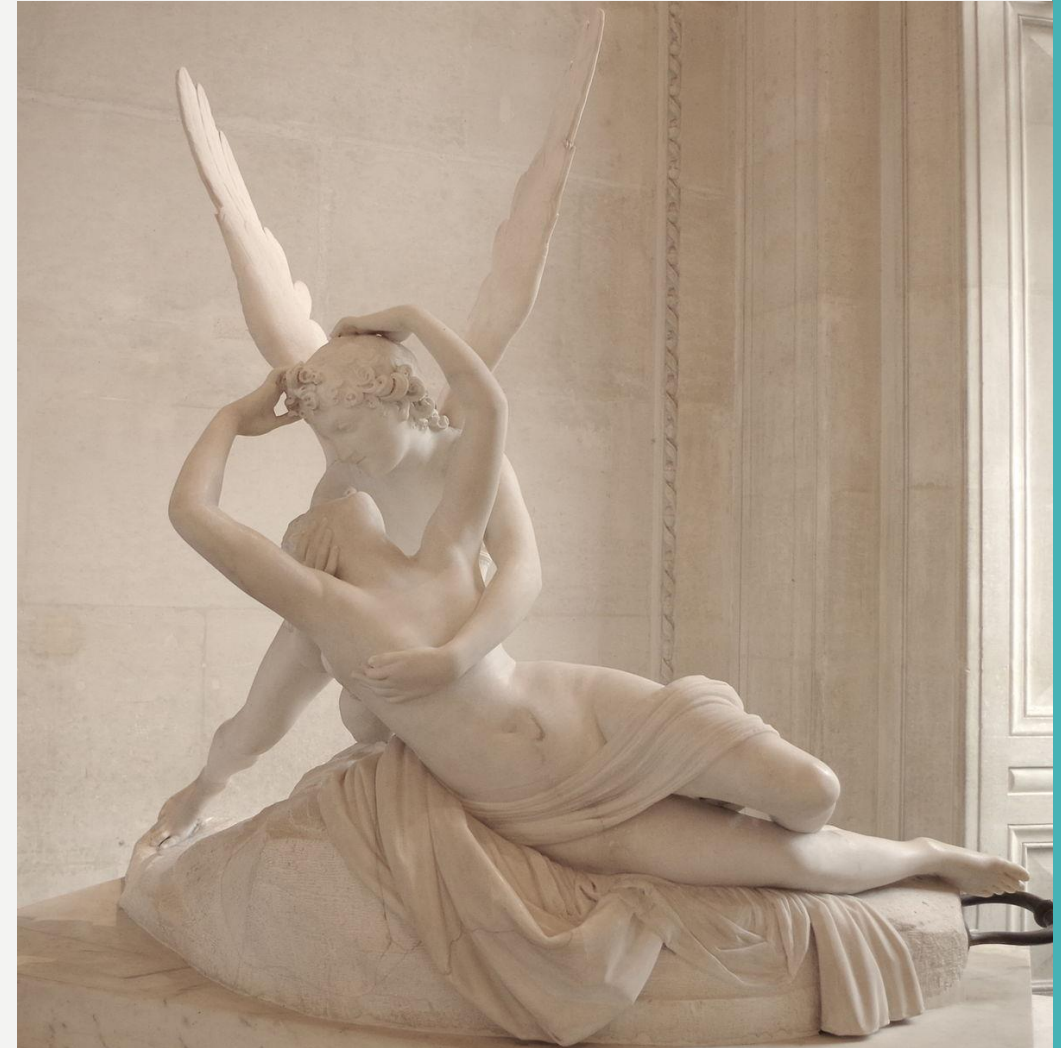
*The Tower of Pisa* is the freestanding bell tower, of the cathedral of the Italian city of Pisa, known worldwide for its nearly four-degree lean, the result of an unstable foundation.

The tower is situated behind the Pisa Cathedral and is the third-oldest structure in the city's Cathedral Square, after the cathedral and the Pisa Baptistry.



# Love and Psyche - Amore e Psiche

*Cupid and Psyche* is a sculpture by Italian artist **Antonio Canova** first commissioned in 1787 by Colonel John Campbell. It is regarded as a masterpiece of Neoclassical sculpture, but shows the mythological lovers at a moment of great emotion, characteristic of the emerging movement of Romanticism. It represents the god Cupid in the height of love and tenderness, immediately after awakening the lifeless Psyche with a kiss. The story of Cupid and Psyche is taken from *Metamorphoses* written in the 2nd century by Lucius Apuleius.



# The Colosseum - Il Colosseo

Known as the *Flavian Amphitheatre*, the Roman Colosseum is one of the capital's most remarkable monuments.

Every year over 6 million people visit it.

The Colosseum is the main symbol of Rome. It is an imposing construction that, with almost a 2,000 years history, will bring you back in time to discover the way of life in the Roman Empire.

The construction of the Colosseum began in the year 72 under the empire of Vespasian and was finished in the year 80 during the rule of the emperor Titus. After completion, the Colosseum became the greatest Roman amphitheatre, measuring 188 meters in length, 156 meters in width and 57 meters in height.



# School of Athens - La scuola di Atene

The *School of Athens* is a fresco painted by the Italian Renaissance artist **Raffaello**. It was painted between 1509 and 1511 as a part of Raffaello's commission to decorate the rooms nowadays known as the Stanze di Raffaello, in the Apostolic Palace in Vatican. The Stanza della Segnatura was the first of the rooms to be decorated, and The School of Athens, representing philosophy, was probably the third painting to be finished there, after *La Disputa* (Theology) on the opposite wall, and the *Parnassus* (Literature). The painting is remarkable for its accurate perspective projection and for the representation of the most important philosophers and scientists, in ancient world and in modern era. The main characters of the painting, in the middle of it, are Plato and Aristotle.



# Temple of Concord - Tempio della Concordia

The *Temple of Concord* in the ancient city of Rome refers to a series of shrines or temples dedicated to the Roman goddess Concordia, and erected at the western end of the Roman Forum. The Temple of Concord, constructed by Lucius Opimus during the Republican period, had a typical rectangular podium (40.8m x 30m). Based on the construction methods used in the base and support walls, the porch had eight Corinthian columns made out of travertine drums covered in stucco.





# Michelangelo's David – David di Michelangelo

*David* is a masterpiece of Renaissance sculpture, created in marble between 1501 and 1504 by the Italian artist **Michelangelo**. David was placed in a public square, outside the Palazzo Vecchio, the seat of civic government in Florence, in the Piazza della Signoria.

The statue soon came to symbolize the defence of civil liberties embodied in the Republic of Florence



# Bernini Colonnade – Colonnato di Bernini

**Bernini** designed this monument to Christianity, with the idea of embracing visitors in “the maternal arms of Mother Church”. Bernini Colonnade is situated in piazza San Pietro, the project meets both the need to create a symbolic and monumental space appropriate to the community of the faithful and also to correct the perspective of the excessive horizontalness of the facade of the Basilica. The result is a 240 metre wide ellipse, connected to the church by two converging arms that border the trapezoid church square. 284 Doric columns, arranged in 4 rows, make up the hemicycle sides. Precise geometric calculations render the whole colonnade graceful and dynamic with the alternate full and empty spaces. 140 statues of saints crown the entablature.



# Monreale Cathedral – Duomo di Monreale

The ***Cathedral of Monreale*** is a church in Monreale, Metropolitan City of Palermo, Sicily, southern Italy.

One of the greatest existent examples of Norman architecture, it was begun in 1174 by William II of Sicily.

In 1182 the church, dedicated to the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, was, by a bill of Pope Lucius III, elevated to the rank of a metropolitan cathedral.

The church is a national monument of Italy and one of the most important attractions of Sicily.

Its size is 102 meters long and 40 meters wide.



# Annunciata

The Virgin Annunciate is a painting by the Italian Renaissance artist **Antonello da Messina**, housed in the Palazzo Abatellis, Palermo, region of Sicily, Italy.

Probably painted in Sicily in 1476, it shows Mary interrupted at her reading by the Angel of the Annunciation.

It is painted in oil on panel, a technique introduced to Italy by its artist, who had learned it from North European artists such as Petrus Christus - by thus abandoning tempera technique he was able to produce the finely-detailed works typical of him.



# Our reinterpretation of the Annunciata



Copying is regarded as a wrong activity in school and in life, but if the copy isn't plagiarism, it becomes an expression of creativity. The reinterpretation of Antonello da Messina's «L'annunciazione», which is made by the students of artistic high school, becomes an original and cultured representation in wood. The Virgin silhouette has been drawn, then drilled on wood canvas, changing the original picture in a sculpture made with fulls and empties to highlight one of the most enigmatic picture of history.

# Deep European CulTour

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