

The RENAISSANCE

- “Rebirth” - a new awakening
 - Rediscovery of classical Greece & Rome
 - begins about 1350 in Italy
 - spreads to rest of Europe
- Learning and education grow
 - Rise of universities, scientific experimentation
 - Rise of philosophy, humanism
 - New concept = “Man is the measure of all things.”
 - Rise of painters, sculptors, writers
 - Rise of Protestant Reformation

New Science and Technology

- Inventions
 - Printing
 - Gutenberg Bible ca 1455
 - Cartography (map making)
- Travel, exploration
 - 1492 Columbus
 - Trade, commerce, wealth
 - Civic pride, art patrons

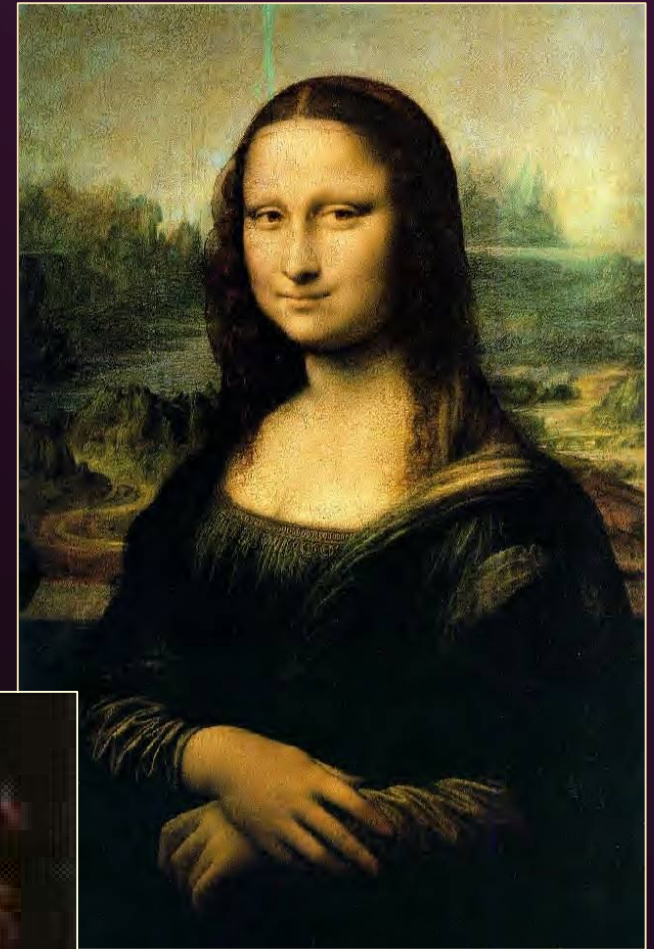
RENAISSANCE

- Begins ca 1400 in Florence
 - banking, commerce
 - textiles, wealth
- 1453 Constantinople falls
 - Greek scholars return to Italy



- The concept of the individual emerges

- “Artistic genius” appears with Leonardo da Vinci , Michelangelo, Raphael , and others
- Artists are commissioned to paint portraits -
- No longer is artwork confined to religious subject matter
- Genre painting (scenes from daily life) also become popular



Scenes from daily life

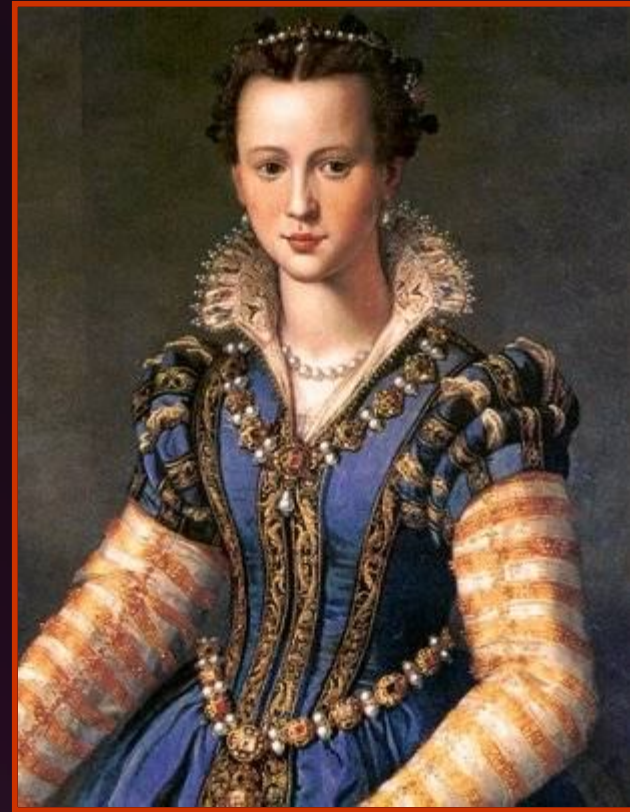
Renaissance Life

Upward mobility is now possible

- Many rise to wealth through commerce
- The “merchant prince” emerges
- Wealthy versus nobility is an issue



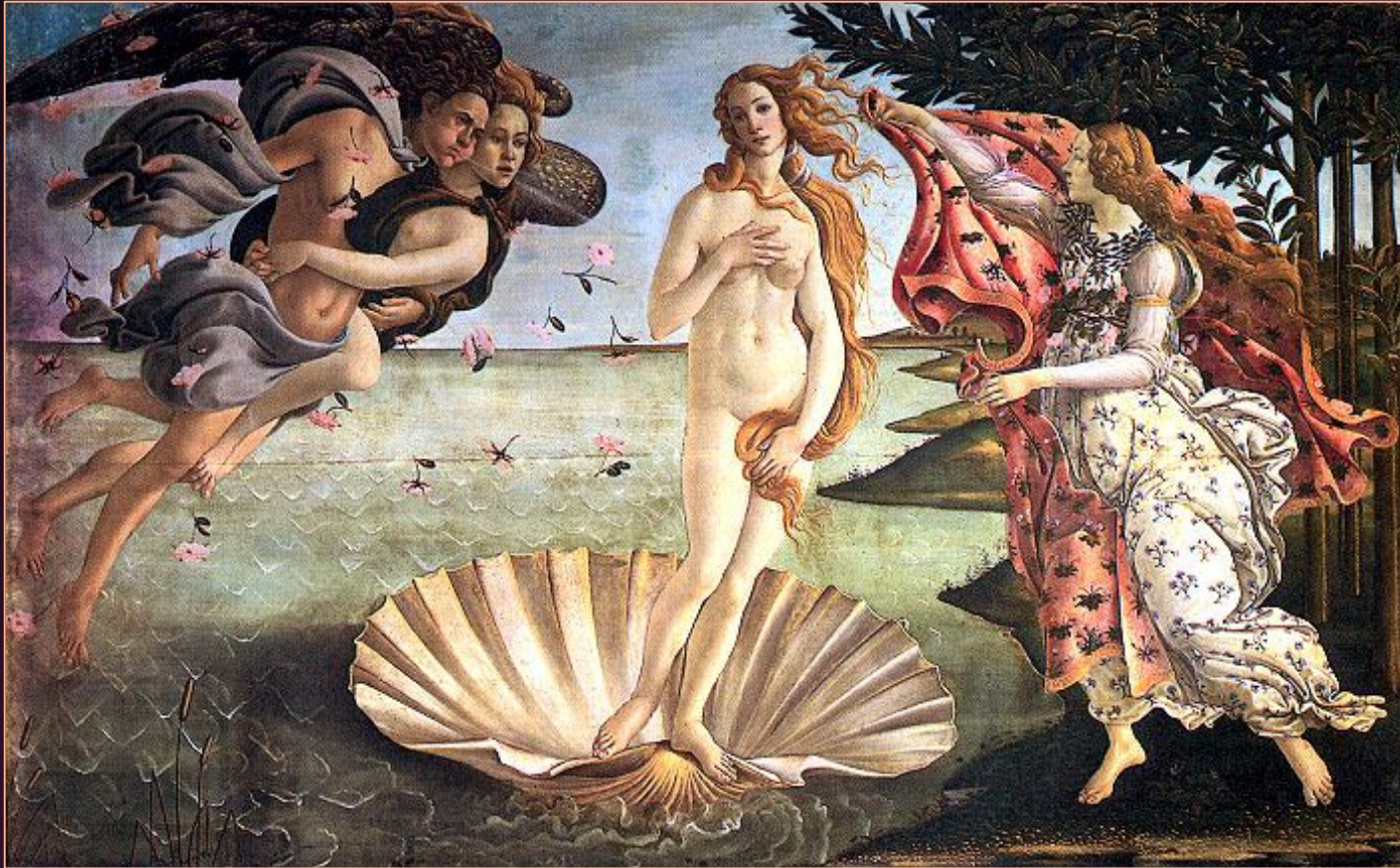
Cosimo I de' Medici, Duke of Florence, by Passignano



Marie de' Medici,

Renaissance Art

Mythological and musical themes become common



Birth of Venus, Botticelli (c. 1485)

This painting is an allegory of rebirth. In classical mythology Venus (symbol of heavenly beauty) emerged from the sea. Here, she represents Florence - a city that emerged from the Middle Ages in the Renaissance to become grand and beautiful. .

Renaissance Architecture

- Revival of classical Greek and Roman design
- Focus on:
 - Rationally ordered space
 - Numerical relationships
 - Ideal architecture and ideal cities

Renaissance Architecture

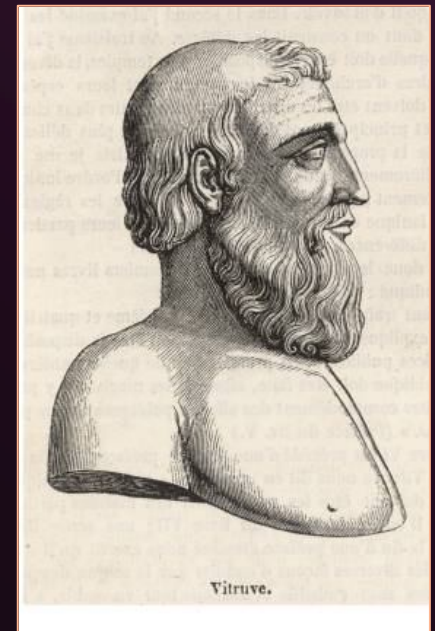
In the Renaissance, architecture was the supreme art

- But it was not considered a specialist profession

Architecture was designed by professional architects, painters, sculptors (such as Michelangelo), humanists, masons, and amateurs with time and money

Renaissance Architecture

- Brought back books of Vitruvius
 - Roman architect and engineer
 - Wrote “*De architectura*”
 - Also called “*Ten Books of Architecture*”
 - Established ideal proportions
 - Preserved Classical Greek design
- Very important to Renaissance architects



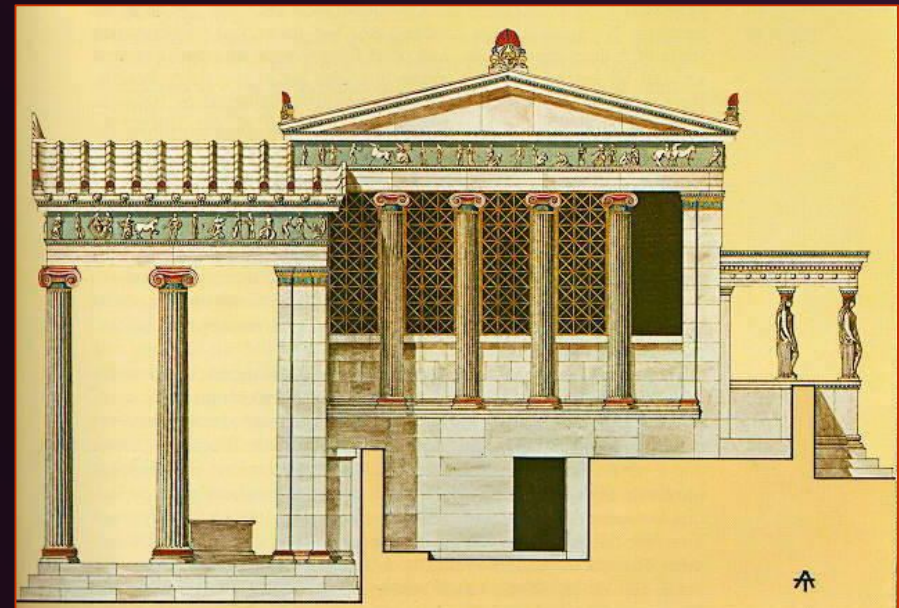
Marcus **Vitruvius** Pollio
born c. 80–70 BC, died
after c. 15 BC

Classic Revival

Art & architecture inspired by ancient Greece and Rome



The Roman Pantheon



The Greek Erechtheion

S. Giorgio Maggiore, Venice – Classical Influence in Renaissance Architecture

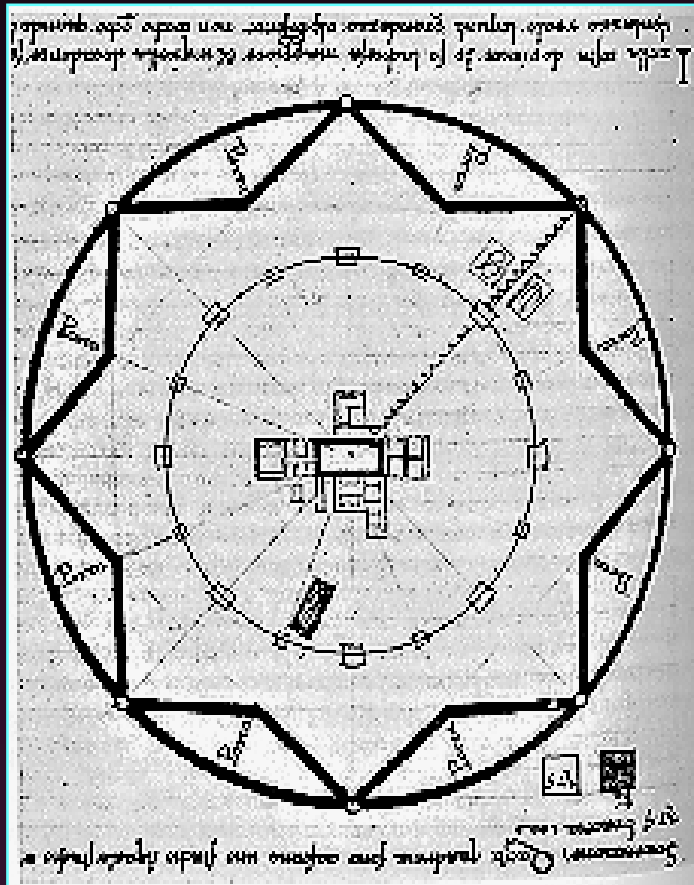


The exterior shows influence from the Pantheon. The interior has a long barrel vault framed by columns and arches. Above the crossing is a dome with windows – called a “lantern”.



Designed by Andrea Palladio - begun 1566

drewidhistory.wordpress.com



RENAISSANCE CITY PLANS

Note the geometric design. The dimensions are based on the 1:2 ratio found in a musical octave (8 tones).

Santa Maria Novella

1458-71 Battista Alberti



Tempietto of San Pietro

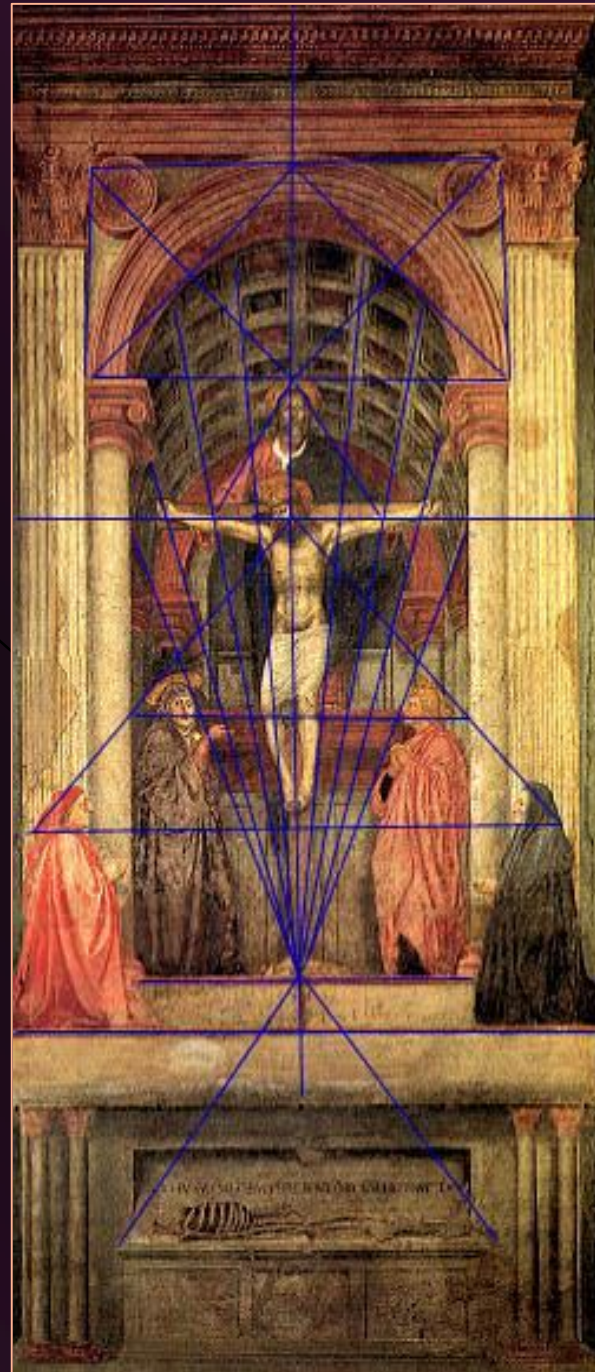
Architects seek harmony of proportion

- elements of both Christianity and classicism
- the circle is a symbol of divine perfection



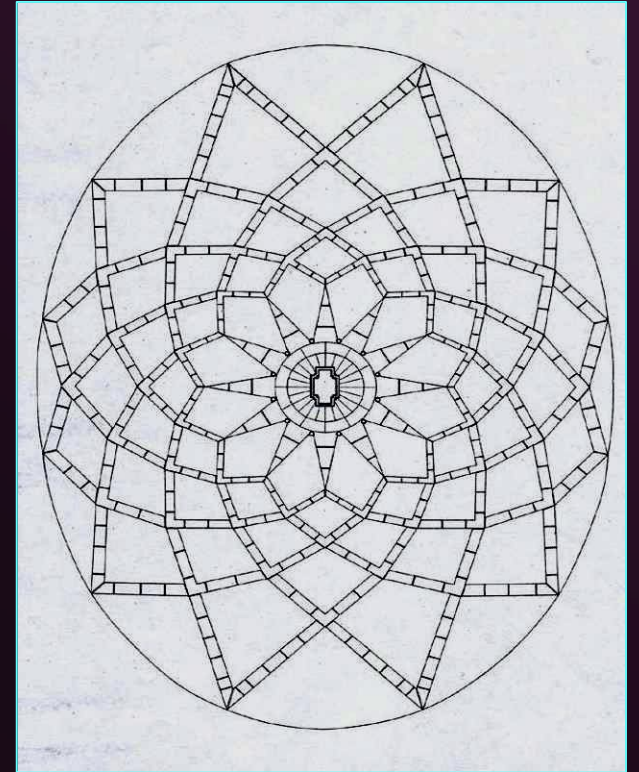
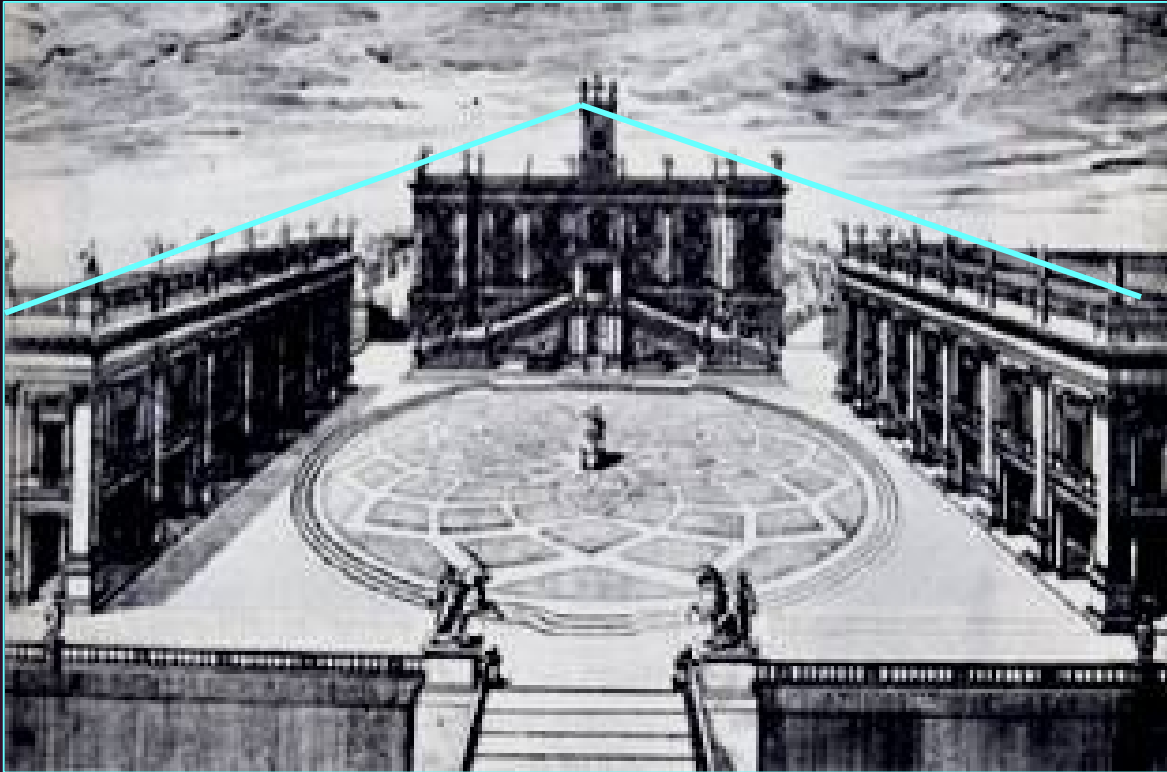
Donato Bramante 1500-2

Scientific Perspective Emerges



The Holy Trinity, Masaccio, c. 1425

Piazza del Campidoglio



From 1536 until 1546, Michelangelo transformed the **Campidoglio**. He designed it to have 3 palazzi that enclose a harmonious trapezoidal space, approached by the ramped staircase called the "Cordonata".

Renaissance Architecture

- The first truly Renaissance building is the Ospedale degli Innocenti - 1419
- Note: strong horizontal lines, symmetrical design



Tripartite
division

Ospedale degli Innocenti, Florence - Filippo Brunelleschi

Ospedale degli Innocenti

Note the elaborately painted ceiling



Ospedale degli Innocenti, Florence - Filippo Brunelleschi

Lorenzo de Medici

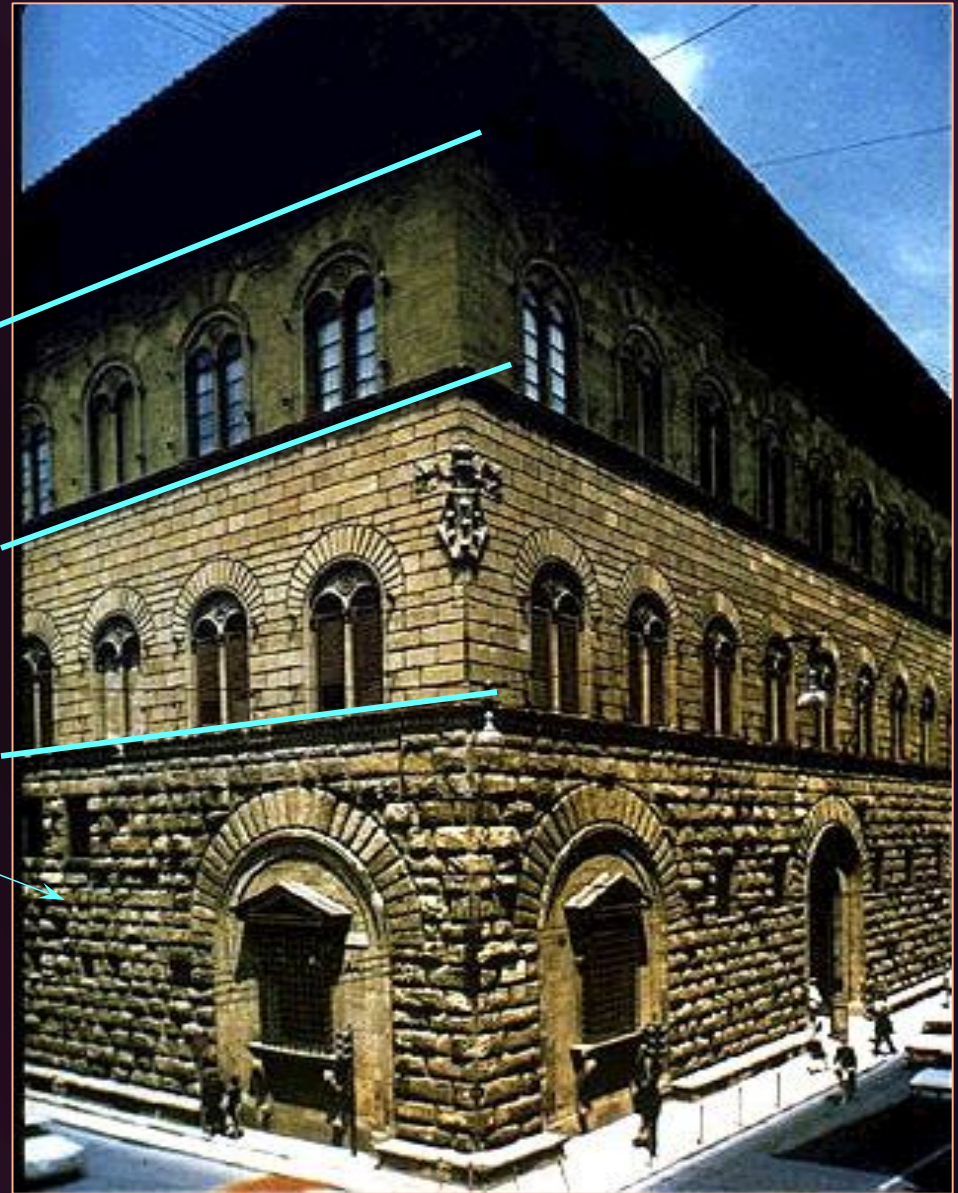


- 1460

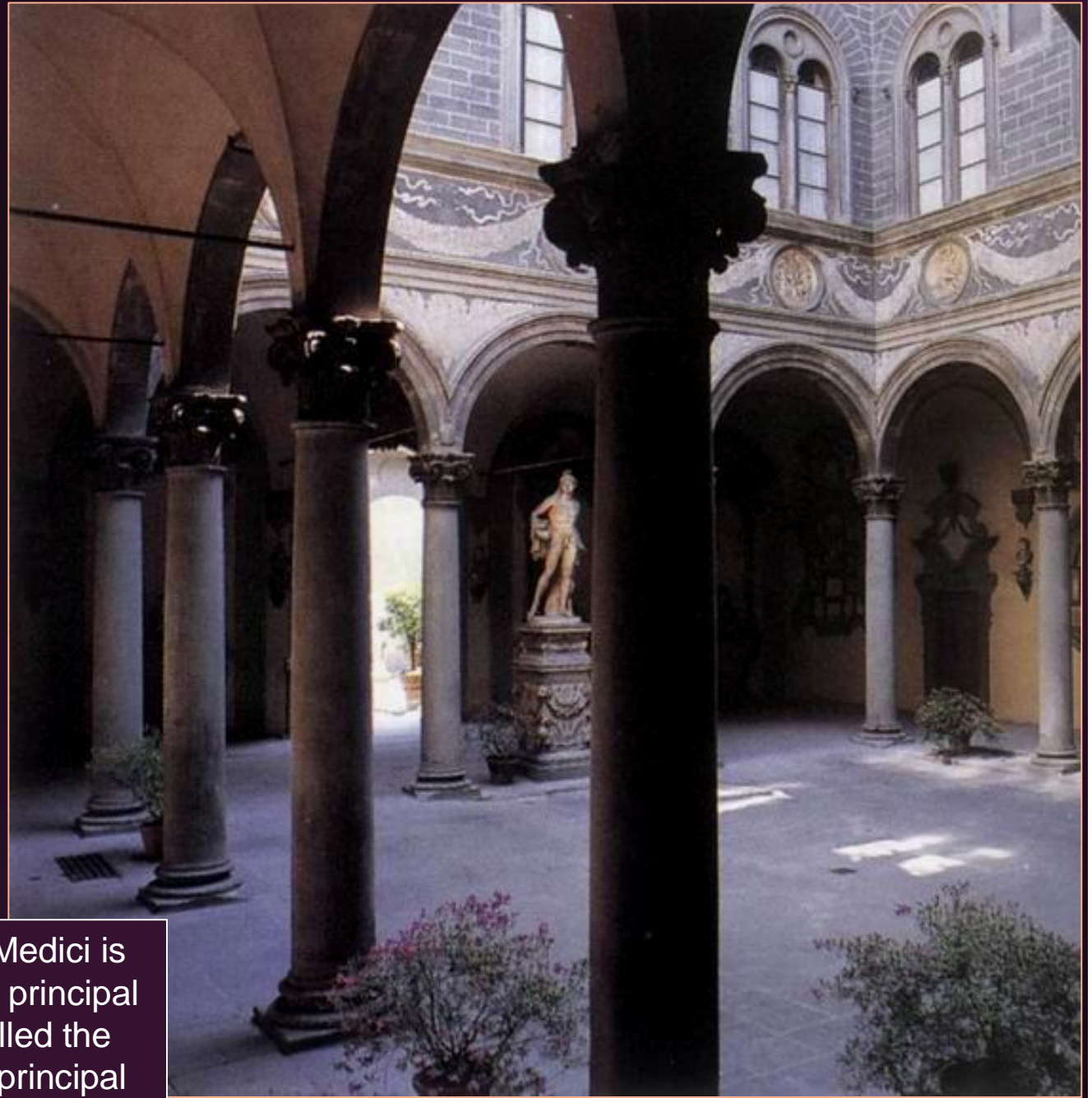
Palazzo Medici

- 3 “string courses” →
 - “rusticated” stone →

- Home of Cosimo il Vecchio – lower floor was the Medici bank. Over 70” high, it looks like a fortress.
- The design, by architect Michelozzo, became the model for all palazzos in Florence for the next century.



Palazzo Medici
Courtyard and
“Piano Nobile”

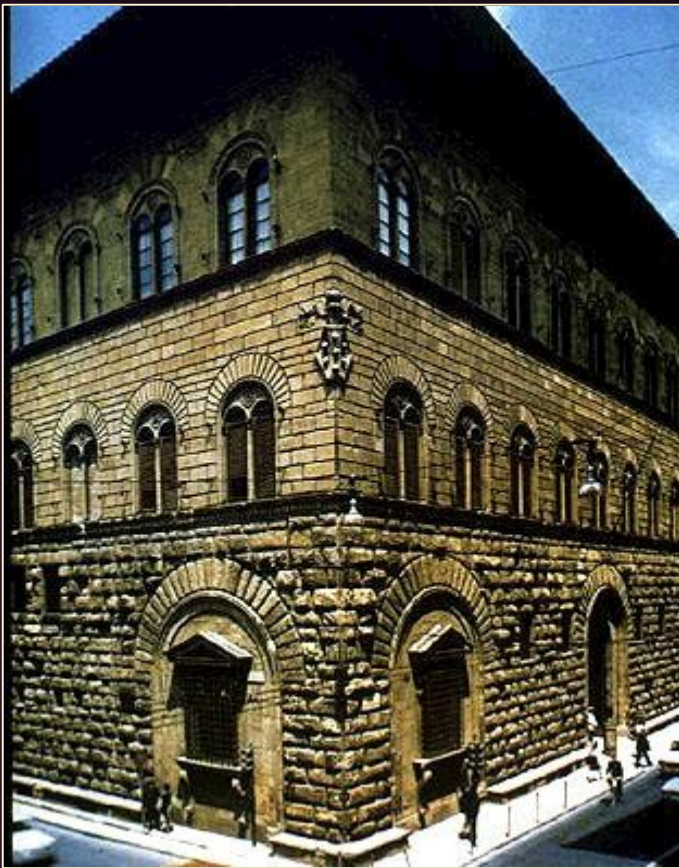


Like a Roman villa, Palazzo Medici is built around a courtyard. The principal floor of a large house was called the *piano nobile*. It contains the principal reception and bedrooms of the house.

Note similarity in design between
Medici palazzo the Palazzo Rucellai

Palazzo Rucellai

Palazzo Medici



Palazzo Vecchio

- Town Hall of Florence
 - Originally called *Palazzo della Signoria*



Duke Cosimo I de' Medici moved his official seat from the Medici palazzo in via Larga to the Palazzo della Signoria in May 1540 . The tower contains two small cells, that, at different times, imprisoned [Cosimo de' Medici \(the Elder\)](#) (1435) and [Girolamo Savonarola](#) (1498).

Doge's Palace ca 1309

Venice was dominated by a class of seafaring merchants.

The ruler was a "Doge" (or duke).

Note the Gothic details.



Renaissance Interiors

Lavish and ornate



Example: The *Collegio* - Doge's Palace
A place to hold audiences and discuss affairs of state.

agefotostock.com



Doge's Palace Council Chamber

Renaissance ceilings were designed to inspire awe with lavish mouldings, gilded frames, and beautiful oil paintings.



roma-antica.co.uk

Doge's Palace Fireplace



Interiors

- Frescoed walls
- Mosaic floors
 - Note pendentives

Stanza della Segnatura
Vatican Palace - Room of the Seal
1508-1511

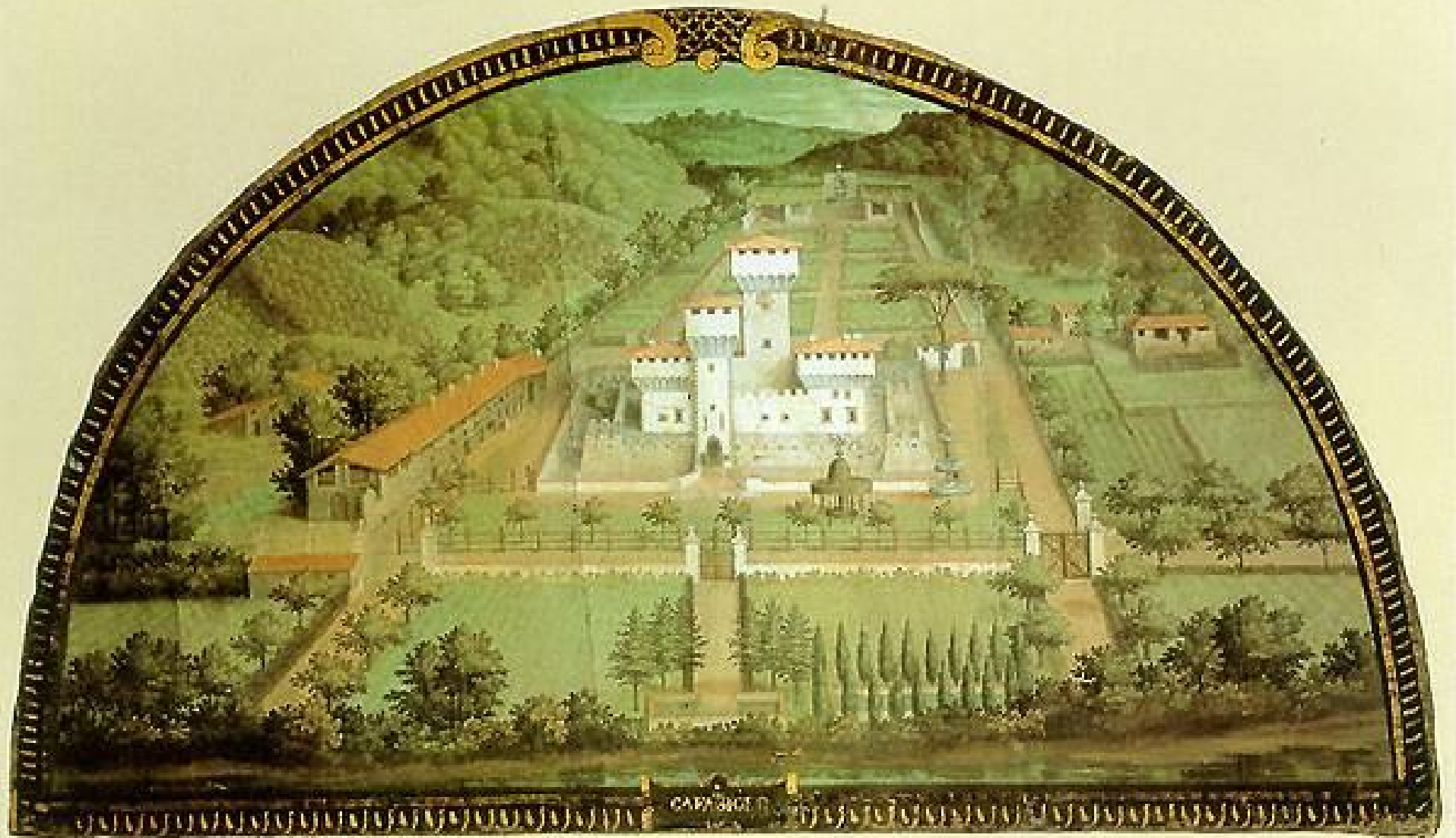


Medici Villa – Summer Home



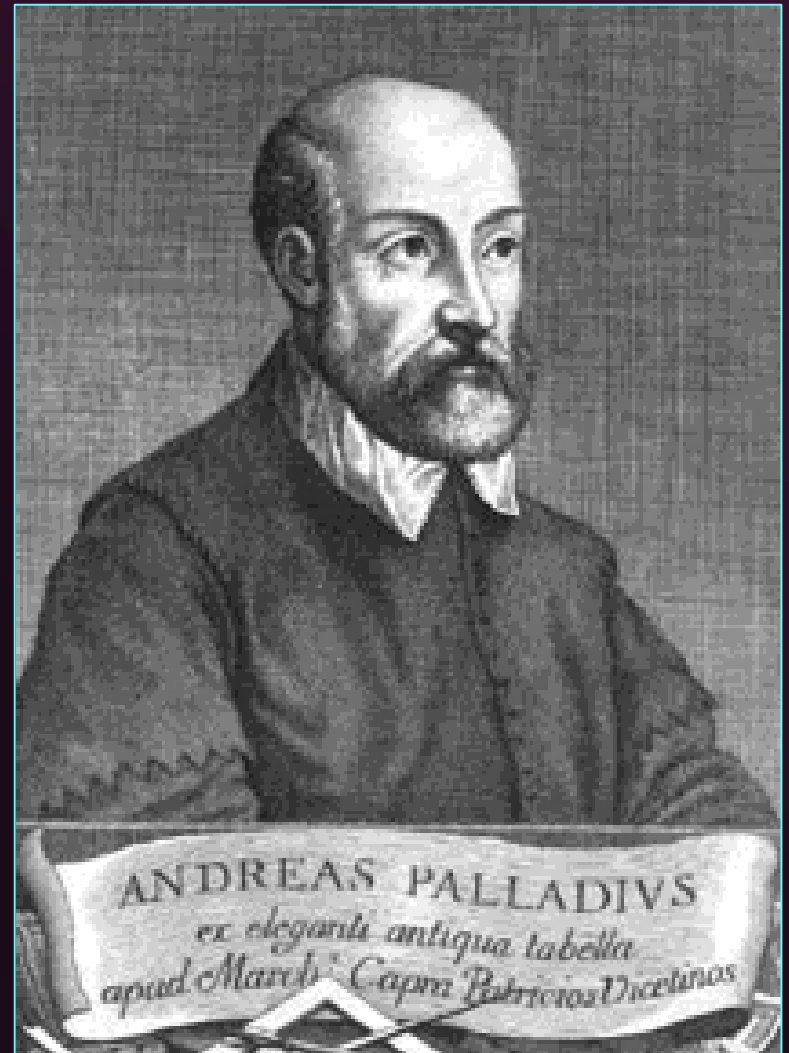
Again, Michelozzo's design for the Medici Villa at Cafaggiolo set the standard for country villas. The villa was typically a large fortified house with a central tower overlooking a working farm.

Medici Villa



Andrea Palladio*

- Key architect –
 - Very influential
 - Palaces
 - Villas
 - Most famous is called “La Rotunda” or “Villa Capra”



Villa Capra or “La Rotunda”

Vicenza, Italy 1566 – 1571



This is one of the most imitated and famous buildings in the world. It has all the key features of Italian Renaissance architecture. Designed by Palladio. Note the central square topped by a dome and portico on each of the 4 sides.

Compare -

Pantheon



Villa Capra



Palladian Influence



Villa Capra



Arizona State Capitol
1899 - 1901



Monticello 1768 - 82

Palladian Villas



Villa Cornaro ora Gable



Villa Foscari ("La Malcontenta")



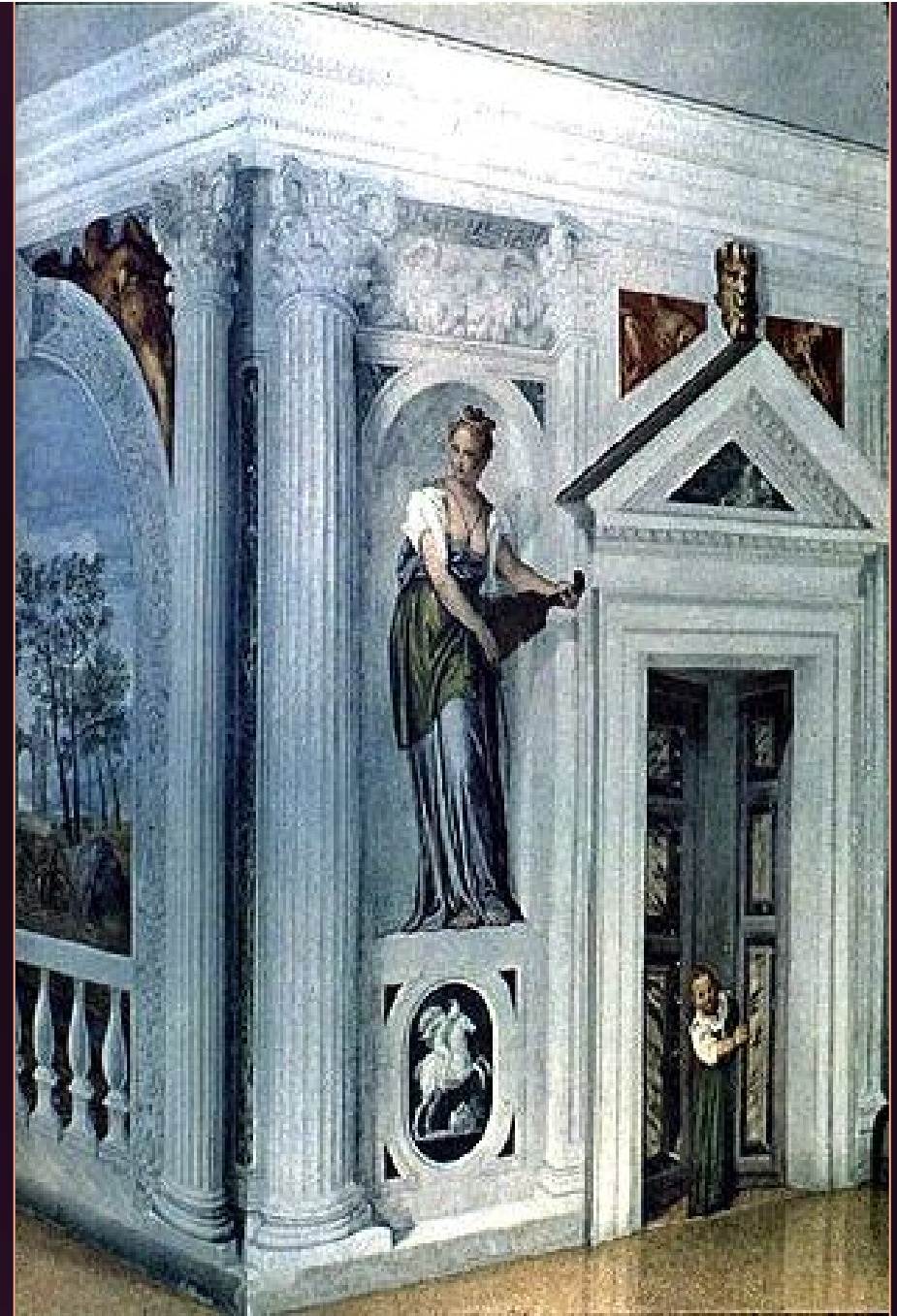
Villa Emo



Villa Barbaro

Villa Barbaro

- Note “Trompe l’oeil” murals
 - Means “to fool the eye”
 - = illusionistic scenes and figures



Renaissance Furniture

- Heavy and ornate
 - Carving and painting
 - Architectural
 - Figures
- Specialized functions



Cassone

An important piece of furniture in the Renaissance, the cassone is a large Italian chest that is usually highly carved and ornamented.



Cassone



Cassone



Cassapanca

The cassapanca is a combined chest and bench, also highly carved.



Cassapanca



Dining Table

- Derived from monastery trestle tables

Also called “refectory” table

– heavy carved stretcher



Reproduction Tables



Cabinet



Note architectural design

Cabinets



www.artnet.com/magazine/features/hunting/Images/hunting11-24-13s.jpg

Stools



Based on Roman sella curulis

Sgabello





Dante* or Dantesca



Dante* or Dantesca



“Monk’s Chair”



Renaissance Cabinet and Monks Chairs

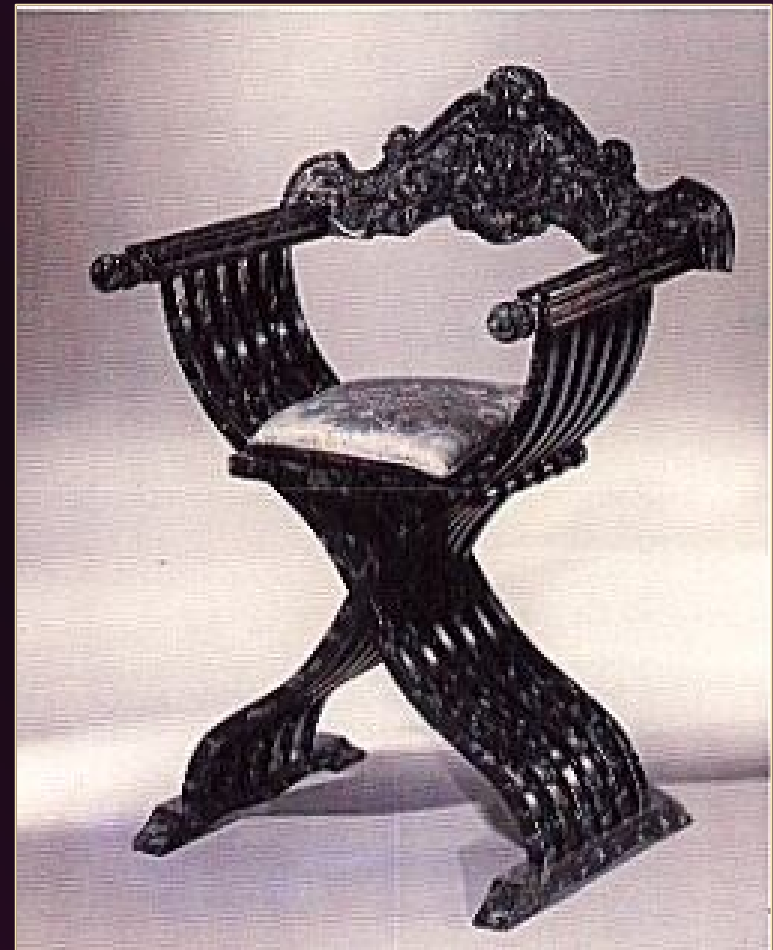


Savanarola Chair



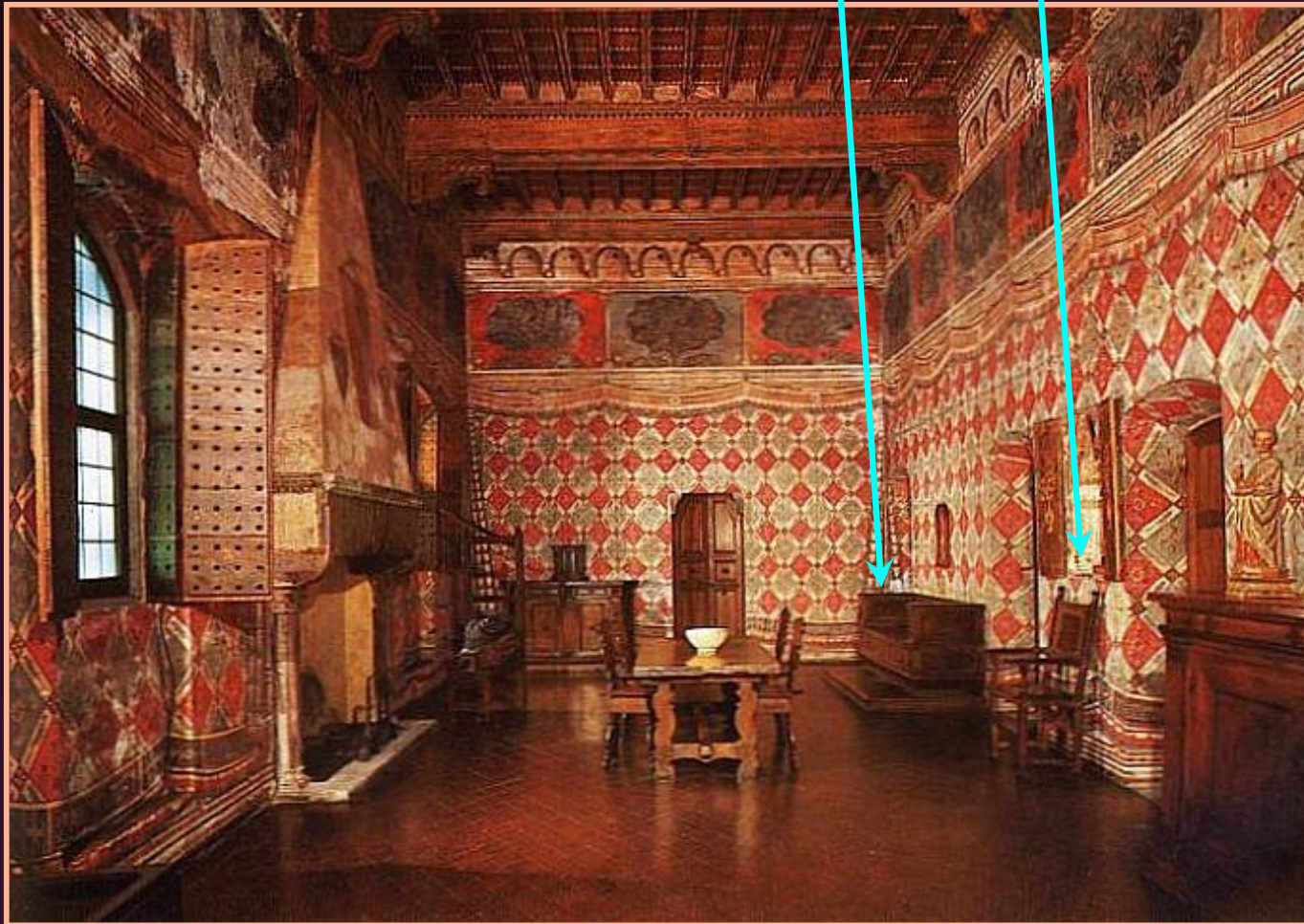
Named after the Florentine
monk, Savonarola

Savanarola Chair



Reproduction

Palazzo Rucellai



Wainscot Chair



www.huntington-antiques.com/antique_chairs.html

Finis