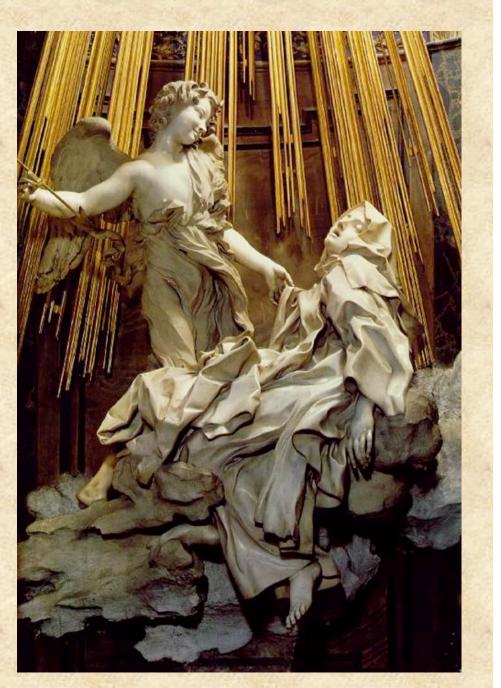
### Baroque

#### **Striving to Impress**



## **Baroque: Definition**

A period of history
A description of artistic/musical style after the Renaissance
Originally a derogatory term

## **Causes and Origins**

- Counter reformation movement (glory of the church)
- Rulers wanted a style signifying glory
- Artist's desire to be more expressive
- Originated in Italy

## Characteristics

- How does Baroque compare with the Renaissance?
- Unique contributions
  - Emotion/Religious fervor/Realism
  - Dramatic (light and shade/perspective)
  - Exploration of form (elaborateness, exaggeration) but all in control
    Virtuosity

## **Architecture and Sculpture**



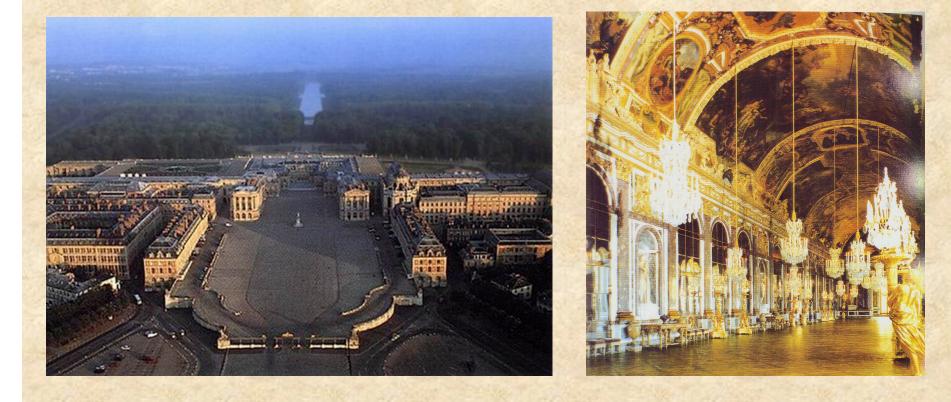
# Architecture Style

Versailles

 Landscaping

Hall of Mirrors

 Extravagance



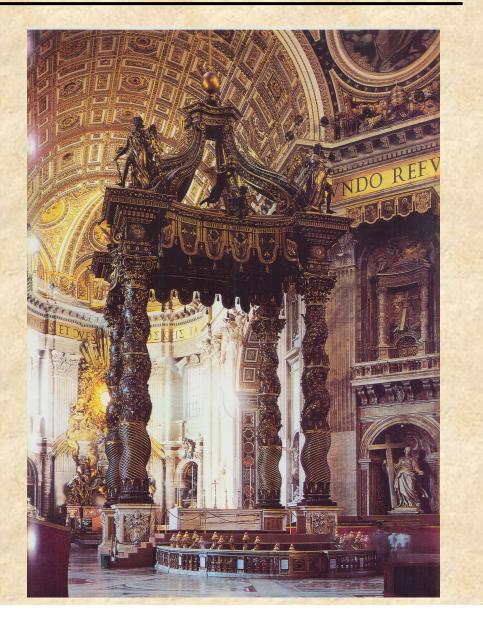
# Architecture Style

#### • St. Peter's Square (Bernini)



# Gian Lorenzo Bernini

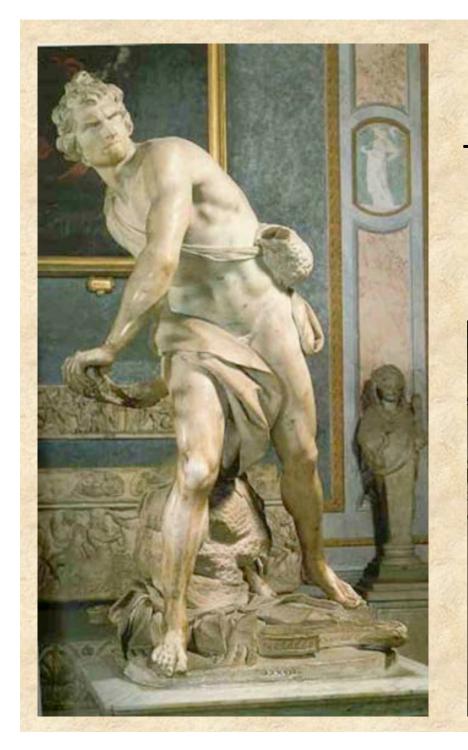
# Baldacchino (Altar covering in St. Peters)



# Bernini

#### Ecstasy of St. Theresa





# Bernini

#### David



"Bernini criticized Michelangelo for failing to make his figures appear as if made of flesh, and bragged that stone was 'like pasta' in his hands-that he could fashion marble like wax. And indeed he could. His genius for manipulating the act of perception-by altering perspective, or highlighting certain details in a rendering, or using materials and techniques to blur the lines between sculpture and paintingallowed Bernini to achieve new levels of authenticity in bringing a scene to life."

- Isacoff, Stuart, Temperament, Vintage Books, 2001, p. 23.



# Bernini

Apollo and Daphne

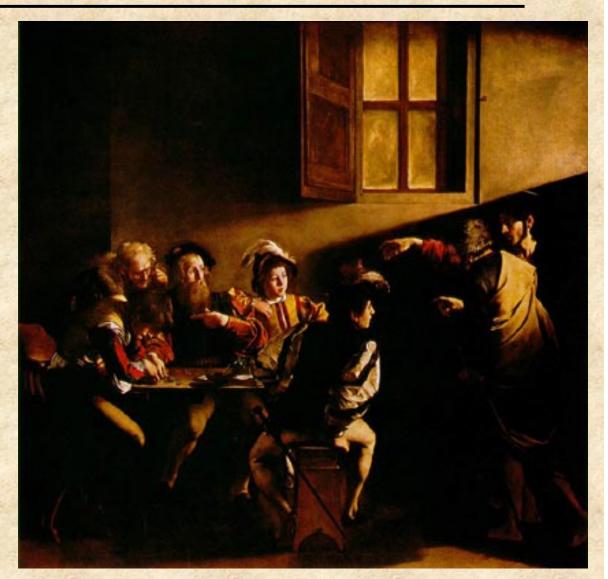
#### Pluto and Persephone



#### **Caravaggio** (Michelangelo Merisi)

 The Calling of Saint Matthew

 Chiaroscuro
 Realism



# Caravaggio



 The Martyrdom of Saint Matthew

 Emotion
 Perspective

# Caravaggio

- David with the head of Goliath
  - Emotion/realism
  - Perspective (foreshortening)
  - Light/darkness



#### Caravaggio: The Supper at Emmaus

PerspectiveRealism



### Artemesia Gentileschi

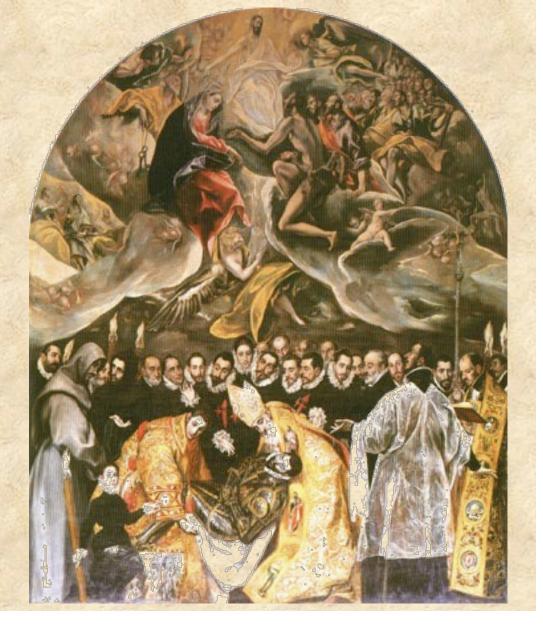
- Judith and Holofornes
   – Emotion
   – Realism
  - Perspective



## **El Greco**

 The Burial of Count Orgaz

 Religious fervor
 Virtuosity (color)



# Diego Velazquez

- Las Meninas (Maids of Honor)
  - Perspective
  - Virtuosity (detail)
  - The art of creating art (similar to the view of literature making literature in Don Quixote)



# Velazquez: The Surrender of Breda (Las Lances)

- Perspective
- Virtuosity



# **Peter Paul Rubens**

Rape of the Daughters of Leucippus Henri IV Receiving the Portrait of Marie De Medici



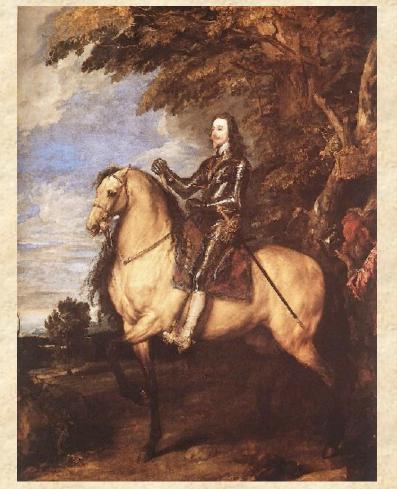


# Anthony Van Dyke

#### Charles I: King of England at the Hunt



Charles I on Horseback



### **Rembrandt:** Night Watch



## Rembrandt

Dr. Tulp's Anatomy Lesson



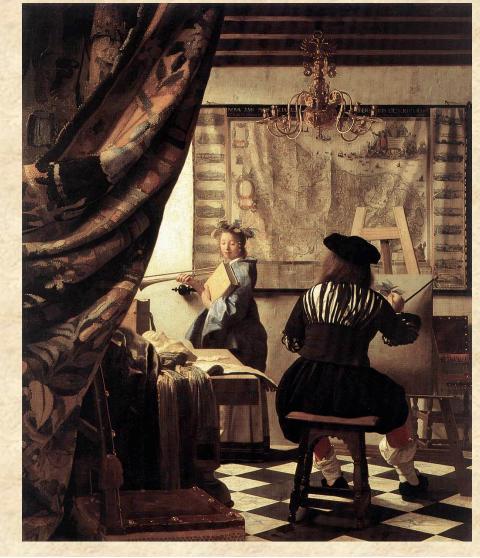


*The Laughing Cavalier* 



### Jan Vermeer

#### The Art of Painting





Study of a Young Woman

## Georges de La Tour

#### Christ in the Carpenter's Shop







# Music

Imate a Combalo obligato e Traverse dela. 1200 Lo

embalo obligate e morel mata

# **Baroque Music Innovations**

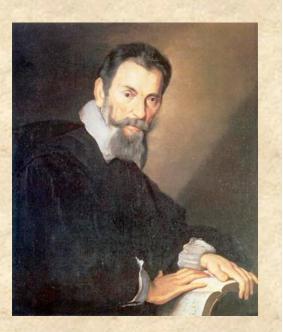
- Invention of Opera
- Homophony
- Development of the orchestra and types of orchestration
- Development of new forms of vocal music
- Development of purely instrumental music
- New instruments
- Temperament

# **Invention of Opera**

- Singing and orchestra work together
- Use of an overture, several acts, etc
- Size of the orchestra increased
- Homophony

# **Claudio Monteverdi**

- Made opera popular
- Technique to convey emotion
- Orfeo
- The Coronation of Poppea



# Development of Instrumental Music

- Luther
  - God could be experienced through music
    - "The Devil flees from the voice of music just as he flees from the words of theology."
  - New vocal forms
    - Hymn, anthem, cantata, oratorio

# **Baroque Music Innovations**

- Purely instrumental music
   Counterpoint (a type of polyphony)
   Fugues
  - Sonata, concerto, suite

# **Violin Invention**

- Cremona, Italy

  Amati, Stradivari, Guarneri

  Became the heart of the orchestra
- Construction has not changed



### Temperament

 Tempering: tuning that resulted in pleasant scales

 *The Well Tempered Clavier* Preludes and fugues written in all major and minor keys

# **Circle of Fifths**

do re mi fa sol la ti do

1<sup>st</sup> fifth 2<sup>nd</sup> fifth 3<sup>rd</sup> fifth 4<sup>th</sup> fifth 5<sup>th</sup> fifth 6<sup>th</sup> fifth 7<sup>th</sup> fifth

Notes defined: do, sol re la mi ti fa do

The ratio of the two "do" notes should be an even whole number

"The problem...began with the Greeks, who mistakenly believed that 3:2 was the real ratio of a perfect fifth, when it is obviously only an approximation. Anyone who multiplies this ratio and realizes that its 'circle' of twelve tones produces a last note that is out of tune with the first, yet continues to maintain 'that the ratio 3:2 is the actual one, he in truth ignores the essential character of addition and subtraction of ratios.' Any such person is stubbornly resisting the plain truth; his position is irrational and absurd."

– Isacoff, Stuart, *Temperament*, Vintage Books, 2001, p. 145.

"Acceptance [of equal temperament] did not come easily. Critics claimed the resulting music had been robbed of its beauty and emotional impact; supporters countered that since all things are subjective, human ears and minds would learn to adapt. The arguments, however, went well beyond musical aesthetics. Equal temperament represented an assault on an idea that had gripped thinkers in nearly every field as a powerful metaphor for a universe ruled by mathematical law."

– Isacoff, Stuart, *Temperament*, Vintage Books, 2001, p. 6.

"Tempering meant that the principle of usefulness was more basic than the principle of purity."

 Adapted from: Isacoff, Stuart, *Temperament*, Vintage Books, 2001, p. 8.

# **Innovations in Orchestra**

# Concertos Solo instruments Grosso led to orchestra works Composers notation: Specified instrumental parts Dynamic markings and speed

- Key signature in the title



# Antonio Vivaldi

- "Red Priest"
- Details and complexity
- Operas
- Influenced Bach
- The Four Seasons



# Vivaldi: Sonnet for Spring

Spring has come with its gaiety, The birds salute it with joyous song, And the brooks, caressed by Zephyr' Flow meanwhile with sweet murmur.

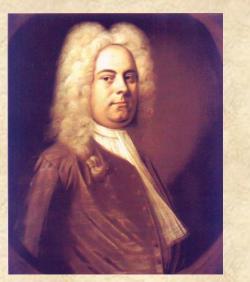
The sky is covered with dark clouds Announced by lightning and thunder, But when they are silenced, the little birds Return to fill the air with their song:

Then does the meadow, in full flower, Ripple with its leafy plants. The goatherd dozes, guarded by his faithful dog.

Rejoicing in the pastoral bagpipes, Nymphs and Shepherds dance `neath heaven's canopy, For the radiant onset of Springtime.

# **George Frederick Handel**

- Personal Life
- Watermusic
- Royal Fireworks
- Operas
  - Company in London
  - Wrote castratos
  - Largo from Xerxes



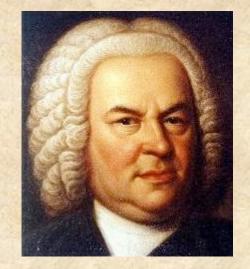
# **George Frederick Handel**

#### Oratorios

- Long text with chorus and orchestra
- No costumes and staging
- Developed after lack of interest for operas
- Messiah
  - Overture
  - Glory to God
  - Hallelujah Chorus

# **Johann Sebastian Bach**

- Personal life
- Work life
- Over 1000 musical pieces
- Public complained for his flowery music
- Musicians felt his music too difficult
- Engaged the mind in search for God
- After death became well known





#### "Since the best man could not be obtained, mediocre ones would have to be accepted."

-Leipzig town council member commenting on the hiring of Bach

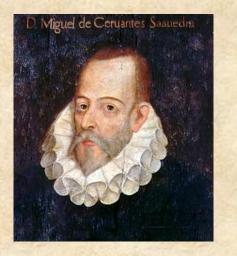
## **Johann Sebastian Bach**

- Musical Contributions:
  - Over 1000 pieces in every genre except opera
  - Cantatas (one per week for 8 years)
  - Protestant themes (in search of God)
  - Counterpoint/fugue
  - Complex compositions (upside down)
  - Hymns (A Mighty Fortress)
  - Brandenburg Concertos

# Literature

### Cervantes

- Don Quixote de la Mancha
  - Greatest literature work in Spanish
  - First Novel
  - Reality versus illusion





# Don Quixote

(Sancho's early opinion of Don Quixote)

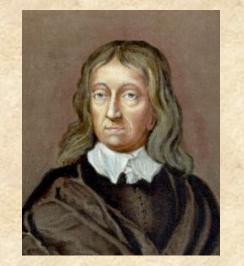
"I have seen from countless signs that this master of mine is a raving lunatic who ought to be tied up – and me, I can't be much better, for since I follow him and serve him, I'm more of a fool than he..."

(Sancho's later view of reality)

"Anything's possible...for her beauty confused me, as her ugliness did your worship. But let's leave it all in God's hands."

# **John Milton**

- Devout Puritan
- Defender of Cromwellian Commonwealth
- Political Activist and Essayist
- Paradise Lost
- Sonnet—When I consider



# **Paradise Lost**

(Milton) At the day's dawning, having said their morning prayers, Adam and Eve began considering how they might best accomplish their growing work.

*(Simple)* They said their prayers and planned their work.

*(Simpler)* They prayed and worked hard.

*(Simplest)* They had too much to do.

# **Paradise Lost**

"...Hail, horrors! Hail, Infernal World! And thou, profoundest Hell, Receive thy new possessor - one who brings A mind not to be changed by place or time. The mind is its own place, and in itself Can make a Heaven of Hell, a Hell of Heaven. What matter where, if I be still the same, And what I should be, all but less than he Whom thunder hath made greater? Here at least We shall be free; the Almighty hath not built Here for his envy, will not drive us hence: Here we may reign secure; and, in my choice, To reign is worth ambition, though in Hell: Better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven." - Satan in Paradise Lost

## Messiah

No tongue can speak, neither can there be written by any man, neither can the hearts of men conceive so great and marvelous things as we both saw and heard Jesus speak; and no one can conceive of the joy which filled our souls at the time we heard him pray for us unto the Father. (3 Ne. 17:17)

# Moliere (Jean Baptiste Poquelin)

- Baroque comedy
- Targeted the Catholic church
- Tartuffe





"[Those] who insist on believing in the purity of the simple ratios of old over all aural evidence to the contrary...they are like the person who proclaims, 'The sun may lie, but not the clock.'"

- Isacoff, Stuart, Temperament, Vintage Books, 2001, p. 146.