

# **Sienese School of Painting**

## **Art Discussed:**

**Duccio, *Maestà***

**Simone Martini, *Annunciation***

**Pietro Lorenzetti, *Birth of the Virgin***

**Ambrogio Lorenzetti, *Allegory of Good Government***

## **VOCAB:**

**Allegory**

**Maesta**

## **HW:**

## **STUDY**

### **Duccio, *Maestà***

- Mary as Queen of Heaven surrounded by angels and saints
- Most opulent and complex altarpiece of its time
- Mournful gaze characteristic of Duccio
- Almond eyes and rosebud mouth of the Mary are typical of Byzantine art
- Throne opens up for all to see
- Figures arranged in a hierarchy, however formal frontality of figures relaxed a bit

### **Simone Martini, *Annunciation***

- International Style
- Elegant shapes, swaying figures
- Radiant color
- Fluttering drapery

- Courtly ritual, courtly dress
- Angel: white and gold brocade with floating plaid-lined mantle
- Virgin: mantle lined with deep gold lines
- No recession of space, only relationship of two main figures
- Vase of white lilies symbolizes Virgin's purity
- Dove of Holy Spirit surrounded by Cherubim

### **Pietro Lorenzetti, *Birth of the Virgin***

- Birth of Mary, mother of Jesus, at home
- A midwife holds a fan to cool Saint Anne
- Everyday items of the Gothic period on display in the home
- Mary's father, Joachim, is waiting outside to hear the news of the birth
- Wooden frame
- Cutaway cross-section allows viewer to look directly into a typical middle class home

### **Ambrogio Lorenzetti, *Allegory of Good Government***

- Painting done in the chief council chamber of Siena, the Hall of Peace
- Panoramic view of the city of Siena with walls and countryside
- Security in center has a banner that proclaims everyone can walk freely because justice reigns