

High Renaissance in Venice

Art Discussed:

Bellini, *San Zaccaria Altarpiece*

Giorgione, *Tempest*

Giorgione, (Titian?), *Pastoral Symphony*

Vocab:

Canvas

Poesia

Sacra conversazione

\HW:

Choose a Venetian artist from text and examine a work by him. How does the work fall into the Venetian tradition?

Bellini, *San Zaccaria Altarpiece*

- Sacra conversazione
- Vaporous sfumato, harmonious unification of modeling and shading (i.e. Saint Jerome's beard)
- Overall tonality
- Linear perspective
- Serene color, gently glowing forms
- Dominating architecture that cradles the figures in a unified scene
- Virgin and Child surrounded by a symmetrical grouping of saints
- Light enters from the left
- Architecture of the church reflected in the painting; painting becomes an extension of the real space of the building it is housed in

Giorgione, *Tempest*

- Poesia
- Dream-like, lyrical state
- Deserted town with a soldier and a breast feeding woman
- Bushes are shaggy, unkempt; mysterious pastoral setting
- Columns—indicating fortitude—are ruined, bridge tottering
- Lightning makes the scene menacing
- Building incomplete with a half-completed arch
- Uncertain meaning

Giorgione, (Titian?), *Pastoral Symphony*

- Soft forms of figures; no clear cut edges
- Mysterious theme, unknown meaning
- Shepherds are poets who are inspired by the nymphs who are muses
- Shepherds were thought to have beautiful singing voices
- Nymph dips pitcher into the well of inspiration
- Chiaroscuro and nuanced use of shadowing
- Rounded masses and volumes of women