

L3-7day7

Italian Quattrocento Painting

Art Discussed:

Masaccio, *Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden*

Masaccio, *Holy Trinity*

Uccello, *Battle of San Romano*

VOCAB:

Orthogonal

HW: Activity Sheet

Masaccio, *Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Eden*

- Desolate world outside of Garden of Eden
- Volumes are massive and simple
- Monumental, sculptural figures inspired by Giotto
- Dramatically cast shadows, also emphasizing weight and physicality; tragic intensity
- Adam ignores his nudity, covers his face for shame
- Eve's profound cry of despair

Masaccio, *Holy Trinity*

- Triangular form, dominated by perspective architecture inspired by Brunelleschi
- Christ is crucified and a member of the Trinity
- Viewpoint of average person standing in front and looking up at the cross
- Ancient Roman triumphal arch, round arch, pillars, pilasters
- Flanking Trinity is Mary and John, then – on the next spatial plane – the two kneeling donors
- Below is the tomb of a member of the donor's family, with his skeleton
Inscription reads, "I once was what you are, and what I am, you will become"

Uccello, *Battle of San Romano*

- Commemorates the victory of the Florentines over Sienese in 1432
- Dominated by a fascination for perspective
- Extremely high horizon line allows for wealth of action and detail
- Scale often appears random, however
- Toy horses, more ceremonial than terrifying
- Interest in metal patterns of the fallen men and lances, figures fall in bold foreshortening
- Vanishing points pull the eye into space
- Miraculously, the dead knights and their broken lances fall perfectly along the orthogonal lines leading to the vanishing point