

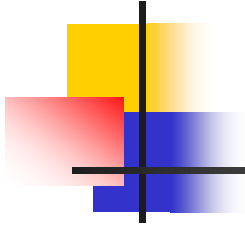


Baroque Art

**Nature, and Nature's laws lay hid in the
night. God said: "Let Newton be!" And all
was Light!**

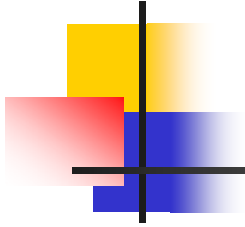
Alexander Pope

*Who was Alexander Pope? How is his quote relevant to
the Baroque period?*



Baroque Art

- This period roughly spans from 1600 – 1750
- This is an age of genius in many fields of endeavor.
- The Baroque period in Europe includes a number of post-Renaissance styles that do not have that much in common.



Baroque Art

- **Baroque** - word is believed to derive from the Portuguese word *barroco*, meaning “irregularly shaped pearl.”
- There was a continuation of Classicism and naturalism of the Renaissance.
- Characteristics:
 - more colorful, ornate, painterly
 - dynamic style was developing
 - motion and space were concerns for artists and architects.
 - additional concerns were with the concept of time, the dramatic use of light, and theatricality.



Artistic Styles

- Baroque Art
 - In Italy
 - Outside of Italy – *list artists from each region*
 - Spain
 - Flanders
 - Holland
 - France
 - England
- Rococo Art



Baroque Period in Italy

- Started in Rome.
 - Perhaps as a reaction to the Protestant Reformation?
 - Also in reaction to Mannerism
- The Baroque period is also referred to as the Age of Expansion, especially in the arts.
 - Patron Popes of the Baroque period included:
 - Paul V
 - Urban VIII
 - Innocent X

Baroque Artists

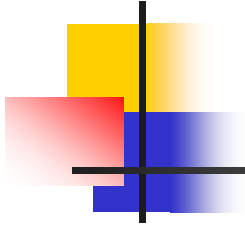
- Gianlorenzo Bernini
- Caravaggio
- Artemisia Gentileschi
- Francesco Borromini
- Diego Velazquez
- Peter Paul Rubens
- Rembrandt van Rijn
- Jan Vermeer
- Nicolas Poussin





Architecture

- St. Peter's Cathedral in Rome and its expansion and renovation is a good example of Baroque architecture.
 - Expresses Renaissance ideals
 - Stands as a hallmark of the Baroque style
 - Brings together the works of the finest Renaissance and Baroque artists.
 - Carlo Maderno was the architect
 - Gianlorenzo Bernini was the sculptor.



Gianlorenzo Bernini

- Made a lot of sculptures for St Peters.
- He also designed the piazza
- His sculpture *David* has 3 out of 5 characteristics of Baroque sculpture:
 - Motion
 - A different way of looking at space
 - The concept of time

Bernini

Who is St. Theresa? What is occurring in this artwork? Who are the viewers on the side?



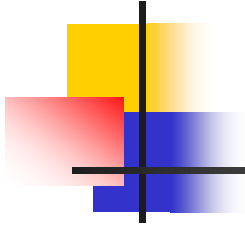


Bernini

Discuss the Baroque aspects of this sculpture?

Apollo and Daphne. Bernini, 1598 – 1680, marble.

Depicting the chaste nymph Daphne being changed into a laurel tree when she tries to flee from Apollo.



Caravaggio

- Caravaggio (Michealangelo de Merisi): 1571-1610; died at 38 yrs.
- The theatrical Baroque sculpture had its counterpart in painting.
- Portrayed dramatic movement, **tenebrism**, emotionally charged subjects, and figures caught in time.
 - **Tenebrism** - exaggerated chiaroscuro. Translated as “dark matter” it is often characterized by a small and concentrated light source in the painting or what appears to be an external “spotlight” directed as a very specific point in the composition

Caravaggio



The painting depicts
(Matthew 9:9):
*Jesus saw a man named
Matthew at his seat in the
custom house, and said to
him, "Follow me", and
Matthew rose and followed
him.*

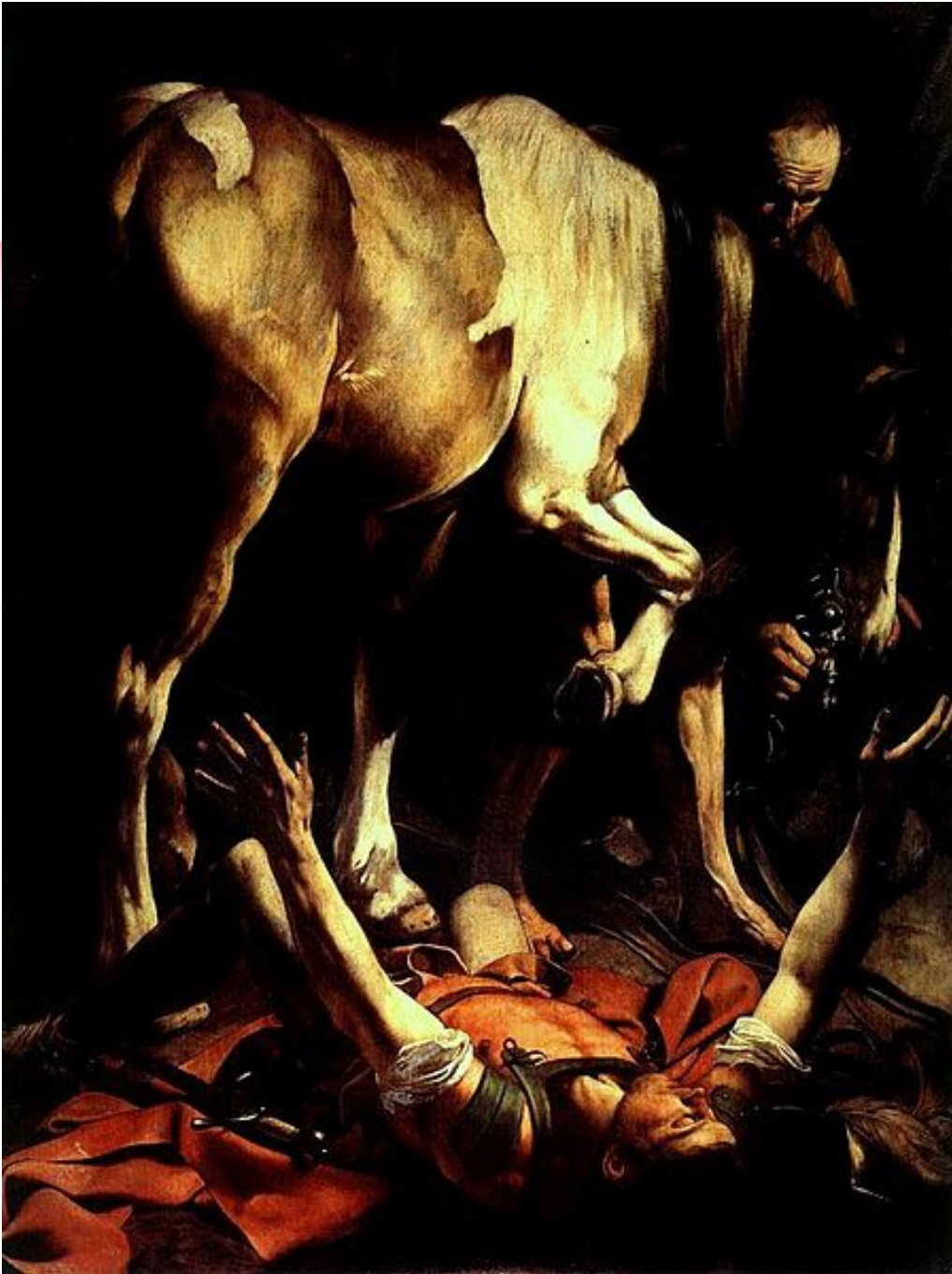
The Calling of St. Matthew,
1600

Compare & Contrast



The Cardsharps, 1595

Caravaggio



The Conversion of St. Paul,
1600-1601



Artemisia Gentileschi

- 1593 - c. 1652
- Father, Orazio Gentileschi, was a successful painter in Rome
- Work was emotional and depicted stories and subjects in a different light than other Baroque artists.



Artemisia painted pictures of strong and suffering women from myth and the Bible... victims, suicides, martyrs and warriors...and especially Judith.

Judith beheading Holofernes,
1620



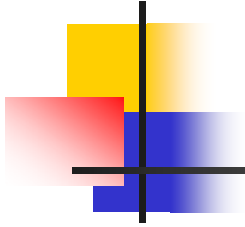
Judith and Holofernes (Caravaggio vs. Artemisia)

- Both Baroque paintings are roughly contemporary.
- One was created by an Italian male artist and one by an Italian female artist.



1598

1620



Compare & Contrast

- Susannah and the Elders by Tintoretto and Gentileschi
- Both portrait the story of Susannah from the Old Testament.
- *What are the different manners in which these two artists portrayed the same subject?*

COMPARE AND CONTRAST

Tintoretto, 1555-56



Gentileschi, 1610



What do you make of Susanna's right hand gesture?



Guido Reni, 1620
(10 yrs after Artemisia's version)



Ceiling Decoration

- Baroque art aimed to combine architecture, sculpture, and painting.
- Artists managed to do so on the ceilings of naves and domes of churches and cathedrals.
- They created illusion and used *trompe l'oeil* effects.
- They used illusionist devices to create a total, mystical atmosphere.

Sant'Andrea della Valle, Rome



17th century

Is this reminiscent of the Sistine Chapel – yes or no?

Triumph of Divine Providence, Pietro da Cortona, 1633-1639

The representation celebrates the glory of the papacy of Urban VIII and the Barberini family. The allegorical figures "fall down" from the sky through an illusionistic open framework.



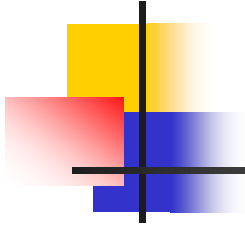


Church of Il Gesu, Gaulli -
"Il Baciccia", 1674 to
1679.

Shows the triumph of the
name of Jesus.

Andrea Pozzo painted the Baroque ceiling in 1685 to celebrate St. Ignatius and the Jesuit order. Thanks to his infinite creativity, the painter refused the boundaries between the real surface of the church and the painted field. Pozzo put a marble slab on the floor to indicate the ideal point from which to admire his artistic enterprise.





Francesco Borromini

- Successfully incorporated the Baroque elements of motion, space, and lighting into his architecture.
- Was an avid student of Michelangelo's architecture and of ruins of Antiquity.
- He manipulated Classical architectural forms and geometrical rationales in his plans to create symbolic meanings in his buildings

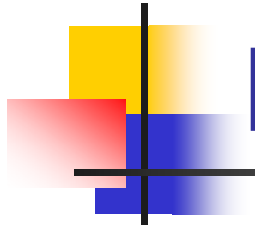


Oratory of St. Phillip Neri

How do these buildings compare to San Carlo alle Quattro Fontane?

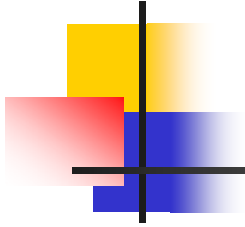
Sant'Ivo alla Sapienza





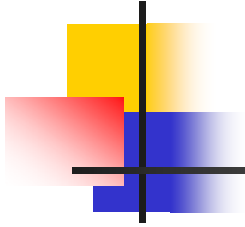
Baroque Period Outside Italy

- Italian Baroque ideas were used by artists throughout Europe.
- Northern artists were interested in *realism*.
 - Dutch artists painted everyday scenes and perfected the **genre** painting.
 - Spain and Flanders adopted the Venetian use of color and created energetic motion with brushwork.
 - France and England adopted Baroque's Classicism



Spain

- Spain was one of the wealthiest countries in Europe at this time, due to the influx of riches from the New World.
 - The court was lavish in its support of foreign artists, but especially its native talent.
- The artists:
 - Diego Velázquez
 - Francisco de Zurbarán



Diego Velasquez

- 1599-1660
- Court painter for King Phillip IV.
- Used:
 - Baroque techniques and Venetian colors.
 - Common folk as models
 - Harsh realism by using real faces and natural attitudes in his main characters.
 - Small rough textured brushstrokes that would be the foundation of the impressionist movement.

Diego Velasquez



Old Woman Frying Eggs, 1618

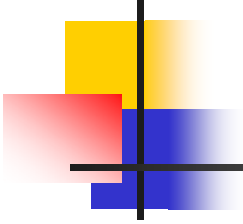


Adoration of the Magi, 1619



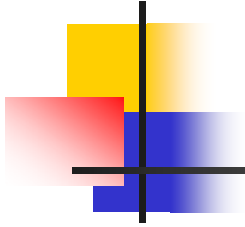
1565-67





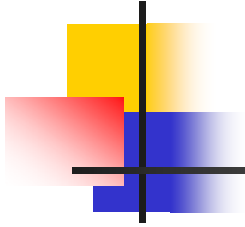
Las Meninas

- There are several basic questions that have been asked again and again about this picture.
 - What is Velázquez painting on the front of the canvas that is hidden from us?
 - Where did he stand in order to paint the scene and himself in it?
 - What is the source of the image in the mirror - that is, just where in the room must the royal couple have been standing for their reflection to appear?
 - Is there any significance in the fact that the red cross of the Order of Santiago is prominently applied to the artist's clothing?



Flanders

- After Martin Luther's Reformation the region of Flanders was divided.
 - The Northern half became the Dutch Republic (present day Holland.) They became Protestant and painted genre scenes.
 - The southern half became Flanders (or present-day Belgium.) They became Catholic and painted religious and mythological scenes.



Peter Paul Rubens

- Belgian - Catholic
- Most sought after artist of his time.
- Mostly religious subjects, "history" paintings, which included mythological subjects, and hunt scenes; landscapes and portraits.

- Used:
 - Sculptural qualities in figures
 - Dramatic chiaroscuro
 - Theatrical presentation like the Italian Baroque



1609



1628-29

What is the name/scene of each image?

How do they differ (if they do) from earlier versions?

Rubens

How does this version compare to

- 1.) Artemisia?
- 2.) Tintoretto?
- 3.) Reni?



Susanna and the Elders, 1636-40

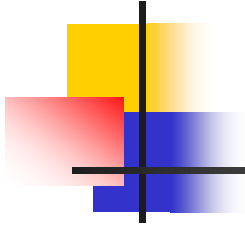
Compare & Contrast



Rubens, 1629

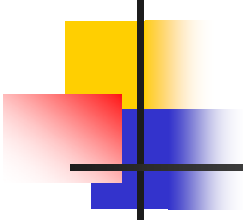


Velasquez, 1619



Holland

- Artists of the Low Countries turned to secular artistic themes.
 - They followed the Protestant mandate that humans not create “false idols” in any form of art.
 - The collectors of art became the middle class.
 - Landscapes, still life, and genre paintings were desirable.
- The major artists:
 - Rembrandt van Rijn
 - Jan Vermeer



Rembrandt

- 1602 – 1669; Dutch
- Painted many self portraits that give insight into his life and personality.
- Main elements:
 - Concentrates light on the sitters.
 - Uses strokes that are heavily loaded with pigment and thick impasto.
 - Master of manipulating light.
- Died out of fashion and penniless at age 63.

Portraits

Relate these portraits to other idealized portraits we've studied.



A Scholar, 1631

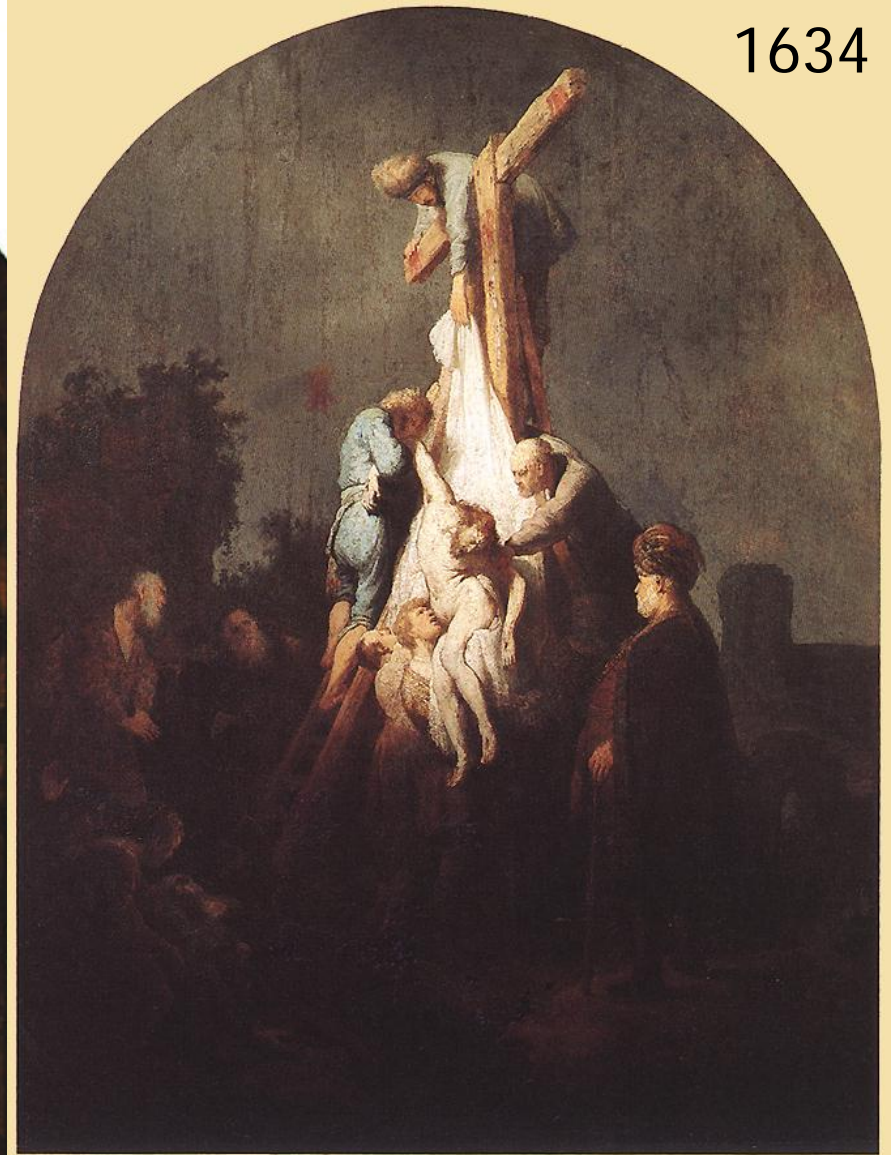


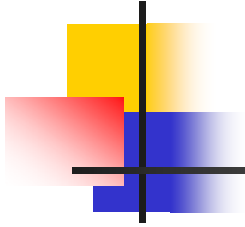
An Old Woman: the Artist's Mother, 1629

1646



1634

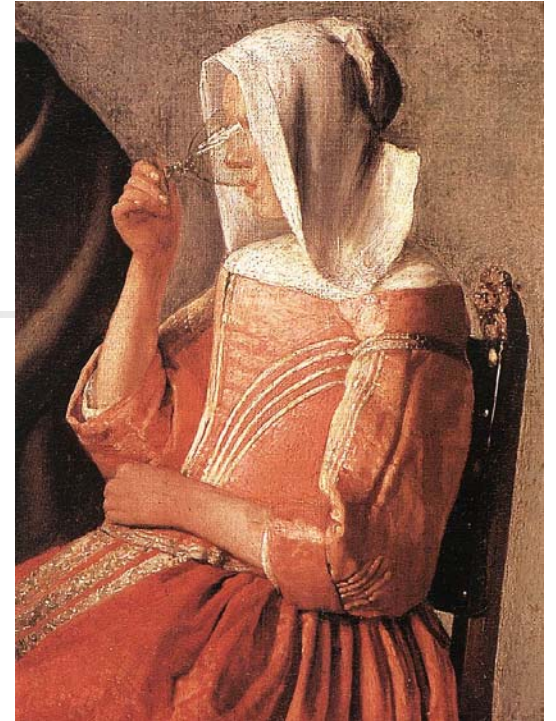




Vermeer

- Typifies the Dutch interest in painting scenes from daily life and landscapes.
- 3 things make his work Baroque:
 - The single light source
 - The genre subject
 - The bit of mystery surrounding the moment

A Lady Drinking with a Gentleman,
1658





A Lady and Two Gentlemen,
1659

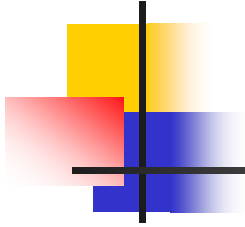
Details



This detail in the window appears in both the *A Lady and Two Gentlemen* and *A Lady Drinking and a Gentleman*. It is an image of Temperance, and was intended to act as a warning to the people in the painting.

Temperance: moderation in action, thought or feeling; restraint



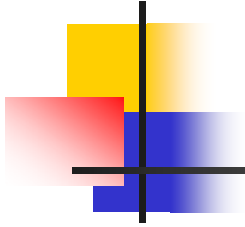


Girl with a Pearl Earring

- “But I know that God's friend, Isaac, sent earrings to chaste Rebecca as a first token of his love. This leads me to think that this jewel has a spiritual meaning, namely that the first part of the body that a man wants, and which a woman must loyally protect, is the ear; no word or sound should enter it other than the sweet sound of chaste words, which are the oriental pearls of the gospel.” (Introduction to the Devout Life, Vermeer, 1608)
- From this it is clear that the pearl in Vermeer's painting is a symbol of chastity.
- The reference to Isaac and Rebecca suggests that this picture could have been painted on the occasion of this young woman's marriage. So to that extent it is a portrait.



Girl with a Pearl Earring,
1665



France

- France's "sun king," Louis XIV, preferred Classicism, and he created academies and teachers to perpetuate this Baroque style.
 - The Baroque French is a more reserved style, in the style of Raphael.
- The main artist:
 - Nicholas Poussin - main exponent of the Classical style in France.

Poussin

*Holy Family
On the Steps,
1648*



Compare & Contrast

The Rape of the Sabine Women



Pietro da Cortona, 1625

Latin: *raptio* = abduction

Poussin, 1635





Architecture

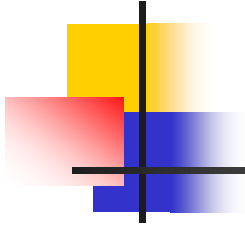
- The French king's taste for the classical extended to architecture
- The Palace of Versailles is one of the grandest monuments in the French Baroque.
- The Architects:
 - Louis le Vaux
 - Jules Hardouin-Mansart
 - North and South wings, *Orangerie*, Hall of Mirrors

Versailles



L'Orangerie: Oranges were introduced in Europe ca. the 15th/16th century and were an expensive fruit. It soon became popular with nobility and wealthy merchants.

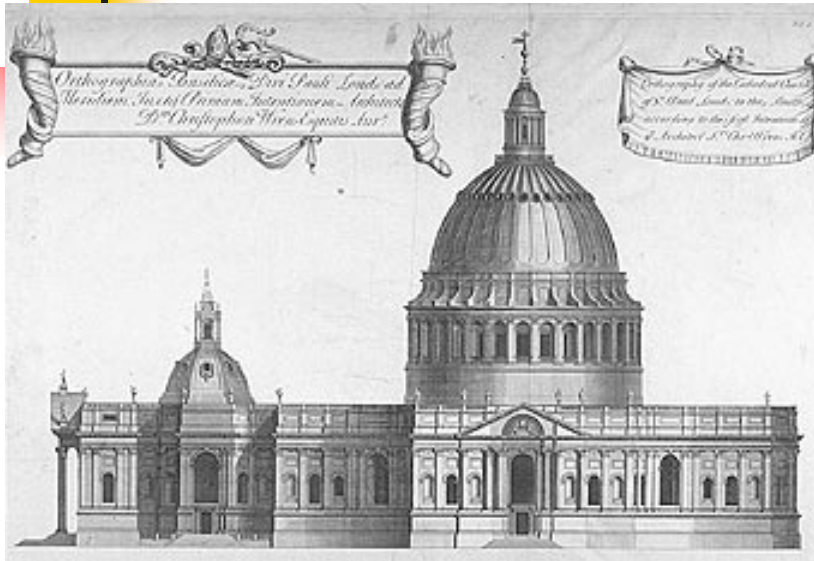
Hall of Mirrors: Served as a passageway, a waiting and meeting place, frequented by courtiers and the visiting public.



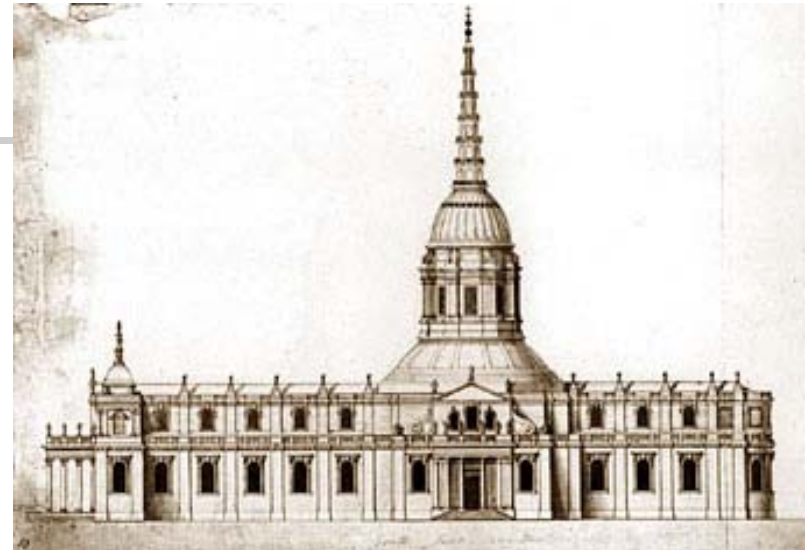
England

- England's most significant contribution the arts in the 17th and 18th Century was in architecture.
- The main architects:
 - Inigo Jones
 - Sir Christopher Wren
 - His masterpiece is the new St. Paul's Cathedral.

St. Paul's Cathedral, London



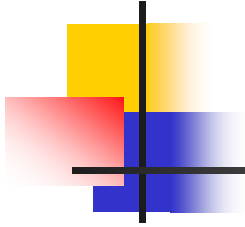
Greek Cross Plan



Warrant Plan – approved
by the Clergy



Final Plan, 1750



The Rococo

- Rococo is a unique style within the Baroque period and strays further away from Classicism.
- It is a more ornate style that shows sweetness, gaiety, and light; painterly and pastel features.
- It is chiefly characterized by the *representation of the leisurely activities of upper class society* by a frivolous choice of themes .
- The Artists (painting):
 - Jean-Honoré Fragonard
 - Elisabeth Vigée-LeBrun



Fragonard

The whole painting has an amorous
ambiance and joy of an
impetuous surrender to love.

The girl rides the swing with happy,
thoughtless abandon.

Her legs parted, her skirts open; the
youth in the rose-bush, hat off, arm
erect, lunges towards her.

Suddenly, as she reaches the peak
of her ride, her shoe flies off.

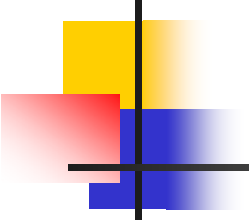
Happy Accidents of the Swing, 1767

Vigee-LeBrun

In a period of 6 years, she painted over 30 portraits of Marie Antoinette, making her the Queen's official portraitist.



Marie-Antoinette and her Children,
1781



Enlightenment, Revolution, the Scientific, and the Natural

- The Philosophers:

- Voltaire (1694-1778) - held that science and rationalism are the key to the improvement of the human condition.
- Jean-Jacques Rousseau - believed that feeling and emotions trumped reason and that the return to the natural, or the “primitive state” would lead to the salvation of humankind.
 - Lead to the demise of the Rococo

- The Artists:

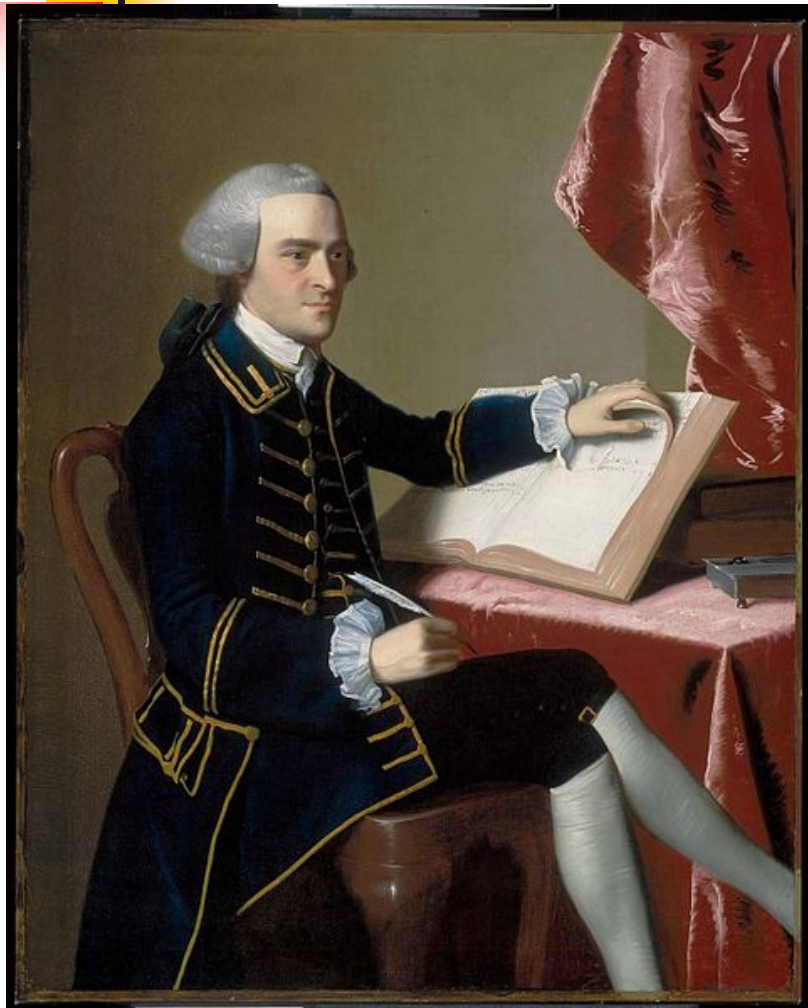
- Thomas Gainsborough – English portrait and landscape painter. Worked more from observation of (human) nature than from proper academic rules.
- John Singleton Copley – American portrait painter. Famous for portraits of middle class people and important early Colonial New England figures.

Thomas Gainsborough



*The Artist's Daughters:
Molly and Peggy, 1760*

John Singleton Copley



John Hancock, 1765



Dorothy Quincy Hancock, 1772