

European Masters

Sandro Botticelli

*Study*ladder

Sandro Botticelli

Born: 1445

Died: May 17, 1510

Style: Early Renaissance

Botticelli was an Italian painter of the Early Renaissance and one of the first to paint large scale mythology themed pieces of work.

He was commissioned to paint fresco murals on the walls of the Sistine Chapel and was a sought after portrait painter.

His style was individual and graceful using line to add detail to his paintings.

The name Botticelli was a childhood nickname which means "Little Barrel".



This detail from the Zanobi Altar "Adoration of the Magi" is thought to be a self portrait of Botticelli. 1475 , Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy.

Sandro Botticelli



Adoration of the Magi, the Zanobi Altar

Date Completed: 1475/1476

Medium: Tempera on panel

Dimensions: 111 cm × 134 cm (44 in × 53 in)

Location: The Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy.

Botticelli portrayed four members of the powerful Medici Family in this painting as well as what is thought to be a self portrait of himself (in the yellow robe on the far right).

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Primavera (Allegory of Spring)



Completed: 1482

Medium: Tempera on panel

Dimensions: 203 cm × 314 cm (80 in × 124 in)

Located: The Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy

This colossal painting features mythological characters in an orange grove. The central figure is Venus, the goddess of love. The figure covered in flowers is Flora, the goddess of flowers and Spring.

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Portrait of a man with a medal of Cosimo the Elder

Completed: about 1475

Medium: Tempera on panel

Dimensions: 57.5 cm × 44 cm (22 1/2 in × 17 in)

Located: The Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy

The name of the man in this painting is not known but he is holding a medal of Cosimo Medici.

The Medici Family ruled the city of Florence during the Renaissance. They were merchants and bankers and were very rich and powerful. They were great supporters of the arts and commissioned Botticelli to paint many pieces of work for them.