

Michelangelo di Ludovico Buonarroti Simoni

Florence, Italy

Also lived in Rome

Born in 1475–Died in 1564

Objective

I want to be recognized as a great artist, possibly the best, of the Renaissance period. I explored art in all forms and created works that show the beauty of science. I was fascinated by how an artist can “recreate” nature in painting or in sculpture.

Qualifications

I was an apprentice with the Ghirlandajo brothers and sculpture with Bertoldo in the Medici workshops, both in Florence. Much of my talent came from hard work and continually trying to perfect my skills. I worked with many more experienced artists on projects that grace the Medici palace and gardens.

Education

I was not a good student at formal studies; they do not interest me. I devoted my life to art and I learned by working with experienced artists, perfecting my own ability by practice.

Relevant Experience

Sculpture

Commissioned to sculpt a marble *pietà* statue in Rome; currently on display in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome

Carved the famous David, considered one of the greatest sculptures of all time

Worked on the tomb of Pope Julius II in Rome; work not completed

Painting

Painted (fresco) the vaulted ceiling of the Sistine Chapel at the Vatican in Rome

Painted (fresco) *The Last Judgment* on the back wall of the Sistine Chapel

Architecture

Designed the dome of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome

Supervised construction of the fortification of Florence

Other Experience

Also wrote sonnets, a form of poetry