

Chapter 10: Ancient Rome

Founding (Monarchy of Etruscan kings): 753 BCE

Republic: 509-27 BCE

Early Empire: 27 BCE-192 CE

Late Empire: 192-410 CE

Intro:

The city of Rome, founded by Romulus (wolf-suckling baby) was nothing but huts, grew into an Etruscan city, and then in 509 BCE the Romans threw out the last remaining Etruscan king and Rome became a Republic. They then began to conquer all of their surrounding neighbors one by one.

-211 BCE Marcellus, conqueror of the Greek city of Syracuse, brought back not only the loot but also (for the first time) the artistic works from the Greek city, and shortly after began “the craze for works of Greek art”

-The architecture and artwork, heavily influenced by the Etruscans and the Greeks, grew to become distinctly Roman

Contextual Issues:

- Appropriation-“Captive Greece made Rome captive”
- Pragmatism- where the greatest good and popular opinion established the standard of art
- Propaganda- power and authority of Republicanism and Imperialism
- Utilitarianism- engineering, road building, public works to manage government and Empire
- Eclecticism- a tolerant and open-minded approach to differences
- Architecture- new technological innovations in engineering including arches, vaults, domes, and **concrete**

Roman Art Concepts

- Reflects powerful empire-monumental buildings, glory of God and State
- Revolutionary Architecture-arch, vault, concrete
- Pompeii-painting survives
- Sculpture greatly influenced by the Greeks

Architecture (images)

10-11, 10-31, 10-34a, 10-34b, 10-48, 10-76, 10-80, 10-81

- Concrete revolutionized architecture; it’s extremely strong, could be molded, less expensive, did not need internal supports for domes and vaulted ceilings, and fireproof

Painting (images)

10-14, 10-15, 10-16, 10-17

Sculpture (images)

10-7, 10-25, 10-28, 10-29, 10-36, 10-38, 10-42, 10-59,

Late Sculpture (images)

10-72, 10-76, 10-78

- During the tetrarch (split into four different regions controlled by four different Emperors) of the Empire, Constantine was a Caesar of the West, who fought the other Co-emperors and won=reigned over all of Roman territory
- He attributed his victory to the Christian God and therefore put a cease to the persecution of Christians
- He also founded a “New Rome” in Byzantium, (Turkey) which he called Constantinople
- in 325, at the council of Nicaea, Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire and paganism declined rapidly,
- many scholars attribute these two acts to the beginning of the Middle Ages

Vocab

Barrel vault- also called the tunnel vault, it is a semi cylindrical ceiling over parallel walls

Groin vault- also called the cross vault, it is formed by intersecting two barrel vaults of equal size

Piers- a buttressing needed where the groins meet the vault's vertical supports

Colosseum- The huge arena in Rome, gets its name because it was built next to the Colossus of Nero, a huge statue that the Emperor Nero had commissioned of himself as the sun god

Forum- public square, usually the center of the city

Composite columns (mix of Ionic/Corinthian)-

Cubicula (windowless room)-

Linear perspective- all the receding lines converge on a single point along the paintings central axis to show depth and distance

Vanishing points- the point at which all the lines in a one-point linear perspective artwork converge creating an illusion that the objects are vanishing

Atmospheric perspective- indicating depth by the increasingly blurred appearance of objects in the distance

Foreshortening-

Veristic- super realistic

Pax Romana-

Bust-

Oculus- "eye" -circular opening at the apex of a dome

Questions:

What was so remarkable about the Roman pictorial mosaics?

How is the typical Roman temple related to the standard Etruscan temple? How is it related to Greek temples?

The *Augustus Prima porta* is a portrait of political propaganda. Describe the influences and characteristics of the work.

Describe the various devices for creating the illusion of space and depth used in the Ara Pacis relief sculptures.

Why is the Flavian Amphitheater is called the Colosseum (72-80 BCE)?

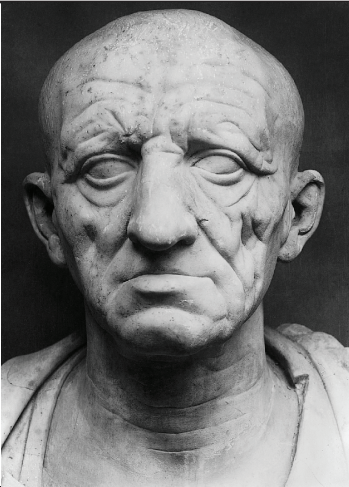
Name the orders that are used on the exterior of the Colosseum. How are the orders composed--that is, why did a certain order go at the lower portion while others appear as one moves further up.

Describe the shape and function of a basilica in Imperial Roman times.

Chapter 10

N = name D = date (century) P/S = Period/Style A = artist or architect
 Pa = Patron L = original location C = context N = notes of importance

10-7



N:Head of a Roman Patrician **D:**75-50 BCE **P/S:**Roman Republican Verism
A:Unknown **Pa:**Unknown Roman in portrait **L:**Otricoli, Italy
C: -Most patrons during Roman era were wealthy _____, with long family lineage. They would keep likenesses or “_____” of their dead ancestors in wooden cupboards in their homes. They wanted them to remember what they looked like, and wanted themselves to be portrayed as real as possible for their offspring, created a _____ style or “super-realistic” style.
 -wanted brutally____ images of distinctive features; scars, lines, grooves

N: -marble, 1’ 2” high

10-11



N:Amphitheater of Pompeii **D:**70 BCE **P/S:**Roman Republican
A:Unknown **Pa:**Quinctius Valgus & Marcus Portius **L:**Pompeii, Italy
C: -built for entertainment: gladiator games and wild animal hunts vs. the Greek theater reserved for refined plays
 -“amphitheater” means “_____” and resemble two Greek theaters put together
 -“arena-” latin for “_____” and it referred to the _____ that was covering the floor to soak up the blood
N: -earliest known such structure and could seat _____ people
 -had the mountainside built using _____ barrel vaults, barrel vaults also made for the entryway tunnels in and out of the arena
 -had large _____ that they could unroll for partial shade over the arena

10-14



N:First Style wall painting **D:**2nd Century BCE **P/S:**First Style Roman
A:Unknown **Pa:**Samnite House **L:**Herculaneum, Italy
C: -The First Style of Roman painting was meant to give the appearance of expensive _____ and _____ from various regions. It was made out of relief stucco that was texturized and painted.
 -found decorating the interior walls of _____.

N:

10-15



N:Dionysiac mystery Frieze **D:**60-50 BCE **P/S:**Second Style Roman
A:Unknown **Pa:**Unknown **L:**Villa of Mysteries in Pompeii, Italy
C: - _____ design changed from the confining marble look to opening up the room with an _____ of more space seen through an imaginary 3-D world.
 -this particular painting depicts some kind of a ritual of _____ being married to the god _____.

N: -depicted _____ illusions like the bottom ledge that looks like it juts out from the wall.

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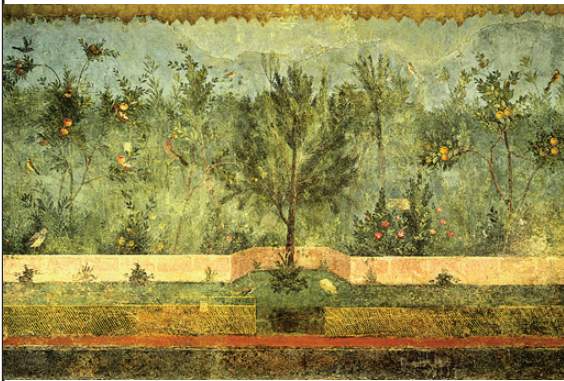
10-16



N: Second Style wall paintings **D:** 50-40 BCE **P/S:** Second Style Roman
A: Unknown **Pa:** Publius Fannius Synistor **L:** Boscoreale, Italy
C: -Second Style painters began to use the _____ **perspective** method in their paintings to depict space and distance
 -all the receding lines converge on a _____ along the paintings central axis to show depth and distance
 -this took the viewer farther into the painting and gave the room an illusion of greater _____ and _____

N:

10-17



N: Gardenscape **D:** 30-20 BCE **P/S:** Second Style Roman
A: Unknown **Pa:** Livia, wife of emperor Augustus **L:** Prima Porta, Italy
C: -Second Style painters began to use _____ **Perspective;** indicating depth by the increasingly blurred appearance of objects in the distance
 -foreground (things closest to the viewer) are painted in _____ detail while the rest of the background images are painted with _____ detail & oftentimes given a tint of white to "haze" the colors mimicking the atmosphere "fog"

N:

10-25



N: Portrait of Augustus as general **D:** 20 BCE **P/S:** Roman Imperial
A: Unknown **Pa:** Augustus **L:** his wife's (Livia) villa at Prima Porta, Italy
C: -As the first _____, he said he was the son of a god and implored the ideas of the _____ in creating portraits of himself as a youth, even into his old age.
 -it is based closely on _____
 -it depicts an important diplomatic victory, and _____ at his feet indicates his divine descent. Caesar's family, the Julian's, traced their ancestry back to the goddess _____, who is the mother of _____
 -excellent example of _____

N: -Marble 6' 8" high

10-28



N: Female Personification **D:** 13-9 BCE **P/S:** Roman Imperial
A: Unknown **Pa:** Caesar Augustus **L:** Rome, Italy
C: -a panel from the east facade of the Ara Pacis Augustae (Altar of Augustan _____), which are carefully selected _____ subjects.
 -This panel depicts a seated mother with two babies on her lap. All around her the earth is in bloom, the _____ are living side by side peacefully, refreshing breezes in the blowing drapery, one woman rides a _____ the other rides a _____, all depictions of the peace brought by the Augustan gods

N:

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10-29



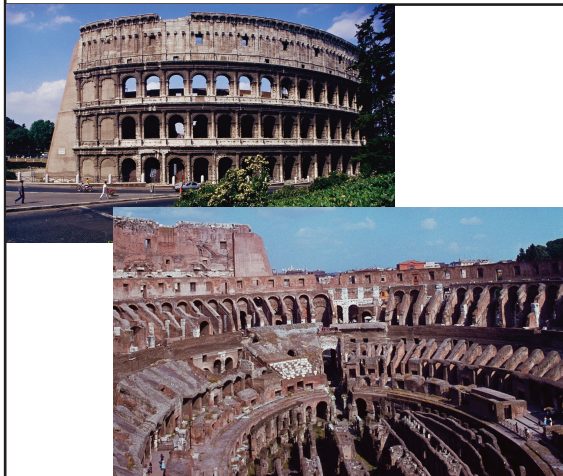
N: Procession of the Imperial Family **D:** 13-9 BCE **P/S:** Roman Imperial
A: Unknown **Pa:** Caesar Augustus **L:** Rome, Italy
C: -a panel from the east facade of the _____ Auguste (Altar of Augustan Peace), which are carefully selected mythological subjects.
 -On one side of the altar, Augustus had his _____ in a procession depicted. He took his inspiration for this from the frieze of the _____ He tried to present his new order as a Golden Age equaling that of Athens Greece
 -The Greek Procession depicts _____ individuals who are taking part in a festival-the Ara Pacis depicts a single event (when the altar built) and has _____ individuals
 -The children in the procession are _____ and talking to each other, acting like children instead of small adults, something never seen before. Augustus was concerned about the _____ among the Roman nobility and he wanted to promote marriage, fidelity, and raising children, another example how the emperor used art to further his own _____ and _____ agendas

10-31



N: Pont-Du-Gard **D:** 16 BCE **P/S:** Roman Imperial
A: Unknown Architects **Pa:** Caesar Augustus **L:** Nîmes, France
C: -an _____ bridge that brought about _____ gallons of water a day for each inhabitant of Nîmes from about 30 miles away.
 -The Romans built aqueducts all over their empire to supply their _____ with fresh mountain water
 -the water was carried by a _____ flow, so that meant the aqueducts had to be built with a constant _____ from the source all the way to the city
N: -the three story bridge had to be built that tall to maintain the height required to keep the _____ of water steady
 -each arch is 82 feet across and constructed of blocks that weigh 2 tons each

10-34



N: Colosseum **D:** 70-80 CE **P/S:** Roman Imperial
A: Unknown Architects **Pa:** Vespasian **L:** Rome, Italy
C: -provided Romans with the largest arena that had ever been built
 -for _____ combats and lavish spectacles, on its opening they had _____ consecutive days of events, one included the flooding of the arena for a naval battle with _____ participants
 -thousands of human lives and animals were lost in the arena and many of those were _____ killed for their faith.
N: -engineering marvel- concrete a must, a complex system of _____ vaulted corridors holds it up, The whole building was covered with _____ (even seats) but it has been looted for many centuries and is now only a concrete skeleton, under the _____ were hidden chambers & devices, also had a shaded awning, public restrooms and plumbing

10-36



N: Portrait bust of a Flavian woman **D:** 90 CE **P/S:** Roman Imperial
A: **Pa:** **L:** Rome, Italy
C: Vespasian brought back the _____ style of super realistic sculptures of the Republic era
 -although they also have depictions of all sorts of people vs. just elder men
 -this bust is meant to depict idealized _____ through contemporary _____ vs. images of Greek goddesses
 -notable for its elegance and delicacy especially in handling the textures of the curls of hair
N: -used a drill for the hair elements which became widely used

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10-42



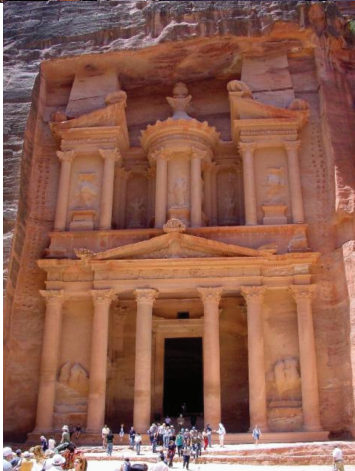
N:Column of Trajan **D:**112 CE **P/S:**Roman Imperial
A:unknown **Pa:**Trajan **L:**Rome, Italy
C: -Trajan was first non-Italian to rule Rome (he was _____) and he was extremely well liked and he greatly enlarged the Roman territory. Within the Roman empire, great peace (_____ Romana) for all who lived inside its borders, this brought great _____ & _____.
 -the base of the column served as Trajan's _____
N:-the shaft is covered with a spiraling _____ sculpture, topped with a heroically nude statue of _____, in 16th Cent. replaced with St. Peter
 -the reliefs depict Trajan's two successful campaigns against the _____ (Romania)
 -the focus is always on the _____ and shows that the Romans won not because they were better humans but because they were better _____ and had a more powerful army: _____

10-48



N:Pantheon **D:**118-125 CE **P/S:**Roman Imperial
A:Hadrian's engineers **Pa:**Hadrian **L:**Rome, Italy
C: -The _____ of all the gods,
 -Romans were the first to think of architecture as a way to shape space by the enclosures, it encloses visitors without imprisoning them, the _____ is the only window where light enters the building,
N: -one of the most influential designs in architectural history, shows full potential of _____, Corinthian columns, dome's thickness gets thinner as it nears the _____, sides of dome have _____ (sunken decorative panels) to lessen load and create a pattern,
 -the diameter of the dome is _____ feet and the top of the dome is 142 ft. so a perfect orb of empty space is enclosed within the building.

10-52



N:El Khazneh **D:**2nd Century CE **P/S:**Roman Imperial
A:unknown **Pa:**Hadrian **L:**Petra, Jordan
C: -cut out of the _____
 - it is a _____
N: - _____' high, two stories, lower story resembles a temple facade with 6 columns, but pediment only big enough to cover the middle _____ columns, second level=a temple within a temple, with the outer temple being cut away to make way for a tholoslike cylinder, looks similar to the tholos of the _____ painting of Roman interiors.

10-59



N:Equestrian Statue of Marcus Aurelius **D:**175 CE **P/S:**Roman Imperial
A:unknown **Pa:**Marcus Aurelius **L:**Rome, Italy
C: -he has a superhuman grandeur, and is much _____ than any human would be in relation to a horse,
 -portrays him as _____ of the world=**godlike**
 -most ancient bronze sculptures were melted down during the middle ages (for their metal value), but this one was not because they wrongly thought that this was an image of _____, the first Christian Emperor, all the rest were seen as pagan and idolatry
 -the equestrian portrait portrays _____ and _____ of the Emperor

N: bronze, 11' 6" high

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10-72



N:Sarcophagus of a Philosopher **D:**270 CE **P/S:**Late Roman Imperial
A:Unknown **Pa:**Philosopher pictured **L:**Rome, Italy
C: -The times of the Late Roman _____ Era were very unstable with one general after another ceasing control of Rome, some as quickly as 3 months apart, as a result a lot of _____ projects ceased to exist
 -the insecure times led many to look to _____ for answers
 -a coffin for a Roman _____, decorated with the philosopher holding a scroll, two women look to him for wisdom, in the background are _____ of his.
 -this type of sarcophagus became very popular, especially for _____ who had _____ placed in the middle with his apostles flanking him
N:

10-76



N:Arch of Constantine **D:**312-315 CE **P/S:**Late Roman Imperial
A:Constantine engineers **Pa:**Constantine **L:**Rome, Italy
C: -This was made to commemorate his _____ over Maxentius
 -Much of the decoration was taken from other monuments of Trajan, Hadrian and Marcus Aurelius, they cut off the _____ and added Constantines
 -they also added descriptions to the images like, " _____ ", & " _____ ", and about the defeat of Max. and the end of civil war
 -This reuse shows the lack of _____ and technical skill amidst this decline in the Empire
 - They had carefully selected the " _____ " of Hadrian and Marcus Aurelius to place Constantine next to in order to portray him as a good one, and popular as well.

10-78



N:Portrait of Constantine **D:**315-330 CE **P/S:**Late Roman Imperial
A:Unknown **Pa:**Constantine **L:**Rome, Italy
C: -went back to the Augustan image of an eternally _____ Emperor
 -he held an _____, the symbol of global power, in his left hand
 -enormous _____, the personality is lost in the immense image of eternal authority
 -sitting on images of _____
 -colossal size, reference to Jupiter, and the eyes directed at no person or thing in this world combine to produce a formula of overwhelming power, which is appropriate to Constantine's exalted position of _____ power
N:Marble, 8'6" tall

10-80



N:Aula Palatina **D:**300 CE **P/S:**Late Roman Imperial
A:Unknown **Pa:**Constantine **L:**Trier, Germany
C: -an audience hall to serve the _____, very simple, two stories of large windows that let in a sufficient amount of light, _____ ceiling
 -at the _____ end there is a semicircular apse that also has a flat ceiling
 -the design of both the interior and the exterior of this basilica is closely paralleled by many _____ basilicas
N: -brick exterior, 190' long X 94' wide, lead framed panes of glass,