

Michelangelo

Michelagnolo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni
1475-1564



- In 1475, Michelangelo was born into a family of small-scale bankers in Florence, Italy
- Against his father's wishes, when Michelangelo was thirteen he became an apprentice to the famous Italian artist Domenico Ghirlandaio
- Michelangelo was not satisfied doing the work of an apprentice, and after one year he left Ghirlandaio's workshop to join a group of young sculptors in the garden of the wealthy Medici family
- After this period in his life, Michelangelo became more and more well known, and his reputation as a controversial artist grew
- In 1498 he completed his *Pietà*. Angry that the *Pietà* was being attributed to other artists, Michelangelo signed his name across the sash of Mary, later regretting this decision and not signing any other works
- Between 1501 and 1504, Michelangelo completed his most famous sculpture, *David*; he managed to unearth the fourteen-foot-tall shape of David from a single block of abandoned, flawed marble



- Four years later, Michelangelo finally agreed to paint the top of the Sistine Chapel, commissioned by Pope Julius II. He painted the space (originally painted blue, with gold stars) with scenes from the Bible, and was praised for his creation of depth and architecture on the flat ceiling.
- In 1546, Michelangelo was appointed the chief architect for the dome atop St. Peter's Basilica, in Rome. His influential design has served as the basis for many domes created after.
- Michelangelo died at age 89, having gained success as a painter, sculptor, poet, and architect