

Introduction-Painting



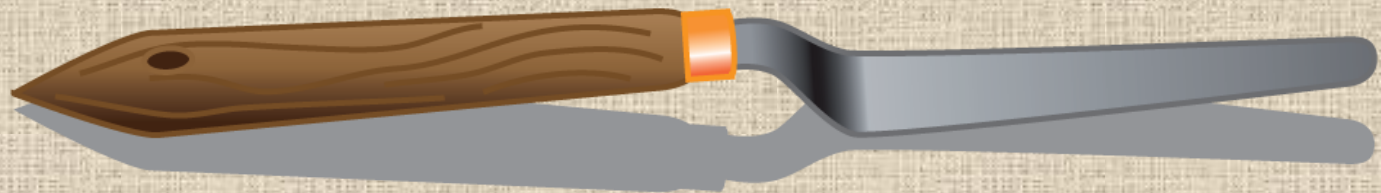
- **Artists have painted surfaces of many kinds thousands of years**
- **Paint in its most basic form is composed of pigment suspended in a liquid binder that dries after it has been applied**
 - ◆ **Pigments have been extracted from minerals, soils, vegetable matter, and animal by-products**
 - ◆ **Binders are traditionally beeswax, egg yolk, vegetable oils and gums, and water; in modern times, art-supply manufacturers have developed such complex chemical substances as polymers, plastics, epoxys**

Encaustic Paint

The binder is wax so it is neither an oil or water based paint

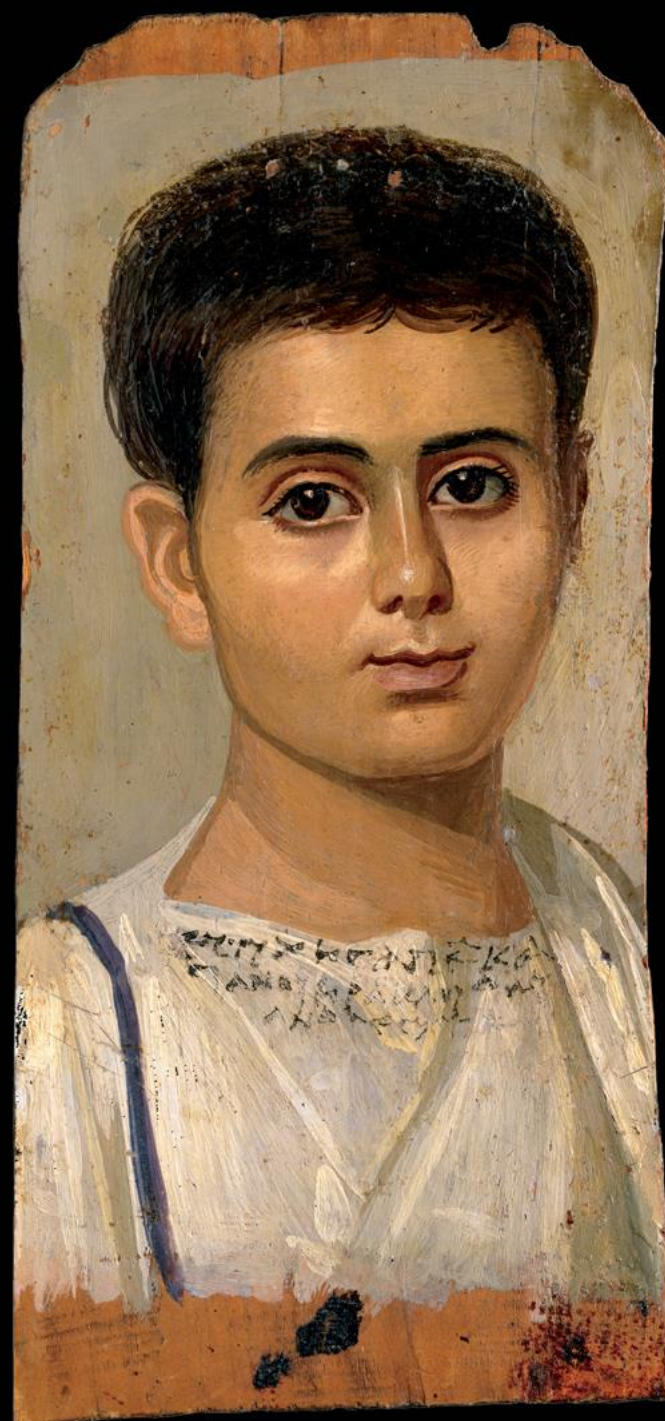
- **To use encaustic, an artist must mix pigments with hot wax and then apply the mixture quickly**
- **Artists can apply the paint with brushes, palette knives, or rags, or can simply pour it**
- **A stiff-backed support is necessary because encaustic, when cool, is not very flexible and may crack**

Palette knife, a tool that can be used by the painter for mixing and applying paint



This type of portrait would have been used as a funerary adornment that was placed over the face of the mummified deceased or on the outside of the sarcophagus in the face position

Encaustic portraits from this era are referred to as Fayum portraits after the Fayum Oasis in Egypt where many of them were found

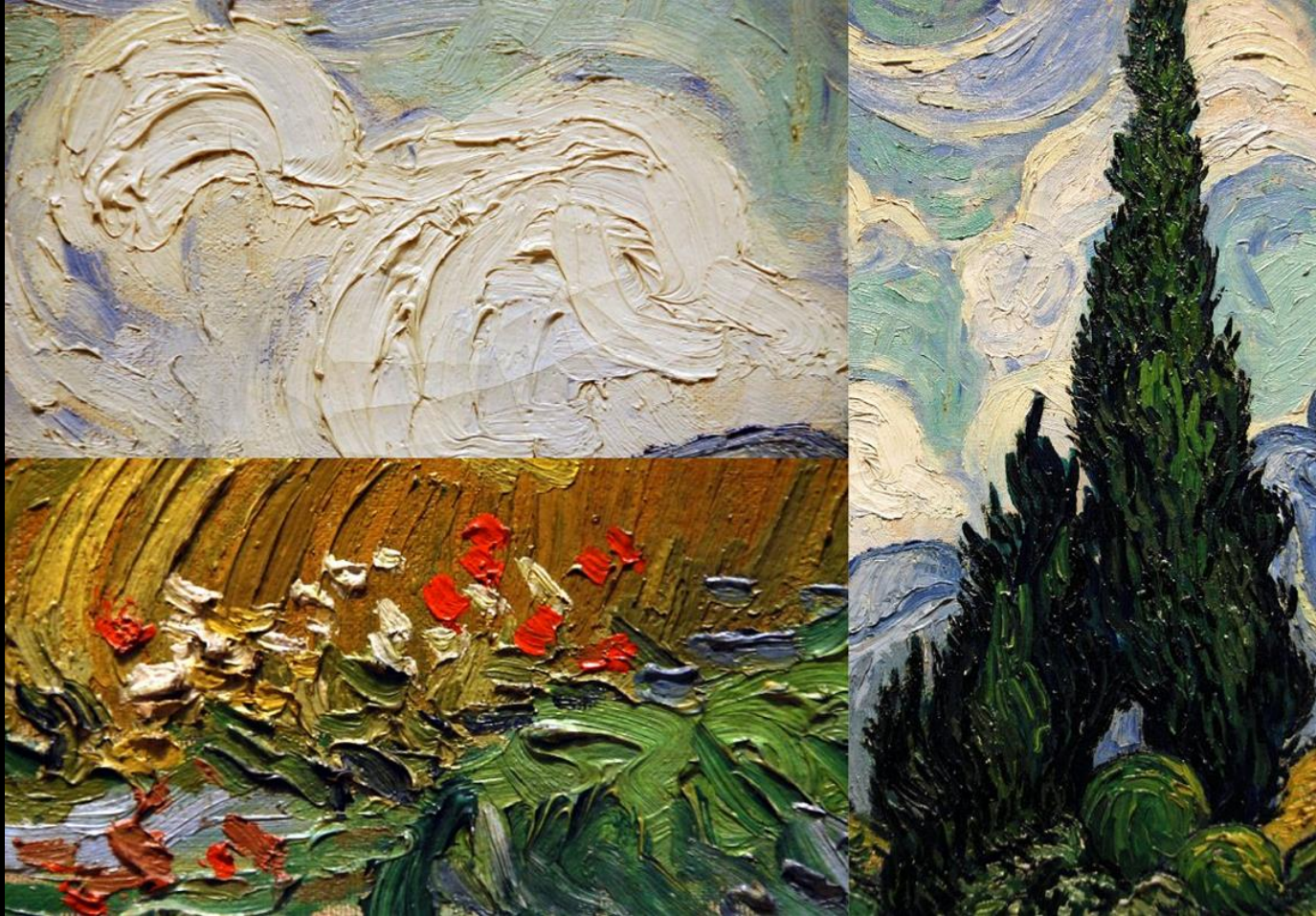


Portrait of a boy, c. 100–150 CE.
Encaustic on wood, 15 $\frac{3}{8}$ x 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ ".
Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York

Vincent Van Gogh

Wheat Field with Cypresses (Detail)

1889



Impasto is the heavy use of **ANY** paint, thickly applied and even piled onto the surface.

Water Based Paints vs. Oil Based Paints

These are the two main categories of paints, not made of water or oil, but worked and cleaned with water or oil based spirits. **Every paint has its own special binders, like tempera is egg yolk. But tempera is worked and cleaned with water, so tempera is a water-based paint.**

Each category has its own special features, and there really are only 3 main differences:

WATER BASED

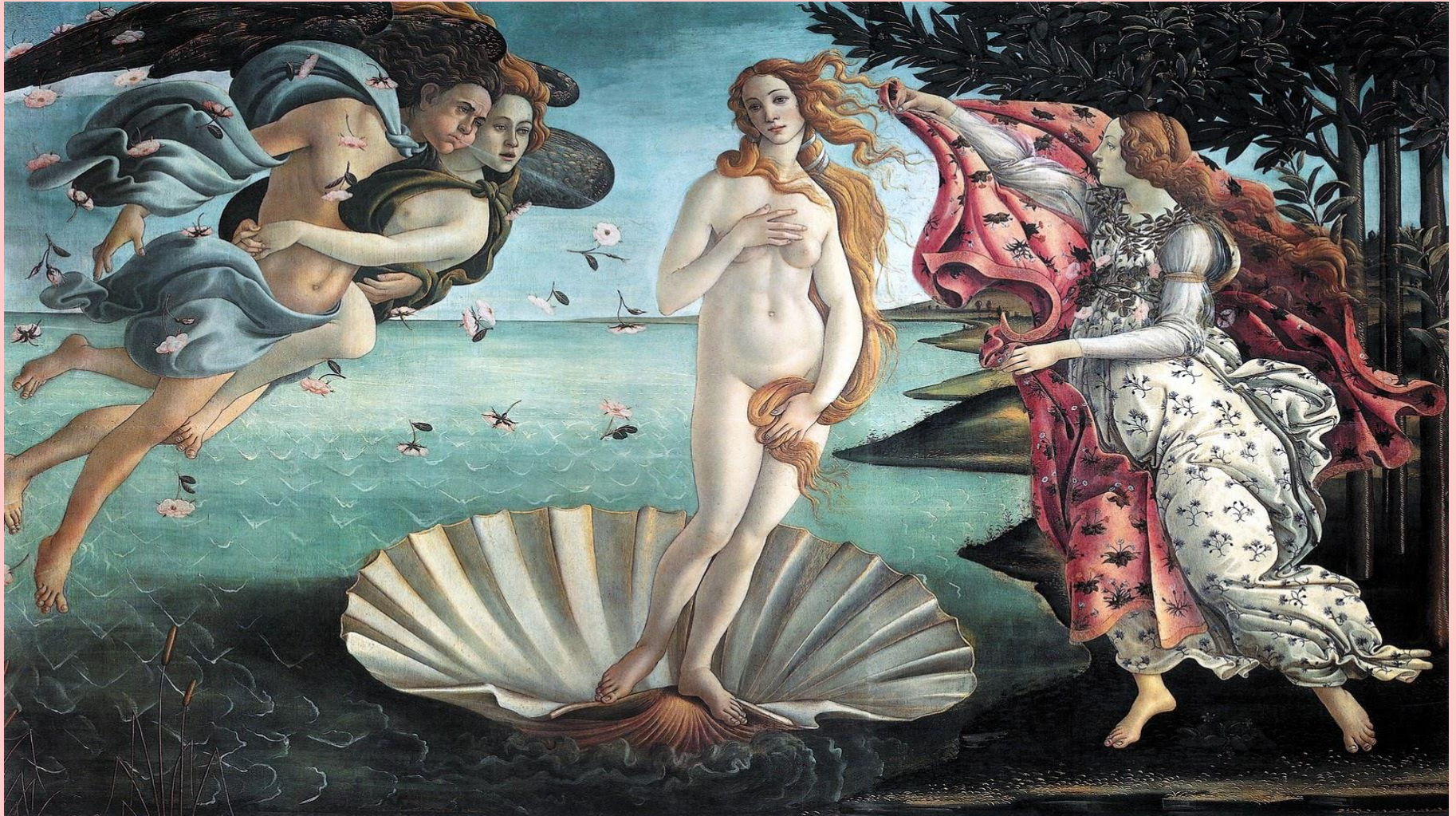
1. Dry fast
2. Have less rich color quality
3. Are worked and cleaned with water

OIL-BASED PAINTS

1. Dry Slowly
2. Have rich, luminous color
3. Are worked and cleaned with mineral spirits that are toxic and flammable

Tempera – Water Based

- **Tempera is mixed fresh for each painting session, dries quickly**
- **A media used less often today-in schools in powdered form-add water . The binder for tempura used here is EGG YOLK.**



Fresco Water Based

- **This technique involves pigment mixed with water painted onto a freshly applied lime-plaster surface**
- **The pigment is not mixed into a binder, as it is in other painting techniques**
- **Once this chemical reaction is complete the color is extremely durable, making fresco a very permanent painting medium-Not easily changed! The paint literally is “set in stone”. (well, the wall)**



Michelangelo, *The Libyan Sibyl*, 1511–12. Fresco. Detail of the Sistine Chapel Ceiling, Vatican City

**EXAMPLE OF
BUON FRESCO-
PAINTING INTO
WET PLASTER,
CONSIDERED TO
BE THE “TRUE”
FRESCO**

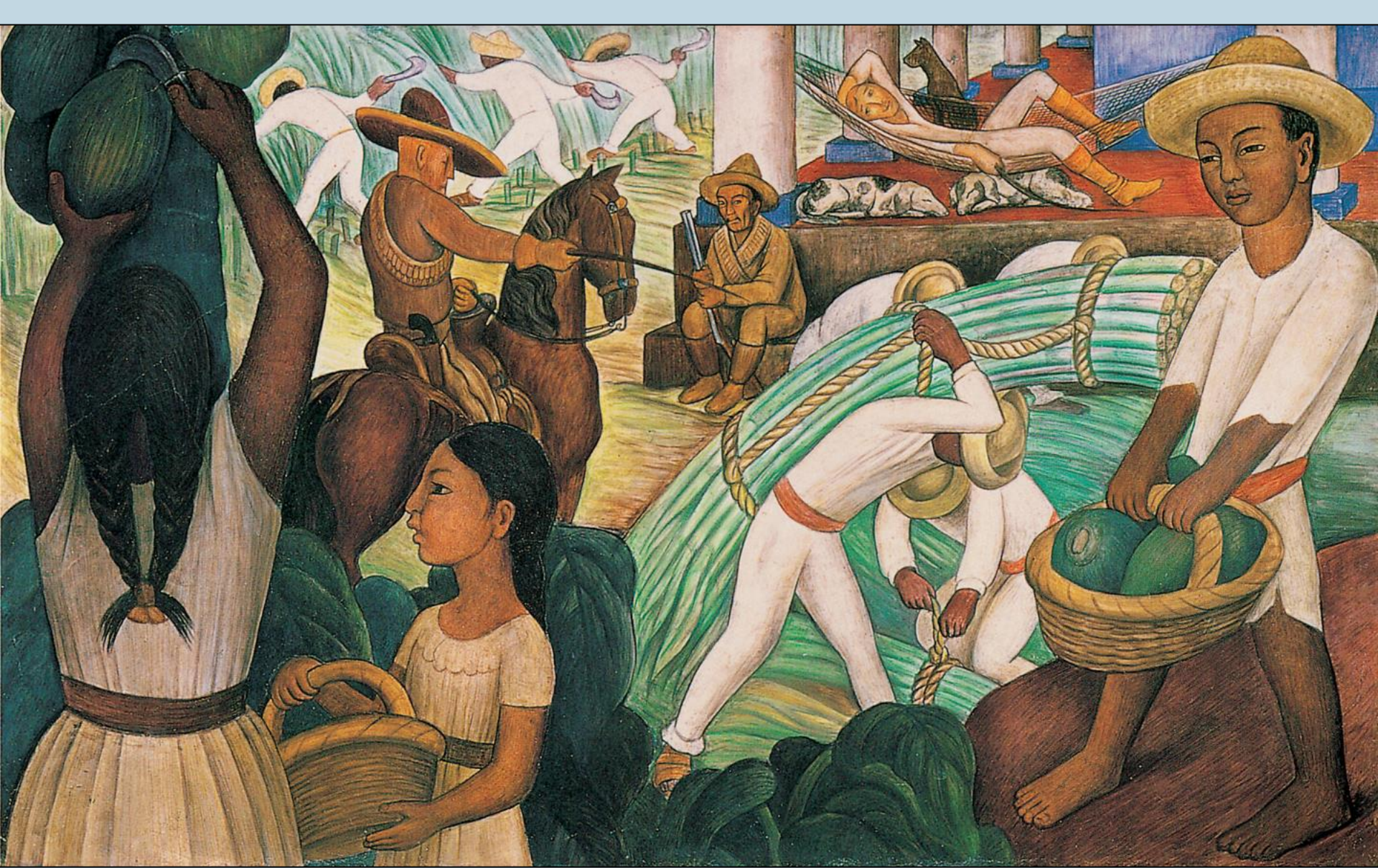
PART 2

MEDIA AND PROCESSES



Michelangelo, *The Libyan Sibyl*

- Michelangelo used the buon fresco method to paint the Sistine Chapel ceiling (true fresco-the “on a wet surface” method) as opposed to fresco secco-dry surface
- It took four years to complete
- The artist used a strategic approach in order to disguise the seams between separate days’ work – different painting sessions
- **VERY DIFFICULT TO MAKE CHANGES**-once the plaster sets (rapidly)



Diego Rivera, *Sugar Cane*, 1931. Fresco on plaster, 4'10" x 7'11". Philadelphia Museum of Art
Fresco Secco – Just painting on a dry wall -Not considered a “true” fresco
Rivera was THE most famous and influential muralist in the 20th C. in the world

Watercolor and Gouache Water Based

- **Watercolor and gouache suspend pigment in water with a sticky binder, usually gum arabic**
 - ◆ Watercolor is transparent
 - ◆ An additive (often chalk) in gouache makes the paint opaque
- **Usually watercolor and gouache are painted on paper**
- **Any white area in a watercolor is simply unpainted paper**
- **WATERCOLOR IS THE ONLY PAINT YOU DO NOT USE WHITE PAINT. TO LIGHTEN COLOR, ADD MORE WATER. THROW OUT THE TUBE OF WHITE WATERCOLOR PAINT!**

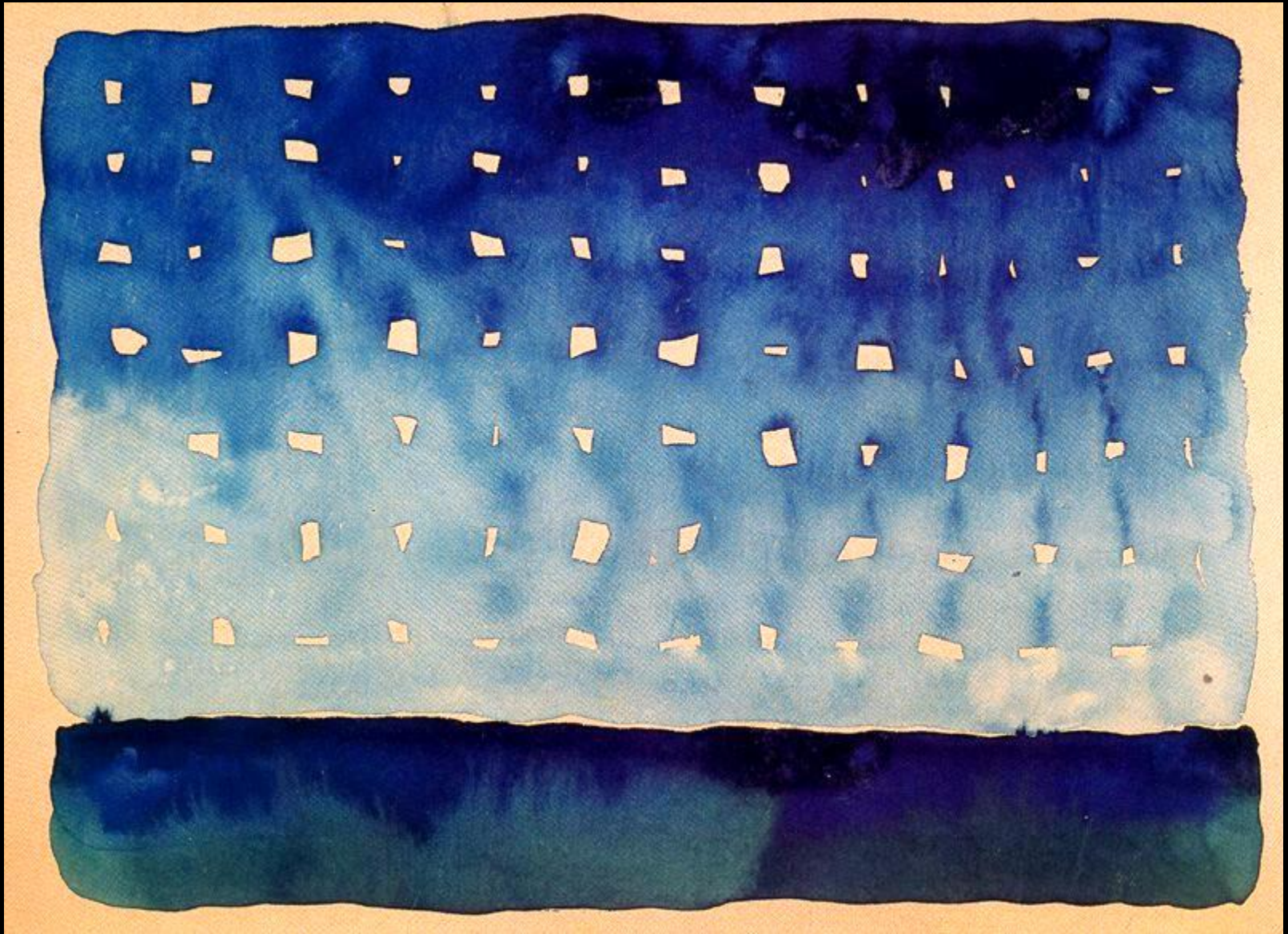
Albrecht Dürer, *A Young Hare*, 1502.
Watercolor and gouache on paper, 9 $\frac{7}{8}$ x
8 $\frac{7}{8}$ ". Graphische Sammlung Albertina,
Vienna, Austria

Watercolor is easy to transport and work in any setting. It also has a wide range of styles. This rabbit is very tightly rendered, or what you would call detailed.



1502





Georgia O'Keeffe 1917 *Star Lit Night* – Compare with Durer? Or watercolor can be loose and immediate looking like this painting.

Acrylic

- Acrylic paints are composed of pigments suspended in an acrylic polymer resin
- Only been in use since about 1950
- They dry quickly and can be cleaned up with relative ease, using **water**
- When dry acrylics have similar characteristics to those of oil paint-but tend to look “flatter” than oils, unless special mediums (additives) are used with the paint



Roger Shimomura, *Untitled*, 1984. Acrylic on canvas, 5'½" x 6'¼". Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art, Kansas City, Missouri

PART 2
MEDIA AND PROCESSES



Roger Shimomura,
Untitled

- Shimomura uses acrylic paint to create works that investigate the relationships between cultures
- He merges traditional Japanese imagery with popular culture and typically American subjects
- This combination of styles reflects the mixing of cultures resulting from communication and contact between nations
- **THE SHAPES AND FLATNESS OF ACRYLICS MAKE THE PAINTING LOOK MORE LIKE WORK FROM A COMIC BOOK-WHICH IS ONE REASON WHY HE CHOSE ACRYLIC.**



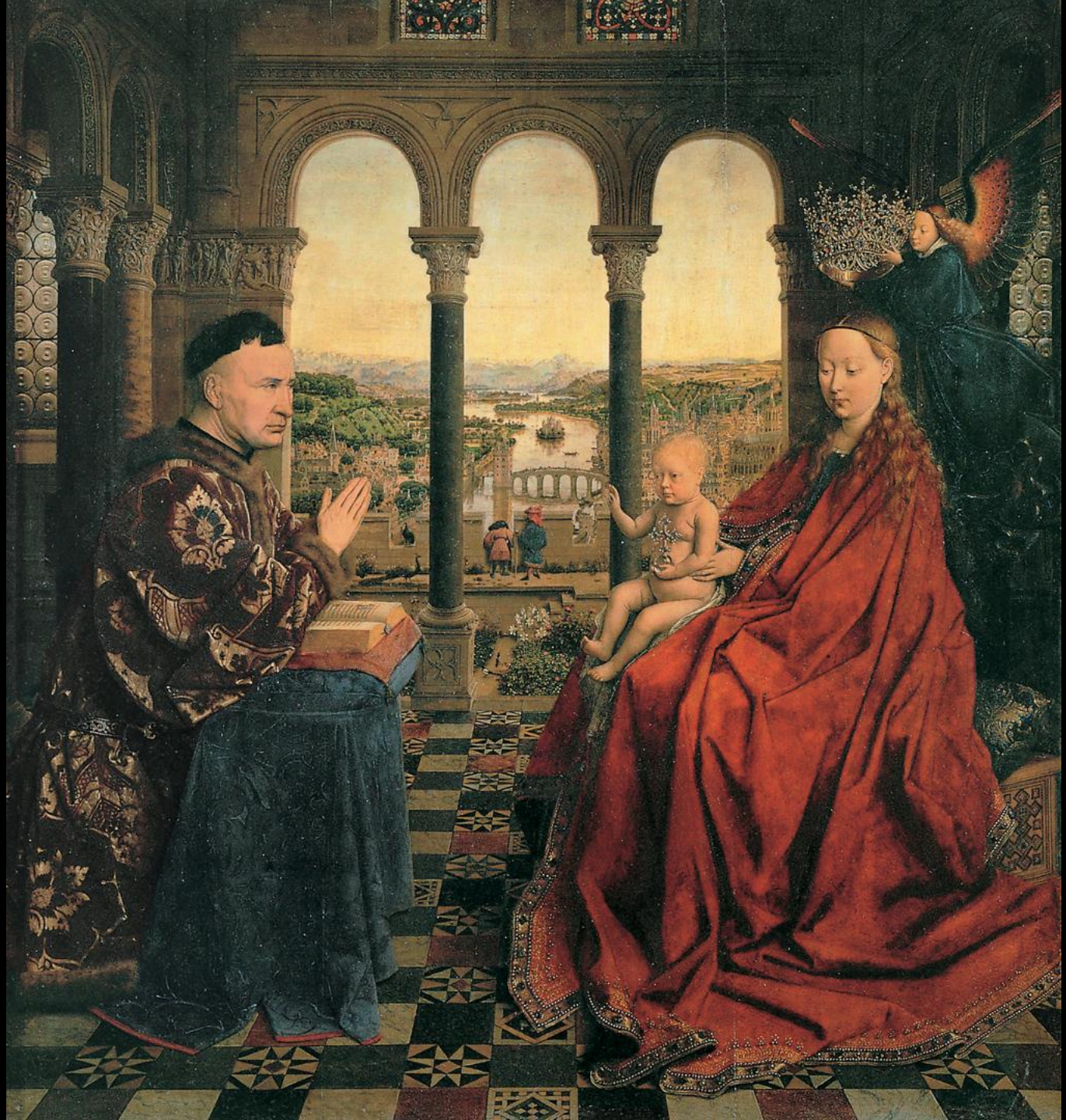
Jacob Lawrence. *You can buy bootleg whiskey for twenty-five cents a quart*, from the *Harlem Series*. 1942–43.

Gouache 15 1/2 x 22 1/2 in.

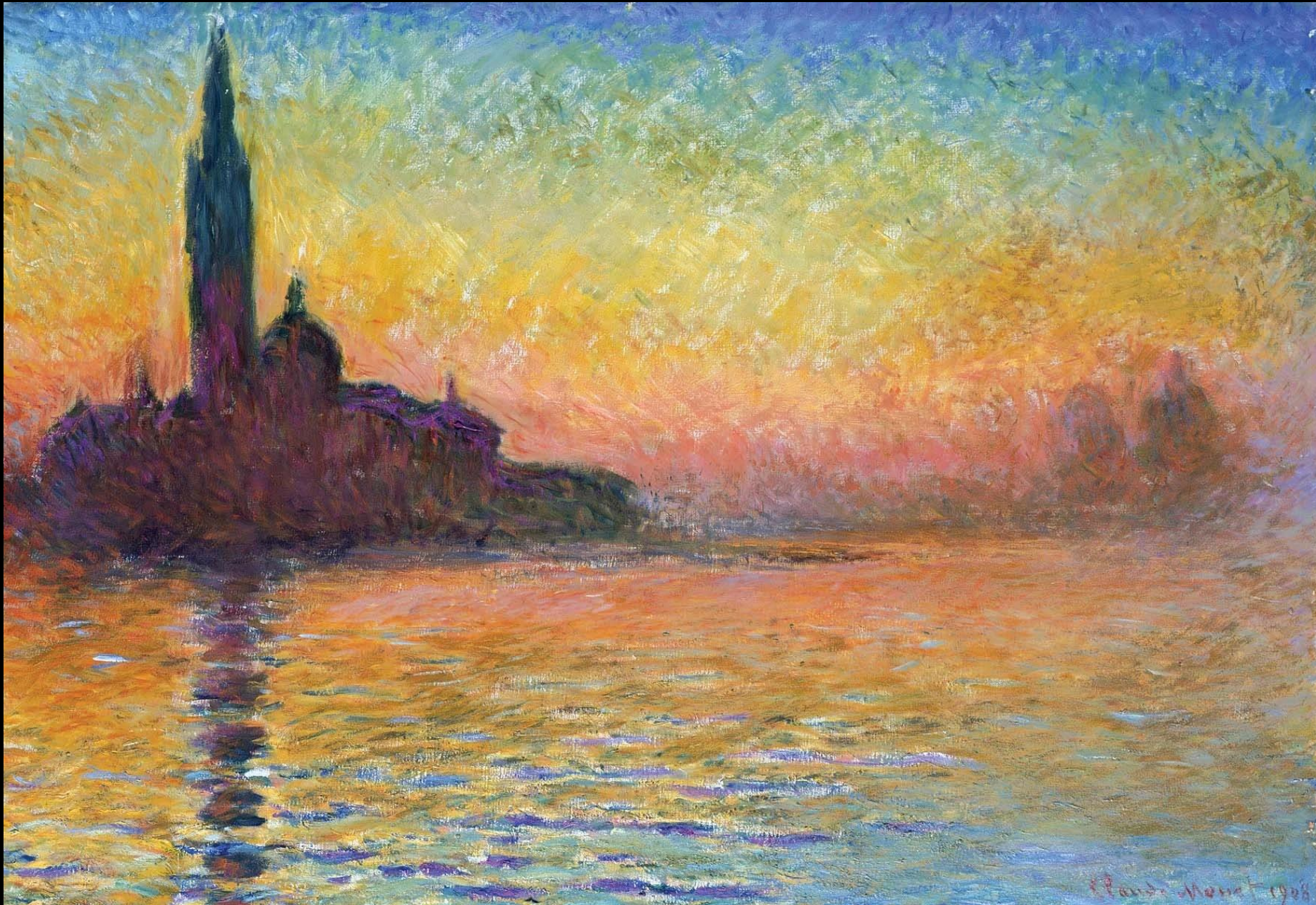
Notice the flat look of the shapes and colors add to the bold look and “tawdriness” of the scene.

Oil- Oil Based Paint

- **Artists used oil paint during the Middle Ages, but have only done so regularly since the fifteenth century**
- **The oil most used as a binder was linseed oil**
- **Giorgio Vasari, an Italian Renaissance writer and artist, credits the fifteenth-century Flemish painter Jan van Eyck with the invention of oil paint**
- **Da Vinci's works often suffered due to his experimentation in oils**



Jan van Eyck, *The Madonna of Chancellor Rolin*, 1430–34. Oil on wood, 26 x 24 $\frac{3}{8}$ ". Musée du Louvre, Paris, France



Claude Monet – “Twilight, Venice” or “San Giorgio Maggiore at Dusk” Oil 1908
NOTE THE COLOR QUALITY, RICH AND LUMINOUS.



**Enamels – OIL Based
Chinese Enamel Painting**

Shiny, decorative and durable.

**Often used in decorative arts like cloisonné jewelry, tile work,
plates, crafts**

Spray Paint- Oil Based

- Spray paint is one of the oldest painting techniques. The cave walls of Lascaux, France were applied by blowing a saliva-and-pigment solution through a small tube
- Because the spray spreads out in a fine mist, the ancient spray-paint artist, like today's spray painters, would mask out areas to create hard edges
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sIgFAXcdVAI>
- SPRAY PAINT IN ACTION



John Matos, a.k.a. "Crash," *Aeroplane 1*, 1983. Spray paint on canvas, 5'11¼" × 8'7". Brooklyn Museum, New York

PART 2

MEDIA AND PROCESSES



John Matos, a.k.a. “Crash”

Aeroplane 1

- Practitioners of spray-painted graffiti art are considered vandals and criminals by local governments when they paint places without the permission of the property owners
- Because of this, many artists keep their identity secret and sign their work with an alias, called a tag
- John Matos (b. 1961), whose tag is “Crash,” is considered a founder of the graffiti art movement
- He began spray painting New York City subway cars at the age of thirteen



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lgQmDY5c4OQ>

PAINTING ACTIVITY

Nuxono Xan – Martinique – 2013-2014