

Late Medieval & Gothic Art

Gothic Era

1150/1400

about 250 years

Pope Innocent III, On the Misery of the Human Condition, c. 1200

Man is conceived of blood made rotten by the heat of lust; and in the end worms, like mourners, stand about his corpse. In life he produced lice and tapeworms; in death he will produce worms and flies. In life he produced dung and vomit; in death he produces rottenness and stench. In life he fattened one man; in death he fattens a multitude of worms.

Dematerialization

Image floats on gold background
(Byzantine influence lingers)

Madonna and Child, ca. 1326
Simone Martini (Italian [Siena],
ca. 1284–1344)
Tempera on panel; Overall: 23
1/8 x 15 1/2 in. (58.8 x 39.6
cm); Painted Surface: 22 1/2 x
15 1/8 in. (57.2 x 38.4 cm)

No bones about it



Martini Madonna detail

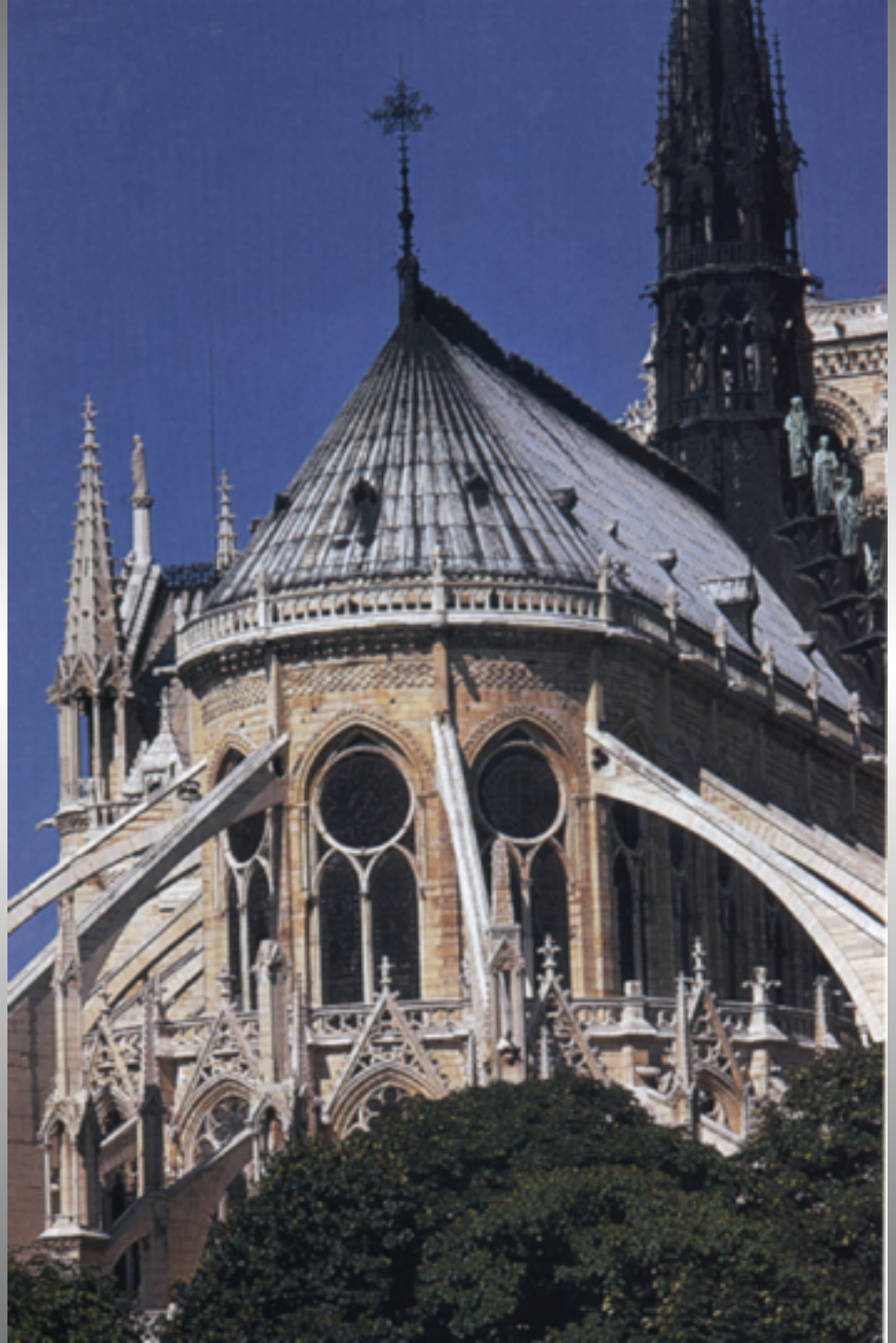


Notre Dame Cathedral



begun in 1163

Notre Dame
Cathedral
flying buttresses
c. 1175





Flying Buttress diagram

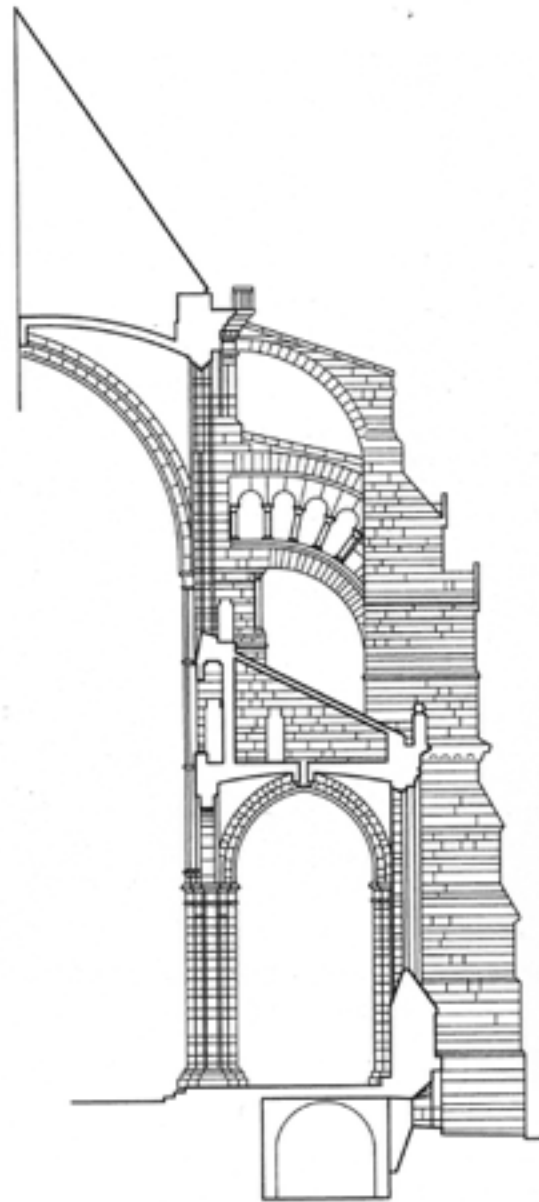
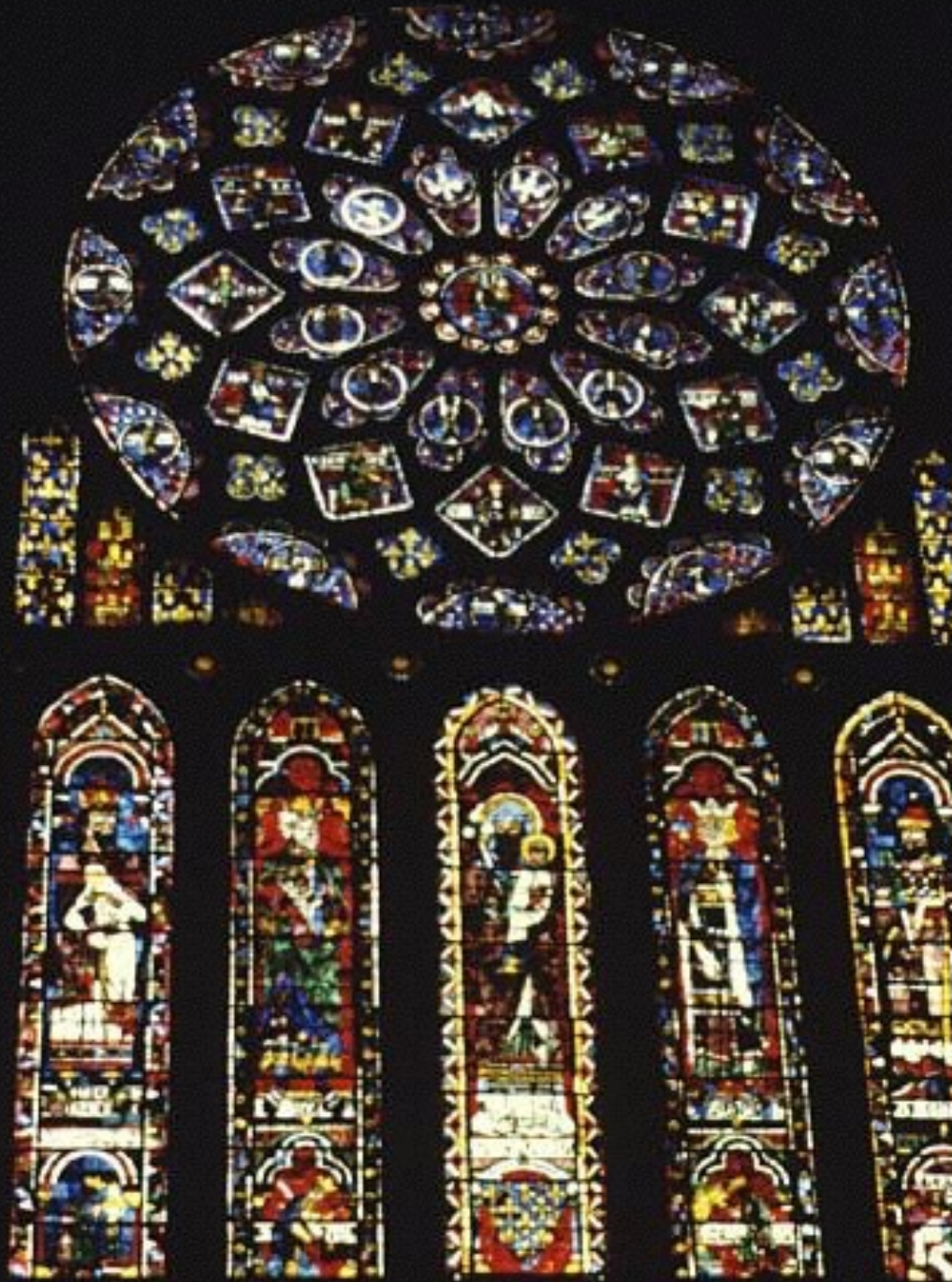


Fig. 458 Flying buttress.

Other Gothic innovations

- pointed arch (instead of round arch)
- ribbed vault (instead of dome)
- stained glass windows



THE ARCHITECT(S)? WHO WORKED FOR

SAY IT FIRST: **SOO-zhay**

Abbot Suger (c.1085-1151)

Abbey Church of Saint Denis

ribbed vaulting



Chartres Cathedral



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Chartres Cathedral detail

Proportion – heads to
bodies?



Chartres Cathedral detail

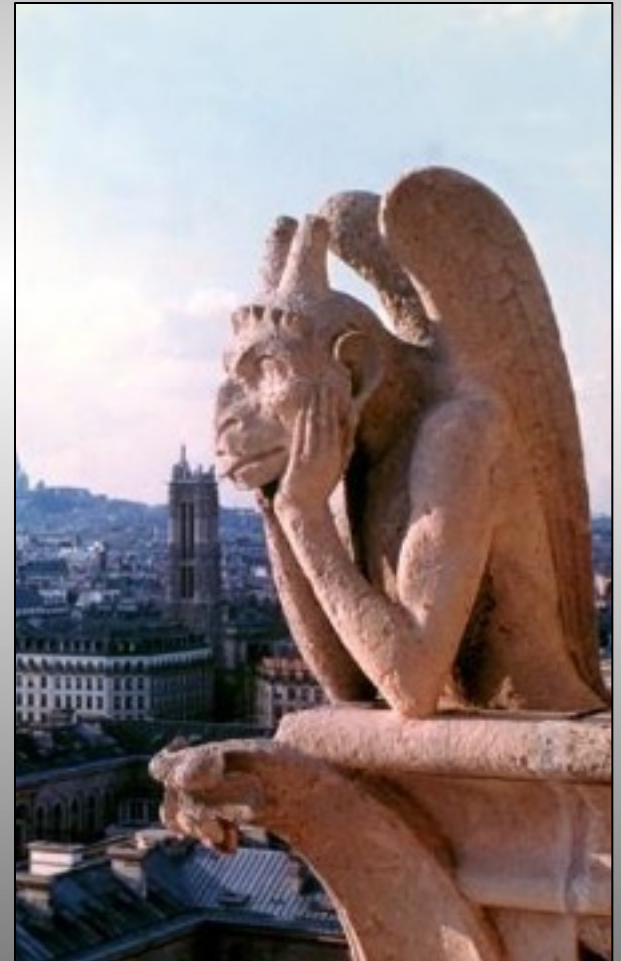
Elongate
d figures



1150 - a Gothic date to remember

Gothic style architecture starts and is rapidly disseminated around **1150**.

A much clearer start & style than Romanesque



A hint of the
Renaissance
in the air?

Cimabue,
*Madonna
Enthroned*,
1280-90

NO
PERSPECTIVE

flat pictorial space similar to Ancient
& Byzantine works



detail



Greek & Italian blend

Byzantine
***Enthroned
Madonna and Child,***
13th century
tempera on panel,
131.1 x 76.8 cm (51
5/8 x 30 1/4 in.)



GIOTTO

Madonna in Glory

c. 1311

Tempera on panel
128 x 90 1/2 in.

suggestions of **PERSPECTIVE** in a
GOTHIC ERA work;
PERSPECTIVE is a major
development of the **RENAISSANCE**



detail



Giotto,
Pieta
(*Lamentation*)
fresco



Late Gothic/ Early Renaissance from 1305

GIOTTO
The
Presentation of
the Virgin
c. 1305
Fresco.
Cappella
dell'Arena,
Padua



**Duccio di
Buoninsegna** (c.
1255 - c.1319)
*The Temptation of
Christ on the
Mountain,*
1308-1311
tempera on poplar
panel
17 in. x 18 1/8 in.



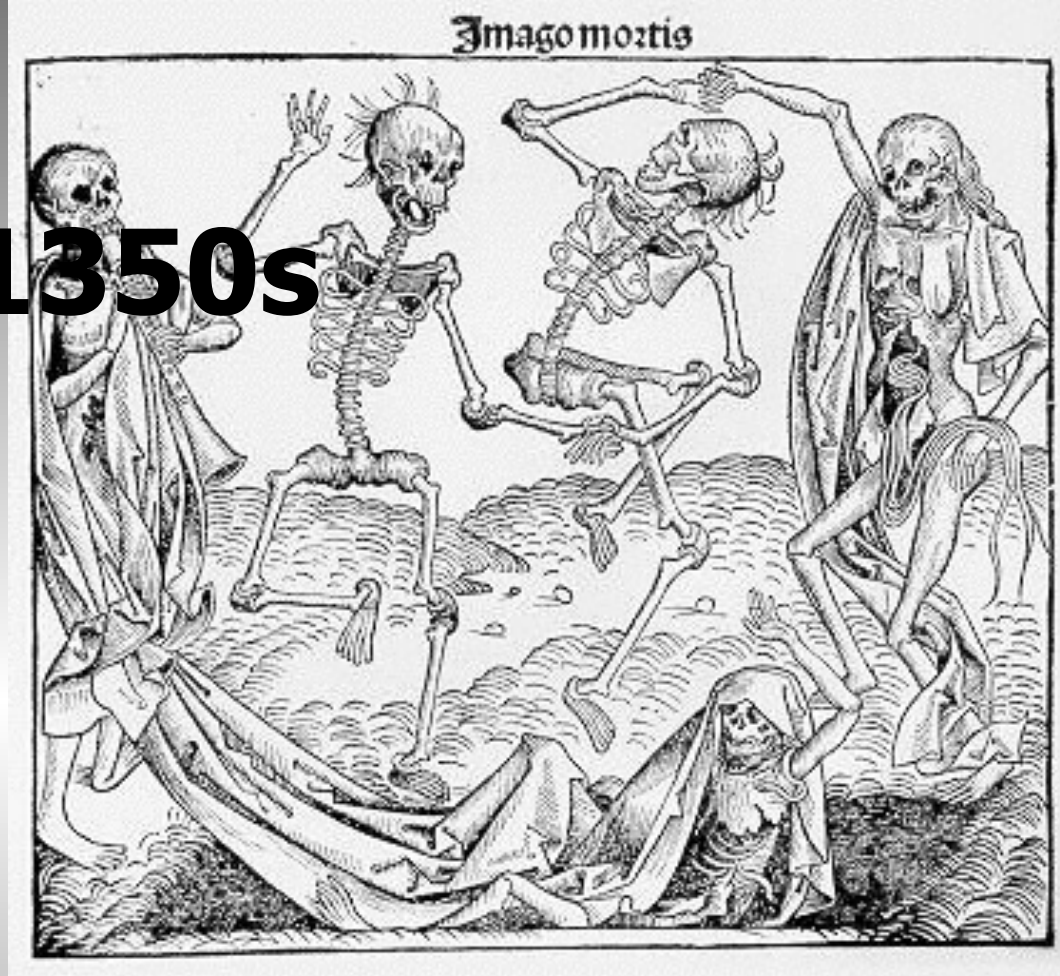
The Garden of Eden from the
*Très Riches Heures du Duc de
Berry* by the Limbourg Brothers,
1410s



PLAGUE – 1350s

**1/3 OF THE
POPULATION OF
EUROPE DEAD**

stimulus for coming
Renaissance?



An urban phenomenon, but also particularly devastating to monks & nuns

The Great Schism(s)

- East/West churches split 1054
- Western church, multiple Popes simultaneously, 1378-1417
- General weakening of the authority of the Church in civil affairs

SUMMARY – Late Medieval & Gothic

- ARCHITECTURE – arches get the point; buttresses fly & glass is stained – emphasis on VERTICAL
- ART – dematerialized human figures moving towards realistic pictorial space
- MUSIC – POLYPHONY; rhythmic notation; Ars Nova
- IDEAS – life is bad, humans worse, God is great
- EVENTS – plague, weakening of Church authority

Anchor Dates

1000

- Musical STAFF used for
- CHANT in the
- EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIOD in
- MONASTERIES

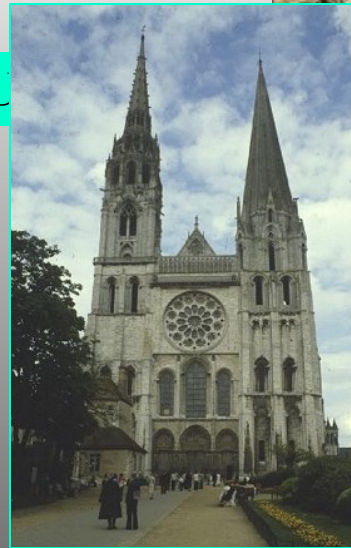
1066

- BATTLE OF HASTINGS depicted in the
- BAYEUX TAPESTRY which we associate with
- FEUDALISM



1150

GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE



Up to dates?

480 BC

Start of CLASSICAL GREEK PERIOD

0

Just after the start of the ROMAN EMPIRE; Caesar Augustus reigns

547

c.1000

SAN VITALE; sort of end of Early Christian period

c. 1150

Guido describes the musical staff

Gothic architecture defined & disseminated

Pope Innocent III, On the Misery of the Human Condition, c. 1200 (1)

. . . man was formed of dust, slime, and ashes: what is even more vile, of the filthiest seed. He was conceived from the itch of the flesh, in the heat of passion and the stench of lust, and worse yet, with the stain of sin. He was born to toil, dread, and trouble; and more wretched still, was born only to die. He commits depraved acts by which he offends God, his neighbor, and himself; shameful acts by which he defiles his name, his person, and his conscience; and vain acts by which he ignores all things important, useful, and necessary. He will become fuel for those fires which are forever hot and burn forever bright; food for the worm which forever nibbles and digests; a mass of rottenness which will forever stink and reek.