

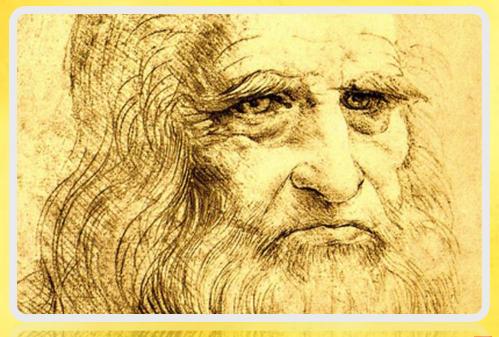
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Leonardo da Vinci

Leonardo di ser Piero da Vinci, more commonly Leonardo da Vinci (15 April 1452 – 2 May 1519) was an Italian polymath whose areas of interest included invention, painting, science, music, engineering, anatomy, writing, cartography and etc. He has been variously called the father of paleontology, ichnology, and architecture, and is widely considered one of the greatest painters of all time. Sometimes credited with the inventions of the parachute, helicopter, his genius epitomized the Renaissance humanist ideal.

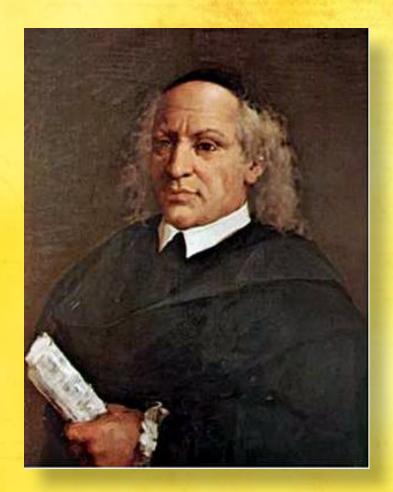


Childhood

Leonardo was born on 15 April 1452 in the Tuscan hill town of Vinci, in the lower valley of the Arno river in the territory of the Medici-ruled Republic of Florence. He was the out-of-wedlock son of the wealthy Messer Piero Fruosino di Antonio da Vinci, a Florentine legal notary, and Caterina, a peasant.

Little is known about Leonardo's early life. He spent his first five years in the hamlet of Anchiano in the home of his mother, then from 1457 he lived in the household of his father, grandparents and uncle, Francesco, in the small town of Vinci. His father had married twice.

Leonardo received an informal education in Latin, geometry and mathematics.





Verrocchio's workshop and professional life

In 1466, at the age of fourteen, Leonardo was apprenticed to the artist Andrea di Cione, known as Verrocchio, whose workshop was "one of the finest in Florence".

By 1472, at the age of twenty, Leonardo qualified as a master in the Guild of Saint Luke, the guild of artists and doctors of medicine.

Florentine court records of 1476 show that Leonardo and three other young men were charged with sodomy but acquitted.

In the years 1472-1477 Leonardo worked on the "Baptism of Christ", "The Annunciation", "Madonna with a vase"

In 1481, Da Vinci made the first of his life a big order - altarpiece "The Adoration of the Magi" to the monastery of San Donato a system that is not far from Florence.

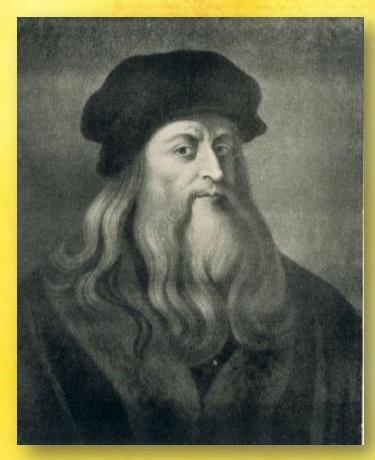
1502 - He entered the service of Cesare Borgia as an architect and military engineer

1505 - an outline of the flight of birds

1512 - "Self Portrait"

1507 - Study of the human eye

He created patents: a parachute, a wheel lock, a bike, a tank, a two-lens telescope and etc.



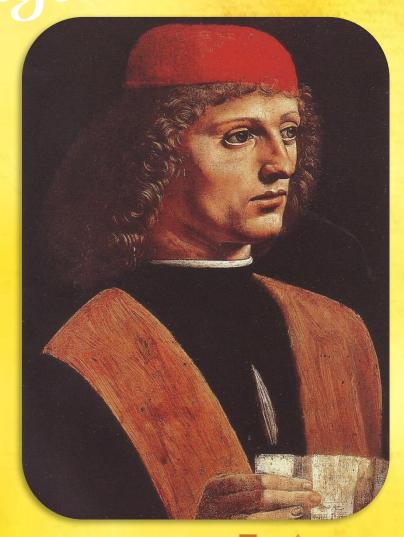


Old age

From September 1513 to 1516, under Pope Leo X, Leonardo spent much of his time living in the Belvedere in the Vatican in Rome, where Raphael and Michelangelo were both active at the time. In 1516, he entered François' service, being given the use of the manor house Clos Lucé near the king's residence at the royal Château d'Amboise. It was here that he spent the last three years of his life, accompanied by his friend and apprentice, Count Francesco Melzi, and supported by a pension totalling 10,000 scudi.

Clos Lucé in France, where Leonardo died in 1519

Leonardo died at Clos Lucé, on 2 May 1519. Melzi was the principal heir and executor, receiving as well as money, Leonardo's paintings, tools, library and personal effects.



Mona Lisa or La Gioconda



Among the works created by Leonardo in the 16th century is the small portrait known as the Mona Lisa or "la Gioconda", the laughing one. In the present era it is arguably the most famous painting in the world. Its fame rests, in particular, on the elusive smile on the woman's face, its mysterious quality brought about perhaps by the fact that the artist has subtly shadowed the corners of the mouth and eyes so that the exact nature of the smile cannot be determined.

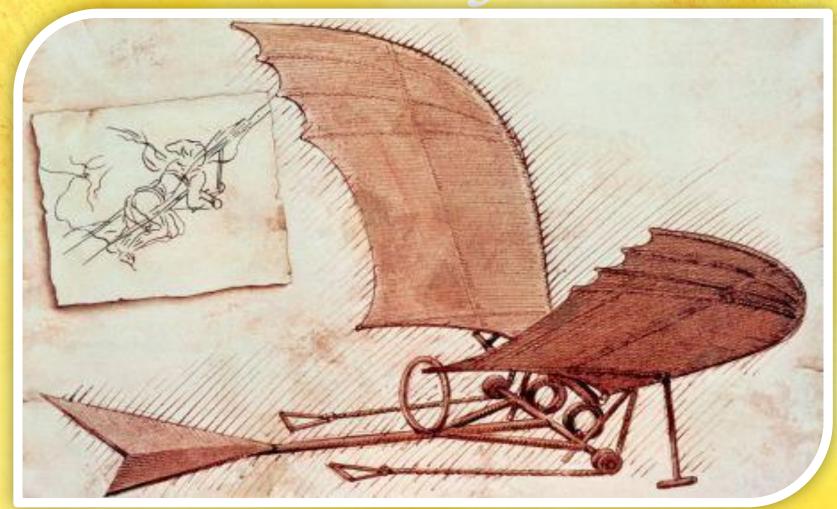


Bicycle





Aircraft





Sources of information

Текст:

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Музыка:

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