

Painting & Sculpture in 17th-Century Europe - Week 12

Bernini versus Michelangelo

All to read and make notes from the following:

Anonymous, *Constantine Brought to the Pillory* (17th century)

Francesco Milizia, *Dictionary of Fine Arts: Bernini* (1787)

Jacob Burchardt, *The Cicerone: Bernini* (1855)

We will be discussing the validity of these critical responses to Bernini's sculpture of Constantine (unveiled 1669) on St. Peter's Scala Reggia (erected between 1663-66), in the context of the standards of classical antiquity and Michelangelo.

Pay particular attention to such values as decorum, the nude and draped figure, the expression of action and emotion, and the "rules" of sculptural practice.

Francis Haskell and Nicholas Penny's Taste and the Antique (in department) is a good reference work for the canon of ancient sculpture.

Photocopies and a selection of slides are uploaded on the course website.

P.C.