



Ministero dell'Istruzione, dell'Università e della Ricerca – Ufficio Scolastico Regionale per la Sicilia  
Corso di formazione docenti all'insegnamento CLIL  
Modulo C – Sperimentazione in classe del percorso CLIL

# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo



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|--------------------|--|
| <b>Lesson n.1</b>  | Leonardo da Vinci – drawing activity (first sketch, machines, architecture, anatomy, botanic, Vitruvian man)   |
| <b>Lesson n.2</b>  | Leonardo da Vinci – The Annunciation (linear and atmospheric perspective, scientific details, golden ratio)    |
| <b>Lesson n.3</b>  | Leonardo da Vinci – The Virgin of the rocks (two versions, composition, perspective, sfumato)                  |
| <b>Lesson n.4</b>  | Leonardo da Vinci – The last supper (the told event, the composition, the perspective, the painting technique) |
| <b>Lesson n.5</b>  | Leonardo da Vinci – Mona Lisa (portrait, landscape, perspective, sfumato, golden ratio, reinterpretations)     |
| <b>Lesson n.6</b>  | Michelangelo – sculpting philosophy (stone carving, Saint Peter Piety)   |
| <b>Lesson n.7</b>  | Michelangelo – David and Tondo Doni (proportion, use of colours, the outline, the serpentine line)             |
| <b>Lesson n.8</b>  | Michelangelo – The vault of Sistine Chapel (the told events, the composition, the serpentine line)             |
| <b>Lesson n.9</b>  | Michelangelo – The Capitolium (the project, the giant order, the composition, the perspective)                 |
| <b>Lesson n.10</b> | Michelangelo – Saint Peter Church (the central-plan, the apse, the dome)                                       |

Liceo Scientifico "R. P. Vassallo", Riesi  
Corso di Disegno e Storia dell'Arte

classe III A, a. s. 2010-2011  
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# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo



## GLOSSARY

to reshape = ?

planning = ?

temple = ?

Middle Ages = ?

fortress = ?

remains = ?

to entrust = ?

run-down = ?

earthen = ?

path = ?

steep = ?

muddy = ?

courtyard = ?

plan = ?

façade = ?

stage = ?

engraving = ?

faithfully = ?

to approach = ?

slope = ?

to span = ?

storey = ?

balustrade = ?

to cap = ?

paving = ?

axis = ?

papacy = ?

to depict = ?

to spare = ?

## TRANSLATE IN ENGLISH

forma = ?

pianta = ?

Medioevo = ?

balaustrata = ?

portico = ?

asse = ?

sentiero = ?

cortile = ?

tempio = ?

piano = ?

incisione = ?

fortezza = ?

facciata = ?

go to [TEST n.1](#)

go to [TEST n.2](#)

# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo



## GLOSSARY

**to reshape** = ridisegnare

**planning** = pianificazione

**temple** = tempio

**Middle Ages** = Medioevo

**fortress** = fortezza

**remains** = resti, rovine

**to entrust** = affidare

**run-down** = malridotto

**earthen** = di terra

**path** = sentiero

**steep** = ripido

**muddy** = fangoso

**courtyard** = cortile

**plan** = pianta

**façade** = facciata

**stage** = fase

**engraving** = incisione

**faithfully** = fedelmente

**to approach** = raggiungere

**slope** = pendio

**to span** = attraversare

**storey** = piano

**balustrade** = balaustrata

**to cap** = chiudere

**paving** = pavimentazione

**axis** = asse

**papacy** = papato

**to depict** = raffigurare

**to spare** = risparmiare

## TRANSLATE IN ENGLISH

**forma** = shape

**pianta** = plan

**Medioevo** = Middle Ages

**balaustrata** = balustrade

**portico** = porch

**asse** = axis

**sentiero** = path

**cortile** = courtyard

**tempio** = temple

**piano** = storey

**incisione** = engraving

**fortezza** = fortress

**facciata** = façade



# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo

In 1536, Pope Paul III Farnese decided to reshape the **Capitoline Hill**, in Rome, into a monumental civic square; Michelangelo designed the project and his **Piazza del Campidoglio** (Capitolium) is one of the most significant contributions ever made in the **history of urban planning**.



to reshape = ridefinire, ridisegnare    planning = pianificazione

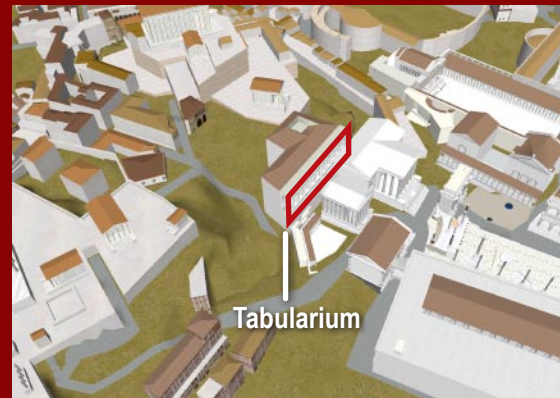
take a look at **Capitolium square**



# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo

The **Capitoline Hill**, the smallest of Rome's seven hills, is the historic **seat of Roman civic power**.

It was the center of the Roman state **cult of Capitoline Jupiter**.



temple = tempio



# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo



In the **Middle Ages** a fortress was built over the **remains of the Tabularium** (a Late Republican Age building) and this was later transformed into the **Palazzo Senatorio**. However, by 1536, the Capitoline Hill was in a **poor state**. The palaces were

run-down, the square in front of them was **earthen**, and the paths up to the hill were **steep** and **muddy**. Although a few antique statues, gifts to the Roman people by Sixtus IV, stood

in the piazza and in the courtyards of the palaces, they alone could not bring the **glory of ancient Rome** back to the Capitoline.



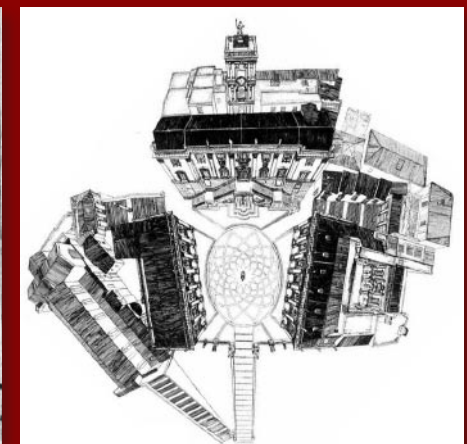
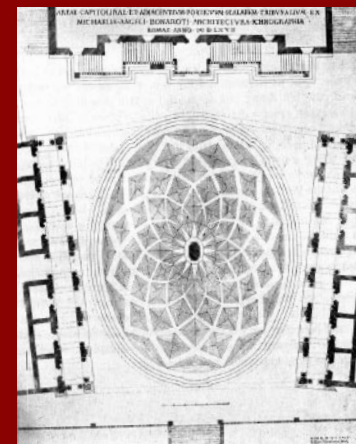
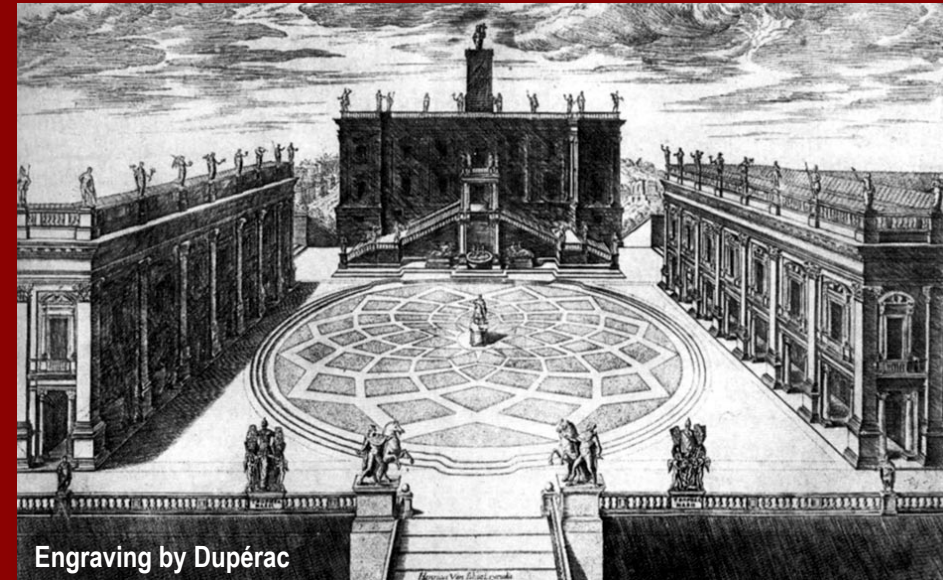
remain = resto    run-down = malridotto    earthen = di terra    path = sentiero    steep = ripido    muddy = fangoso



# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo

For this reason **Pope Paul III**, who wanted a **symbol of the new Rome** to impress Charles V who was expected in 1538, called Michelangelo. His first designs date from **1536**. He **reversed the classical orientation** of the Capitoline towards the **Roman Forum** in order to face the **Papal Rome** and St. Peter's Church.

The project went forward in **slow stages** with many interruptions; little was built before Michelangelo's death in 1564 but his **original design** was preserved in engravings from the 1560s by **Étienne Dupérac** and work continued faithfully to his designs **until the 17th century**.



stage = fase   engraving = incisione   faithfully = fedelmente

go to [TEST n.3](#)

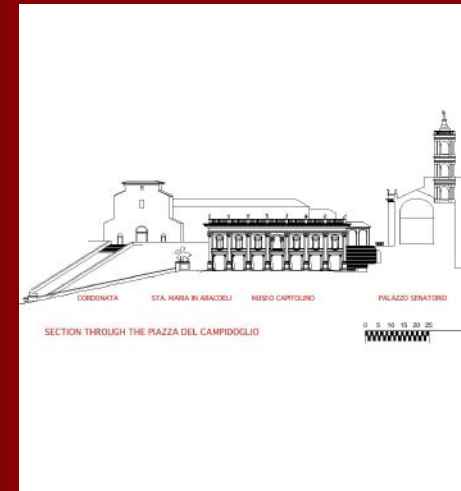


# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo

Michelangelo's solution was radical. The three **remodelled palaces** (Palazzo Senatorio, Palazzo dei Conservatori, and the Palazzo Nuovo) enclose a harmonious **trapezoidal space**, approached by the ramped staircase called the "**Cordonata**".

This **wide stairway** allowed horsemen to ride all the way to the top. The **gentle slope** also prevents visitors from rapidly racing to the top; instead, they must **gradually process upward** and allow the Campidoglio to appear in front of them.

to approach = raggiungere    slope = pendio





# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo



All three buildings feature **façades** redesigned by Michelangelo and consequently have **stylistic consistency**, combining classical and medieval ideas into an **innovative Renaissance style**. Michelangelo, in particular, added **gigantic Corinthian pilaster strips (giant order)** on high pedestals that spanned two storeys, flanked by **ionic columns** in the porch on the ground floor. A **balustrade** punctuated by sculptures on the top of the giant pilasters capped the composition, one of the **most influential** of Michelangelo's designs.



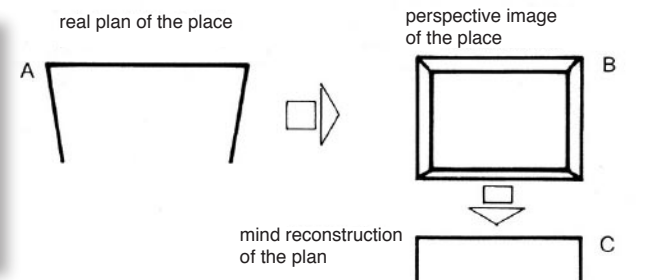
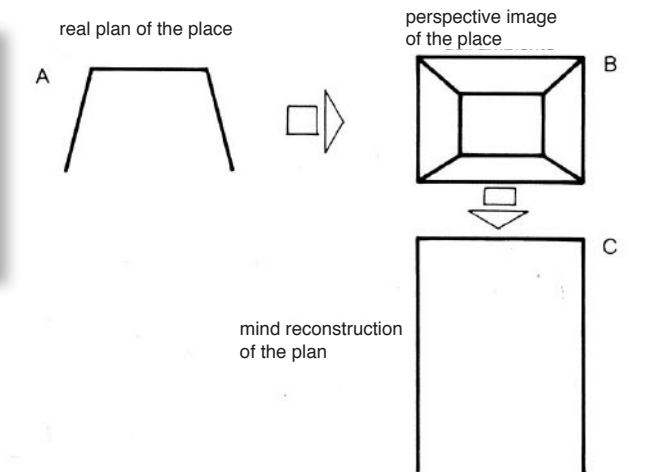
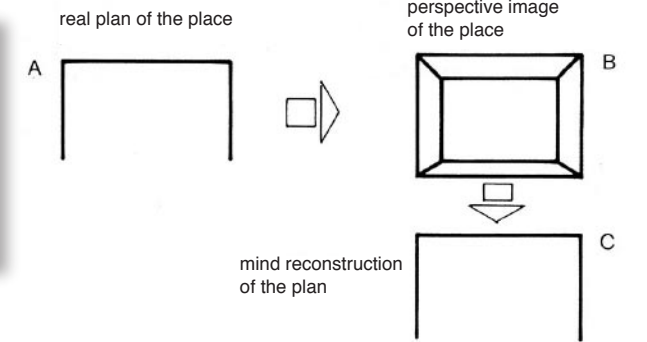
to span = attraversare    storey = piano    balustrade = balaustrata    to cap = chiudere, coprire



# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo

The square and the staircase are **trapezoid**, expanding outward toward the Palazzo Senatorio to create a **reverse-perspective effect** (making the far palace seem larger and nearer).

The trapezoid was necessitated by the **preexisting 80-degree angle** between the Palazzo Senatorio and Palazzo dei Conservatori. Rather than try to force the Campidoglio into a square, Michelangelo embraced this abnormality.



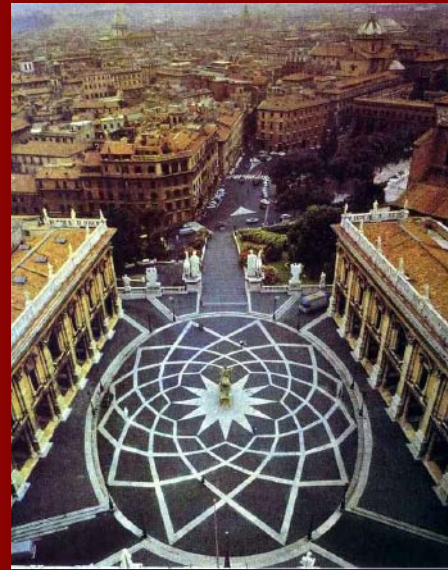
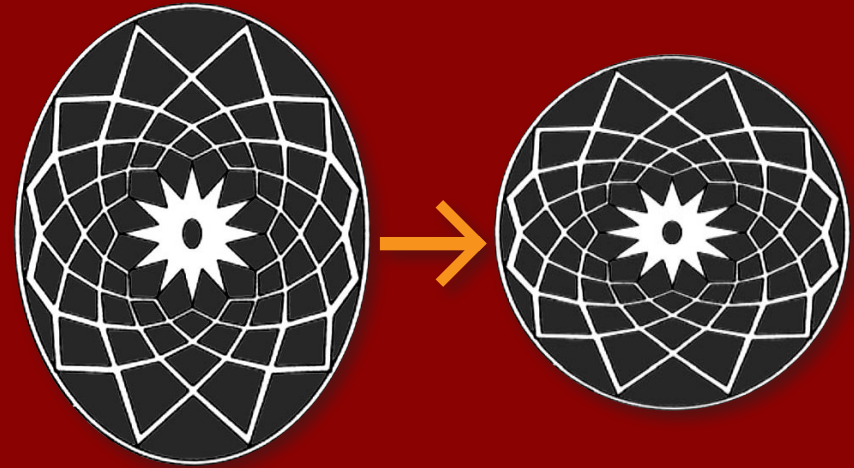


# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo



The **oval paving** on the ground contrasts harmoniously with the trapezoidal space. Like the trapezoid, it is an “**imperfect**” **shape**, (the **anamorphosis of a circle**) but it is able to emphasize the main axis of the Campidoglio.

Currently, the oval is paved with a **twelve-pointed star design** (as in Michelangelo’s project), which was not implemented until **Mussolini’s restoration of Rome in 1940**. The papacy may have considered the star to be too reminiscent of the **zodiac**, and consequently too **pagan**, for a space glorifying papal power.



**paving** = pavimentazione    **axis** = asse    **papacy** = papato



# The Age of Leonardo and Michelangelo

The entire square is centered on the statue of **Marcus Aurelius**: the sculpture is the **only remaining equestrian bronze** from antiquity: for much of its history, it was believed to depict **Constantine**, the first Christian emperor, and so it was spared from destruction.



to depict = raffigurare    to spare = risparmiare

go to [TEST n.4](#)