

SCULPTURE



Ara Pacis Augustae

The "Ara Pacis Augustae is Latin for the "Altar of Augustan Peace", commonly shortened to Ara Pacis. It was built around 10 BC, and is dedicated to the Roman goddess of Peace. Two-tier friezes run along the walls and portray the peace and fertile prosperity enjoyed as a result of the peace brought to Rome by Augustus' military supremacy





Augustus of Prima Porta

The dating of the Prima Porta piece is widely contested. It is thought to be a copy of a bronze original.^[2] The sculptor may have been Greek.^[3] This original, along with other high honors, was devoted to Augustus by the Senate in 20 BC and set up in a public place. It was found in his wife's villa.

Augustus of Prima Porta

Artist

Unknown

Year

1st Century AD

Type

[White Marble](#)

Location

[Vatican Museums,](#)
Rome



Bust of Nefertiti



The Terracotta Army

Pieta



Created by Michelangelo (1475-1564), the Pieta depicts the Virgin Mary holding her only son, Jesus Christ, in her arms. Prior to sculpting the Pieta, Michelangelo was not a very known artist. He was only in his early twenties when he was told, in 1498, to do a life sized sculpture of the Virgin Mary holding her son in her arms. In about two years, from a single slab of marble, Michelangelo created one of the most beautiful sculptures ever.



Michelangelo's Pietà in St. Peter's Basilica

The **Pietà** (Italian pronunciation: [\[pje'ta\]](#)) is a subject in Christian art



Moses by Michelangelo

The Thinker

“The Thinker” was created by the French sculptor, Auguste Rodin (1840-1917). Originally named The Poet, the piece was part of a commission by the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris to create a monumental portal to act as the door of the museum. Rodin based his theme on The Divine Comedy of Dante and entitled the portal The Gates of Hell. Each of the statues in the piece represented one of the main characters in the epic poem. The Thinker was originally meant to depict Dante in front of the Gates of Hell, pondering his great poem. (In the final sculpture, a miniature of the statue sits atop the gates, pondering the hellish fate of those beneath him.) The sculpture is nude, as Rodin wanted a heroic figure in the tradition of Michelangelo, to represent intellect as well as poetry.



Savannah Bird Girl Statue

The sculpture, known as the Bird Girl, was created in 1936, by sculptress Sylvia Shaw Judson (1897-1978) in Lake Forest, Illinois. It achieved fame when it was featured on the cover of the 1994 novel, *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil*. It was sculpted at Ragdale, the summer home of her family. Bird Girl is cast in bronze and stands 50 inches tall. She is the image of a young girl wearing a simple dress and a sad or contemplative expression, with her head tilted to the left. She stands straight, her elbows propped against her waist as she holds up two bowls out from her sides. The bowls are often described by viewers as “bird feeders.”



Henry Moore is one of the most highly acclaimed champions of "modern sculpture" of the 20th century. This work is called "Knife Edge" and dates to 1961.

Reclining woman by Henry Moore





The Coronation Egg (Faberge)

A truly amazing sculpture by a famous modern artist: **Umberto Boccioni**: A 1913 production that might have served as the model for the Darth Vader of science fiction. It looks shiny and polished but, what is it? Boccioni called it: "Unique Form of Continuity in Space".



Kinetic Sculpture by Alexander Calder



Moonbird by Joan Miro

Joan Miró (Spanish, 1893-1983)
| Moonbird | 1966 | Bronze 7'
6" x 6' 6" x 57" (228.5 x 198.2 x
144.9 cm) | The Museum of
Modern Art, New York. Nina
and Gordon Bunshaft Bequest
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Artists Rights Society (ARS),
New York / ADAGP, Paris





"The Olympic Tower" sculpture by Dale Chihuly

Cloud Gate

Cloud Gate is a modern public sculpture officially unveiled in May 2006 at Millennium Park. Thanks to its reflective material and intriguing shape it became one of the most photographed attractions in Chicago.

Cloud Gate was the first public sculpture of Indian-born and London-based artist Anish Kapoor. His work was selected out of two proposals that were submitted in 1999 for a showpiece sculpture in the new, modern "Millennium Park".



The End



Richard Long, *South Bank Circle*, 1991 Tate
Liverpool, England