

AR2-1b Annunciation Art – Teacher Information



Title	The Annunciation
Date	1438 - 1445
Artist	Fra Angelico 1395–1436
About the artist	<p>Fra Angelico was born Guido di Pietro at Rupecanina, in the Tuscan area of Mugello, near Fiesole towards the end of the 14th century and died in Rome in 1455. In 1436 Fra Angelico was one of a number of the monks from Fiesole who moved to the newly-built monastery of San Marco in Florence. His Creations were unusual for the times.</p> <p>He worked in the Vatican in Rome designing Frescos until 1452, when he went back at his old convent of Fiesole, as the Prior.</p>
About the painting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The figures here seem not exactly human, they are not exact replicas of people. • The circle around the heads of he figures suggests that they are more important than humans – they are Holy and blessed by God. • Mary and the angel are both folding their arms, suggesting pregnancy. They are embracing the message from God. • The angel is bowing attempting not to threaten her and displaying the fact that she is chosen above all women to receive the word of God. • Mary’s humility is also evident. • The setting is outside Mary’s room, a private room. The bedroom is associated with conception however the artist is trying to display that there was no physical act in the conception of the Lord, rather he was given of the Holy Spirit. • The setting is similar to the setting natural to the Artist. This was to allow people to be drawn by the recognition of the setting. • The image was hung outside a Library with the connotations that Mary Accepted the word of God. this was to inspire those who saw it on their way into the library, a thought for personal reflection ant contemplation.