

AR2-1c Annunciation Art – Teacher information



Title	Annunciation
Date	1563 - 1639
Artist	Orazio Gentileschi 1563 - 1639
About the artist	Moved to Rome in 1580. he was influenced greatly by Caravaggio. He travelled Europe painting in many places including Paris. His work became very decorative and original and were thought to be very high class at that time. His main work was a series of ceiling paintings at the palace at Greenwich, now in Marlborough House, London.
About the painting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This image is clearly in a domestic setting, with the bed as part of the background. The artist is conveying that Mary Conceived of the Holy Spirit and was without sin. • The angel is holding a lily, symbolising Mary's purity, moreover, the bed is a bright white continuing this idea. • The angel appears to be pleading with Mary, pointing to heaven, trying to convince her that God has a Plan for her. She is holy above all other women, and should accept this plan of Gods. • The Angel here is a solid, very humanistic, figure. The wings are the only symbol suggesting that it is not from this world. In addition the angel is wearing yellow a colour which symbolises divinity. • There is a dove in the top right hand side of the image symbolizing the entering of the Holy Spirit, the means by which Mary is to receive the word of God. • The red drapes in the background make the viewer consider the fate of this child, symbolizing the passion and death of Christ to save humanity. • Mary appears somewhat shy, and appears to be humbled by the fact that god has chosen her. • There is a certain realism to this painting the light and shading give the figures a very solid appearance and the colours are very natural and vibrant.