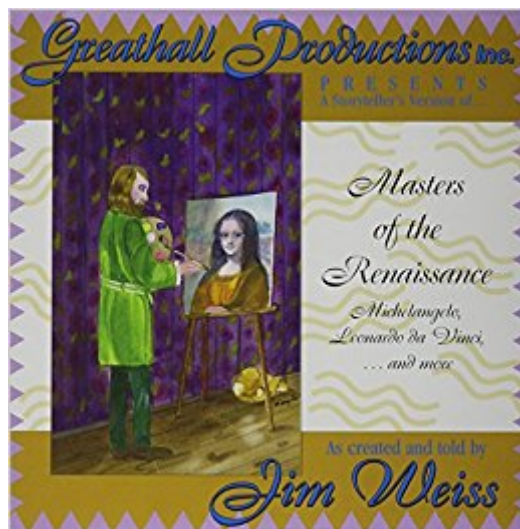




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# Masters Of The Renaissance: Michelangelo, Leonardo Da Vinci And More



## Synopsis

In true stories as vivid as the colors in which they painted, Jim Weiss brings to life Leonardo DaVinci, Michelangelo, Brunelleschi, Donatello and other captivating characters.

## Book Information

Audio CD

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## Customer Reviews

Grade 5 Up  
•Major figures of the Renaissance are introduced in a narrative by master storyteller Jim Weiss that brings the basics of art, history, and politics of the time to life. Italy in the late 15th century became a center of culture and innovation. The historical background of the Renaissance is briefly explained, but the focus of these 15 tracks is on famous artists and works of art. Filippo Brunelleschi, Donatello, and Lorenzo Ghiberti helped revolutionize art through works such as "Gates of Paradise" in Florence. Leonardo da Vinci's work as a painter, sculptor, inventor, and military engineer is explained in detail, with emphasis on the "Mona Lisa," the "Last Supper," and his clay horse model. Michelangelo's life, his famous paintings in the Sistine Chapel, and his sculptures are explored in historical context. Weiss uses slightly different voices to tell the story in a seamless manner. Some prior knowledge about the history, art, and religion of the Renaissance will help listeners better understand this overview. Teachers should make visuals of these works of art and the artists available to help students make connections while they are listening to these stories.  
•Teresa Wittmann, Westgate Elementary School, Edmonds, WA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Award winning, master storyteller Jim Weiss.

I bought this CD for my children because of the great reviews--and quickly learned that they are well-deserved! This CD is a phenomenal introduction to the Renaissance masters. It made us all want to learn more about the works it described. My only complaint is that it is one relatively short CD (about an hour), and left us wanting more. Jim Weiss has a terrific voice, and the story is well written and draws the listener in.

My daughter was 5 when we purchased this CD and repeatedly asks to listen to it when we are in the car (she is 6 now). She has amazed many teachers and adults with her knowledge of the artists and statesmen mentioned on the CD. She has asked to do research into them and has had a grand time looking through the works of many of these artists. She will now go into the art section of the library and pull down a couple of books on DaVinci and Michelangelo and just sit and peruse - reading as well as looking at the pictures of their works. She has decided that "Donatello may have been the first artist in 1000 years to make a free standing statue, but Michelangelo's David is better because it looks more like a real person and I like marble statues better than bronze." I love how it has piqued her interest.

We homeschool - or more accurately "carschool," with Jim Weiss CDs. They are wonderful products - accurate history, excellent production, and his voice(s) is/are a pleasure to hear. The entire family enjoyed this one - parents down to the nine year old.

We purchased this gift for our 6-year old grandson and he loves to listen to books on cd. This gift was requested by his momma and she loves all of the works of Jim Weiss.

My 9 year old son and I both enjoy this cd and the entire series. We were in Italy and can really appreciate the power of these great men and their work. My son's knowledge of this time and place is extraordinary thanks to these cd's.

When we began listening to this cd, I realized how little I know about Art History. This cd is a wonderful introduction to Art History because it helps provide some of the historical background of art in Italy. I have to admit that the first time we listened to the cd I got a bit lost--since I was driving. But, I heard more and more of the details each subsequent time we've listened to it. My children have responded well to it in the car and have enjoyed listening to the stories on the cd. My brother

happens to live in Italy and he recently visited us. It was wonderful to listen to this cd so that I could have a better understanding of the country he lives in. This recording begins by telling the story of the Medici family in Florence, Italy. Weiss goes on to tell the stories of Donatello, DaVinci, and Michaelangelo. This cd would be a great jumping off place for studying art history with 2nd and 3rd graders. Older children would enjoy it as well. These are the ideas that have run through my head of how you could use this for teaching art: 1) If you have an art museum nearby with painters from the Renaissance period, this would be a wonderful cd to listen to before a visit so that your children would have a frame of reference for what they are seeing at the museum. 2) You could make a notebook with pages for each of the artists. Your children could listen and write down notes of what they think is most important. Notetaking will be an important skill for them down the road. 3) Dover has a wide selection of art coloring books. Color as you listen... 4) Pick one of the artists and do a report. At second or third grade level, this would mean the artist's name, when and where he lived, and what they are known for. A cover and illustration could be made to go along with the report. 5) For older children, talk about what they are most curious about and then pursue further study of that time period or artist. The student can do a more in-depth research report. When I first started homeschooling, I remember my mother in law mentioning to me that some families studied art for only a portion of the year. I am beginning to understand why. With so many subjects to tackle (and so much of life to handle), it can sometimes be helpful to study one subject for only a portion of the year. If you wanted to do a short unit on art history and another unit doing art, this resource might be a great and affordable fit for your family. This cd is a treat to listen to and learn from as you're running errands and driving from one place to the next. I am very pleased to find such an interesting and enjoyable recording about art history. Please note that I received a complimentary copy of Masters of the Renaissance from Greathall Productions for review.

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