

High Renaissance in Rome

Date/Time	Fridays 10 January–7 February 2025 11am-1pm	Price	£110
Venue	Zoom – recordings will be available for two weeks after each session	Lecturer	Dr Dorigen Caldwell

The 'High Renaissance' has long been considered an exceptional moment in Western art, synonymous with the work of celebrated artists such as Leonardo da Vinci, Michelangelo and Raphael. In this five-week course, we will focus on the High Renaissance in Rome, a city dominated by both its ancient legacy, and the presence of the popes, who were among the most significant artistic patrons of the sixteenth century. We shall begin with an exploration of the defining characteristics of the art of this period, from an engagement with classicism and the pursuit of ideal beauty, to the importance of individual creativity and innovation. And we shall consider the enduring appeal of the 'High Renaissance' for subsequent generations of artists and critics. We shall then focus on a number of key commissions carried out by Michelangelo, Raphael and Bramante, notably in the Vatican, which will allow us to examine painting, sculpture and architecture.

Week 1 The Idea of the 'High Renaissance', and Rome as the City of the Popes

Week 2 Revival and Reinvention: The Legacy of Classical Antiquity

Week 3 Michelangelo and the Sistine Chapel

Week 4 Raphael at the Vatican

Week 5 Bramante and High Renaissance Architecture

Lecturer

Dr Dorigen Caldwell is Senior Lecturer in Italian Renaissance Art at Birkbeck, University of London, having gained her doctorate at the Warburg Institute. She previously taught at UCL and the American University in Rome, and continues to contribute to the V&A Academy short courses. Dorigen has published in numerous academic journals, including the *Burlington Magazine*, *Renaissance Studies*, *Art History* and the *Journal of the Warburg and Courtauld Institutes*. She specialises in Italian art of the later sixteenth century, and is currently writing a book entitled *Piety, Patronage and Politics in Early Modern Rome*.