

Leonardo Da Vinci

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2024 jan 16

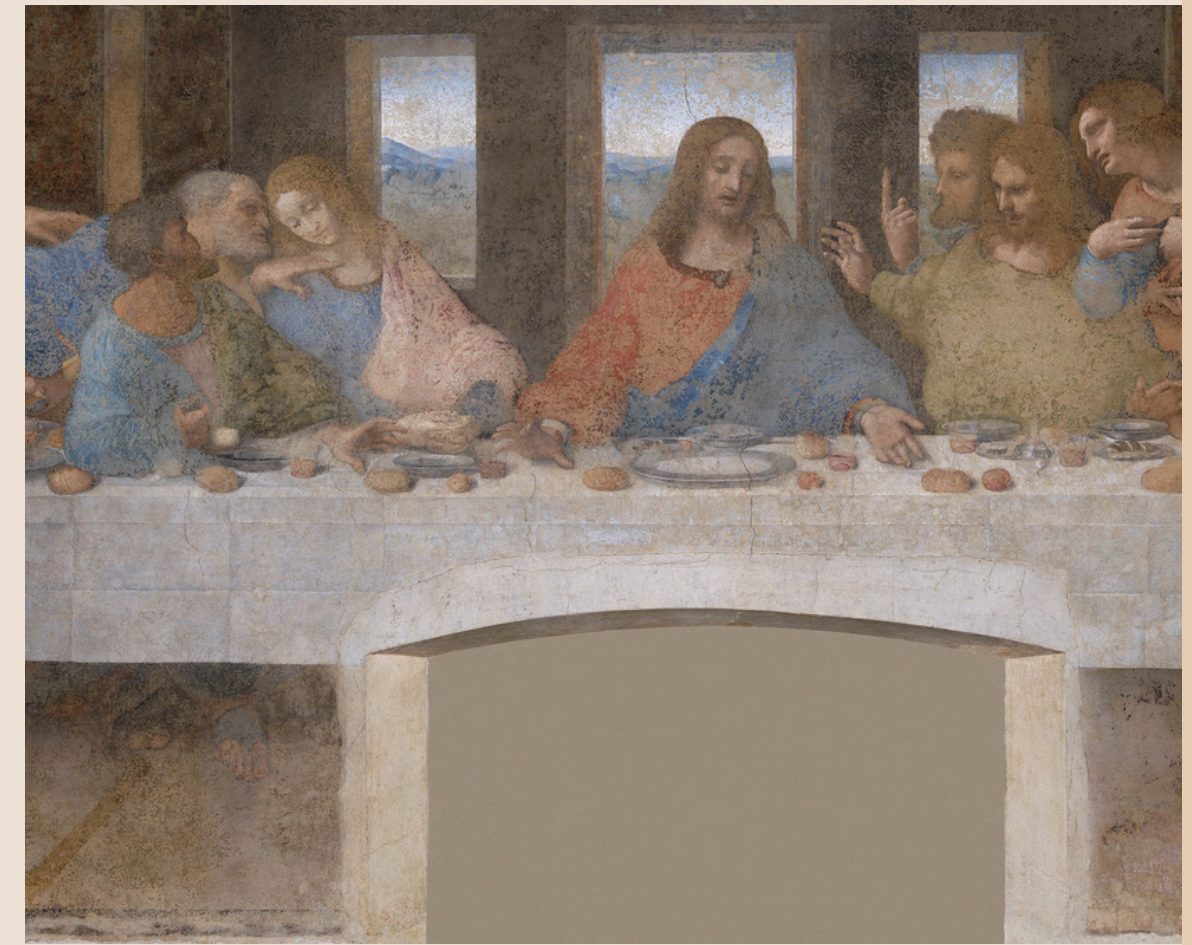
Biography

Leonardo Da Vinci the son of an illegitimate parent , was born on 15 April 1452 in Vinci , Italy just outside of Florence. Growing up , he had access to scholarly texts owned by family and friends. Around the age of 15 he was apprenticed to the sculptor and painter Andrea Del Verrochio in Florence .

Paintings

The Last Supper

In about 1483 he moved to Milan to work for the ruling Sforza family as an engineer, sculptor, painter and architect. After that he painted "The Last Supper" which was created for the refectory of the city's Monastery of Santa Maria Delle Grazie. Moreover this has been described as one of the greatest spiritual paintings although the original one has been deteriorated.



Mona Lisa

The painting has been traditionally considered to depict the Italian noblewoman Lisa del Giocondo and it is one of the most famous and intriguing pictures. For several days she would go to Leonardo and sit for her portrait to be painted but she refused to smile despite the fact that Leonardo even tried hiring musicians



His inventions

He studied nature, mechanics, anatomy, physics, architecture, often creating accurate, workable designs such as the bicycle, helicopter, submarine, and military tank. He believed that sight was mankind's most important sense and that "saper vedere" ("knowing how to see") was crucial to living all aspects of life fully.



His Death

Leonardo da Vinci died on May 2, 1519, at the age of 67 at Le Clos Lucé Castle in Amboise, France. It is assumed that he died of a stroke, but the actual cause of death is unknown. His death probably did not come as a surprise, as he had drawn up his will a week earlier.



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