

The Virtual Museum of ___Virtue_____ (theme)

Mount proportional reproductions or thumbnail sketches of each entire image.

Curator__ John Doe _____

Catalog Entry # _1_/5 Date ___the eternal present___

Alternative Image #1:

Title: Allegory of Chastity

Artist: Giotto

Date: 1320's

Medium: Fresco

Image Source: _<<http://www.abcgallery.com/G/giotto/giotto84.html>>



Alternative Image #2:

Title: A Vestal Virgin Crowned With Flowers

Artist: Jacques-Louis David

Date: c. 1800

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Image Source: <http://www.matthiesengallery.com/paintings/size_2/245.jpg>



Selected Image

Title: Allegory of Chastity

Artist: Hans Memling (Memlinc)

Date: 1475

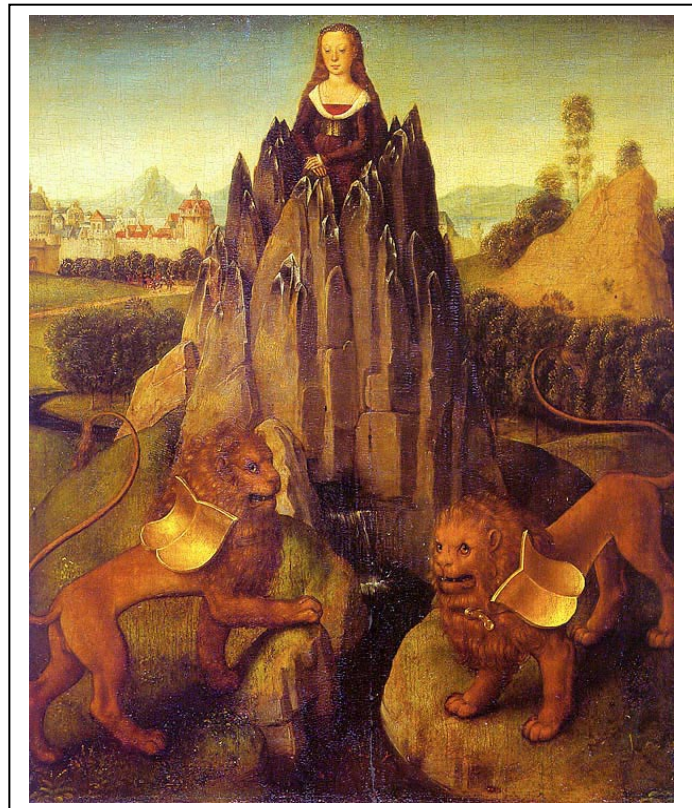
Medium: Oil on Wood (Oak Panel)

Size: 15 x 12.5 inches

Style: Northern Renaissance

Location: Musee Jacquemart-Andre, Paris

Image Source_<http://www.shafe.co.uk/crystal/images/lshafe/Memling_An_Allegory.jpg>



Selected Image continued

Concise Description of Subject Matter and placement

The two lions and the rock formation appear to be protecting the Virgin Mary.

Salient Characteristics/Structure of Expressive Form

Emphasis and Subordination/Focal Points

Emphasis is on the center of the painting: the Virgin Mary, the amethyst rock formation surrounding her, and the two lions in the foreground.

Value Pattern

The painting is full of light that seems to illuminate everything from the front left side of the work.

Color

Hans Memling chose a warm, glowing color scheme for this painting. Colors range from the warm golden color of the shields on the yellow lions to the light purple hue of the amethyst and the darker purple of Mary's clothing.

Spatial Organization

The vertical rock formation provides a good sense of height, creating a pedestal for Mary, while the lions in the foreground provide a strong anchor for them.

Directional Forces/Implied Lines

There are two dominant horizontal lines, the first being located across the head of Mary, while the second is across the heads of the two lions. There are also two implied lines starting at Mary's head and running vertically, slightly off axis, along the sides of the amethyst formation and ending with the two lions, forming a triangle.

Rhythm and Repetition

Hans Memling's fine attention to detail suggests that he used a slow and steady rhythm to create the "Allegory of Chastity."

Concise Description of Narrative and/or Context (historical, religious, biographical, mythological)

The two shielded lions are protecting the Virgin Mary and the well that flows from the rock formation that she is perched atop.

Selected Image continued

Research Sources Consulted

Style/Artist Cross Checks:

with **Textbook** (chapter title and subheading, page number) _Renaissance And Baroque Europe: The Renaissance in Northern Europe. 227-280

with **Art Reference Book** (MLA citation) ___Turner, Jane, ed. "Membling, Hans." The Dictionary of Art. 21st Vol.. 1996.

General Background Sources for relevant Narrative, Style, Context, Mythology, History, Artist Biography, etc. _____

Other Authoritative Sources (MLA citations) ____Sill, Gertrude . a handbook of Symbols in Christian Art. 1st. New York: Macmillan, 1975. _____

Identifiable Iconography

Special Signifiers

1) Important Personal Associations

Virgin Mary suggests purity and the lions suggest pride, while their shields relay a sense of security. The rock formation suggests strength.

2) Important Researched Associations

Mary= Purity and Virginity

Rocks= the Lord, his solidity

Lions= Always on Guard and ready to protect

Purple= The Virgin wears a Violet robe after crucifixion

A well= A well that is protected or closed is refers to Mary's virginity

Four to Five concise descriptions using complete sentences describing specific interactions of Subject Matter, Form, Narrative/Context, and Iconography: evidence from both personal observation and research

1. The Virgin Mary's blank facial expression suggests innocence.
2. Mary takes on the likeness of a guarded woman that is perched high in a tower.
3. The well flowing from the rocks that Mary appears to be a part of is a symbol associated with her Virginitly.
4. The purple clothing that Mary is wearing is a connection to the purple robe that she is said to have worn after the crucifixion of Jesus.

Description in complete sentences, using the evidence above, of what this image suggests about the essence of or an aspect of my theme

The Virgin Mary being placed on top of the rocks, higher than her surroundings, suggests that if people live a life of chastity, they will often be looked upon as having an admirable trait that takes great strength to protect.

One sentence summary: my claim or assertion about this piece concisely linking essential 1)evidence of its observed form, with (2) researched content, and (3) an observation about my theme, eg. _____aspects of form (observed evidence) and _____aspects of context (researched evidence) in _____(title) suggest _____to be an important aspect or feature of _____(my theme)

“Allegory of Chastity,” by Hans Memling, clearly links the virtue of chastity with the feeling of purity, strength, and pride by incorporating the Virgin Mary(purity), the rock formation(strength), and the shielded lions(pride) into a triangle, a shape associated with stability.

Previous pieces selected for the Virtual Museum of __Virtue_____listed by Artist, Date, Style and Title:

#1__Hans Memling, 1475, Northern Renaissance, “Allegory of Chastity”__

#2_____

#3_____

#4_____