

Baroque Art

The Baroque time period occurred from approximately 1600-1730. In art the style aimed at depicting **drama** and **emotion** through **movement** and **strong contrasting light effects** on their subject matter. (**Chiaroscuro**)

Caravaggio



Michelangelo Merisi left his birth town of **Caravaggio** in the north of Italy to study as an apprentice in nearby Milan. In 1593 he moved to Rome, impatient to use his talents on the biggest stage possible.

Caravaggio's approach to painting was unconventional. He avoided the standard method of making copies of old sculptures and instead took the more direct approach of painting directly onto canvas without drawing first. He also used people from the street as his models. His dramatic painting was enhanced with intense and theatrical lighting.

Caravaggio's fate was sealed when in 1606 he killed a man in a duel. He fled to Naples where he attempted to paint his way out of trouble, he became a Knight, but was then imprisoned in Malta and then finally he moved to Sicily. He was pardoned for murder in 1610, but he died of a fever attempting to return to Rome.



Caravaggio, David with the Head of Goliath, 1601. His self portrait as Goliath's severed head, held by David his executioner, was sent to the papal court in 1610 as a kind of painted petition for pardon.



Simon Schama on Caravaggio

"In **Caravaggio's** time it was believed that artists were given their talent by God to bring beauty to the world and to put mortal creatures in touch with their higher selves or souls. **Caravaggio** never did anything the way it was supposed to be done.

In this painting of the victory of virtue over evil it's supposed to be David who is the centre of attention, but have you ever seen a less jubilant victory? On his sword is inscribed "Humilitus Occidit Superbium", that is, humility conquers pride. This is the battle that has been fought out inside Caravaggio's head between the two sides of the painter that are portrayed here.

For me the power of **Caravaggio's** art is the power of truth, not least about ourselves. If we are ever to hope for redemption we have to begin with the recognition that in all of us the Goliath competes with the David."

Written Critique (Use FULL sentence structure, not one word answers)

Use 6 elements & principles throughout the critique. **(Not all in one sentence)**

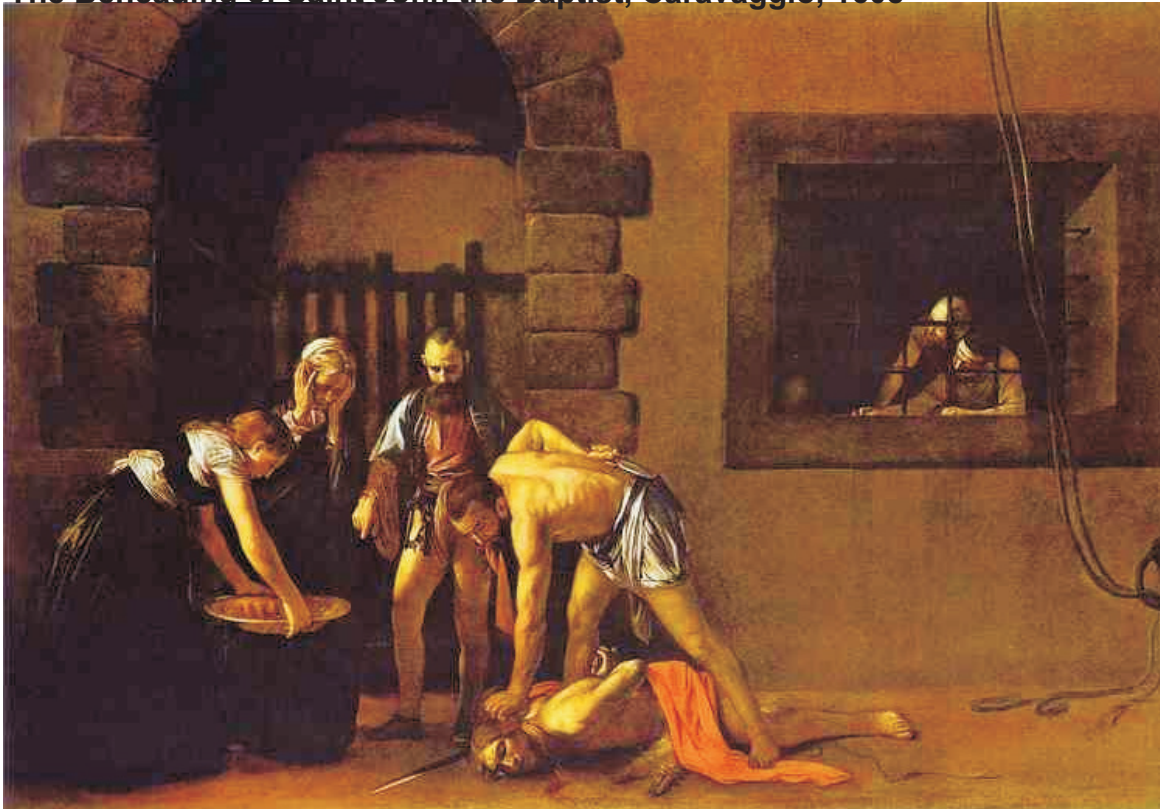
Space, Line, Shape, Form, Texture, Colour, Value, Contrast, Balance, Emphasis, Movement, Rhythm, Pattern, Variety, Unity, Proportion

Name: _____

Description:
(what is it?)

Analysis:
(how does the
artist use the
e & p specifically)

The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist, Caravaggio, 1608



Interpretation:
(mood/feeling)

Judgement:
(artistic merit)

K/U

Connections: /2
(use 6 e&ps &
adjectives)

Clarity: /10
(full sentence form)

/12