

Cupid and Psyche: Fables and Festoons

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**Agostino
Chigi**

Bernini, 1652





Farnesina, façade and west side



Raphael Sanzio

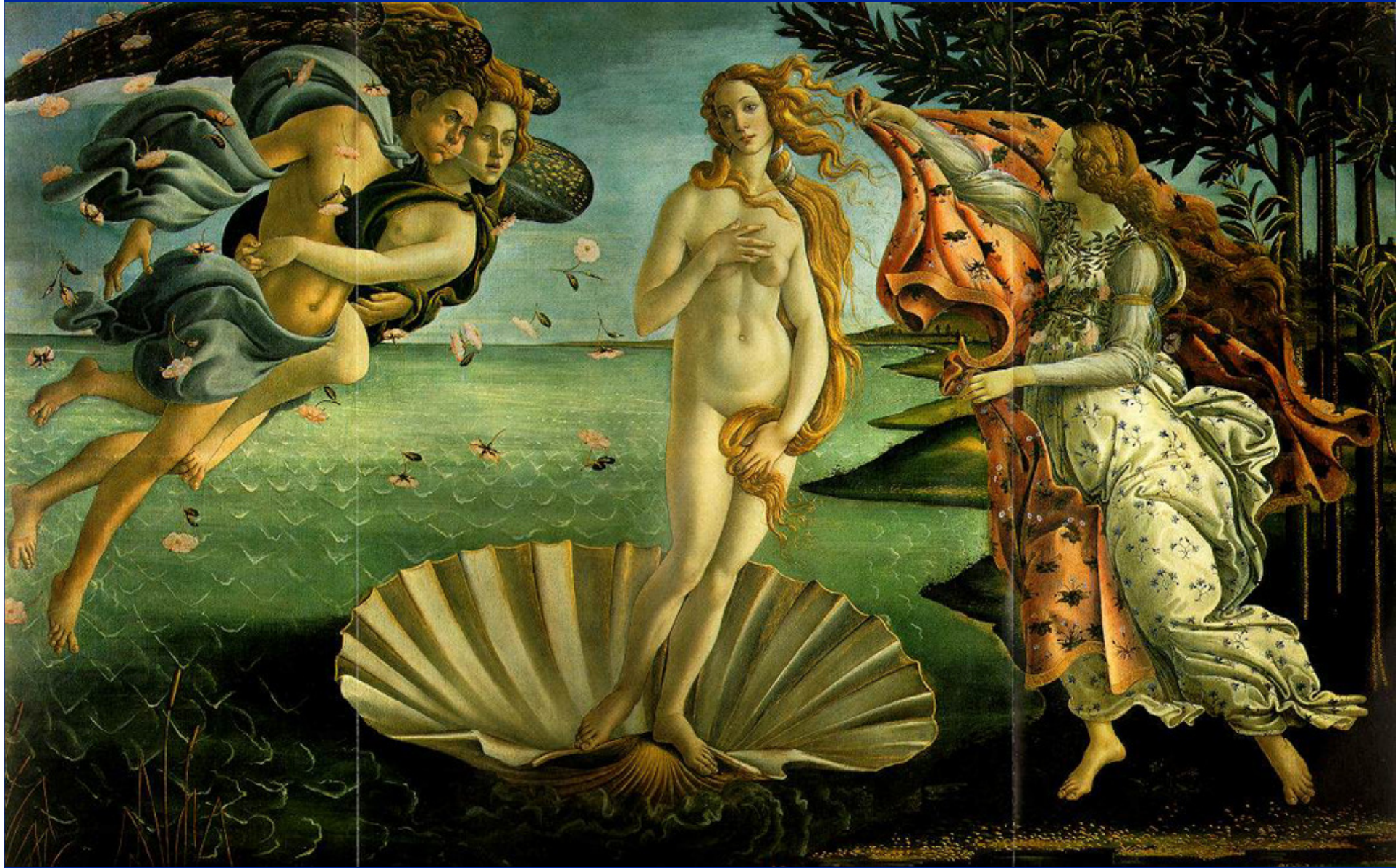


Giovanni Martini da Udine



Decorations of the Villa Farnesina





Botticelli, The Birth of Venus (1485–1486)



Guercino, Venus, Mars and Cupid (1633)



By the bonds of a mother's love, I implore you, by the sweet wounds of your arrows, by the honeyed burns made by your torch, avenge your mother—avenge her to the full. Punish mercilessly that arrogant beauty, and do this one thing willingly for me—it's all I ask. Let this girl be seized with a burning passion for the lowest of mankind, some creature cursed by Fortune in rank, in estate, in condition, someone so degraded that in all the world he can find no wretchedness to equal his own.



Cupid and the Three Graces



Ceres: Madam, what has your son done that's so dreadful that you are determined to thwart his pleases and even want to destroy the one he loves. Is it really a crime, for heaven's sake, to have been so ready to give the glad eye to a nice girl? Don't you realize that he is a young man?



Venus in her chariot goes to Jupiter



Venus before Jupiter



If any man can recapture or show the hiding-place of a king's runaway daughter, the slave of Venus, by name Psyche, let him report to Mercury ... and by way of reward for his information he shall receive from Venus herself seven sweet kisses and an extra one deeply honeyed with the sweetness of her thrusting tongue.



Psyche is borne to Olympus



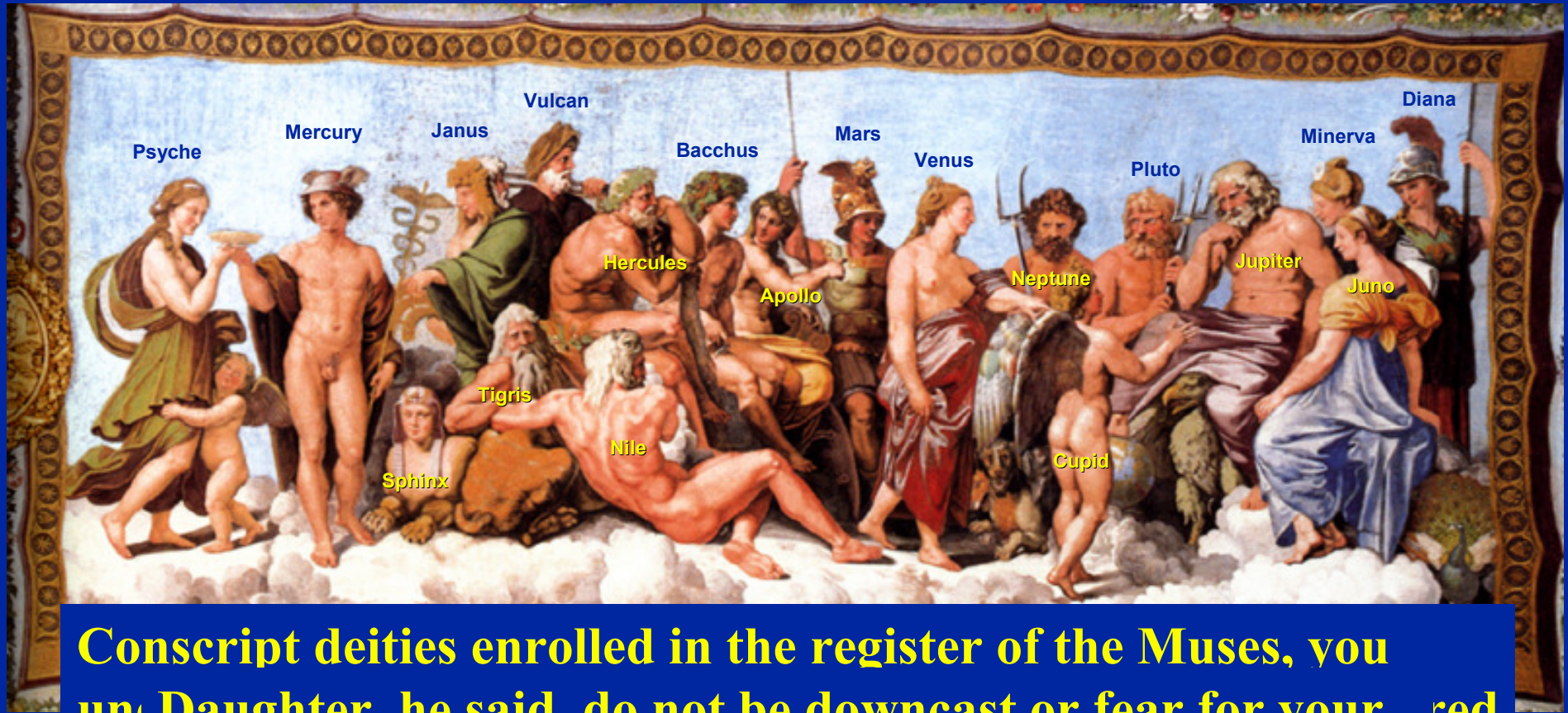
Psyche before Venus



In spite of the fact, dear boy, that you have never paid me the respect decreed me by the gods in council, but have constantly shot and wounded this breast of mine by which the behavior of the elements, and the movements of the heavenly bodies are regulated, defiling it repeatedly with lustful adventures on earth, compromising my reputation and character by low intrigues in defiance of the laws, and of public moral, changing my majestic features into the base shapes of snakes, of wild animals of birds, and of farmyard beasts—yet in spite of all, remembering my clemency and that you grew up in my care, I will do what you ask. But ... if there is now any preeminently lovely girl on earth, you are bound to pay me back with her for this good turn.



Mercury and Psyche



Conscript deities enrolled in the register of the Muses, you
unc Daughter, he said, do not be downcast or fear for your red
hing Drink this ambrosia, Psyche, and be immortal. e d
im] w Never shall Cupid quit the tie that binds you, but ust
cor b] his marriage shall be perpetual for you both.



Marriage of Cupid and Psyche



61



62



63



Festoons

Scope of the Festoons

No. plant images	4000
No. families	49
No. species	163
Rosaceae	26
Asteraceae	16
Cucurbitaceae	14
Liliaceae	13

Apples



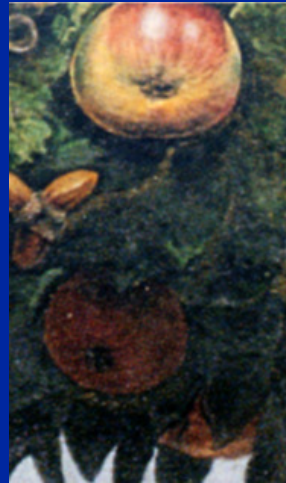
Malus domestica



Malus domestica



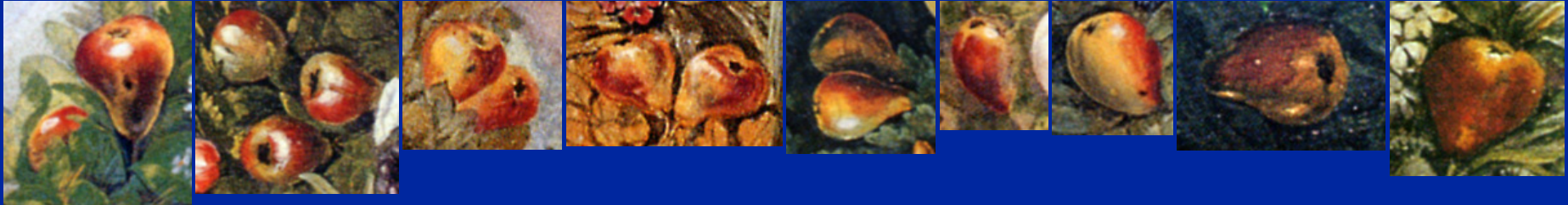
Malus domestica



Malus sylvestris



Pyrus communis



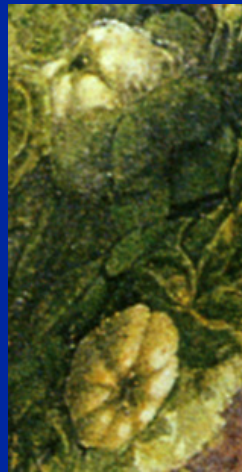
Pyrus communis



Pyrus pyraeaster



Cydonia oblonga



Mespilus germanica



Crataegus oxyacantha



Nuts

Juglans regia



Corylus avellana



Castanea sativa



Small Fruits

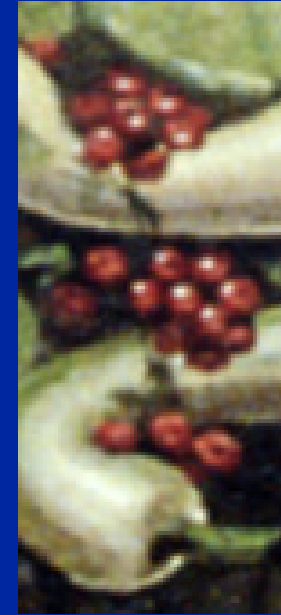
Arbutus unedo



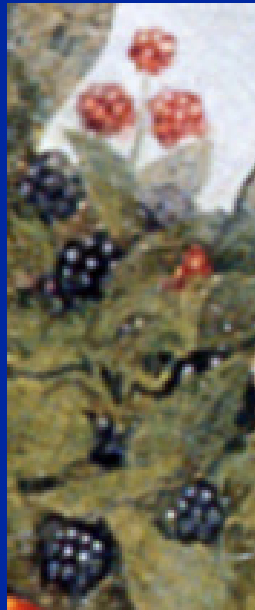
Fragaria vesca



Ribes rubrum



Rubus fruticosus



Sambucus nigra



Vaccinium myrtellus



Mediterranean Fruits

Ficus carica



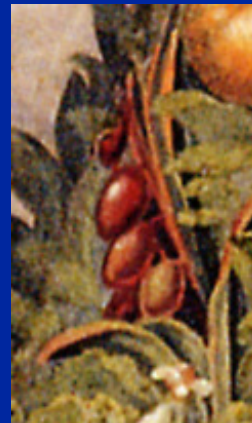
Morus nigra



Olea europaea



*Phoenix
dactylifera*



*Ziziphus
jujube*



Vitis vinifera



Punica granatum



Prunus persica



Other *Prunus*

*Prunus
domestica*



*Prunus
armeniaca*



*Prunus
avium*



Citrus lemon



Citrus medica



Citrus lumia



Citrus aurantium



Ornamentals



*Rosa
damascena*



*Narcissus
radiiflorus*



*Lilium
martagon*



*Iris
variegata*



*Dianthus
caryophyllus*



Alcea rosea



*Papaver
somnifera*

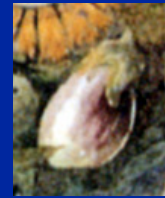
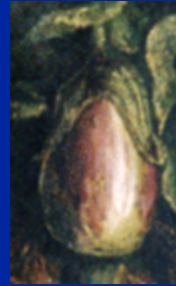


*Anemone
coronaria*



Hibiscus

Solanum melongena



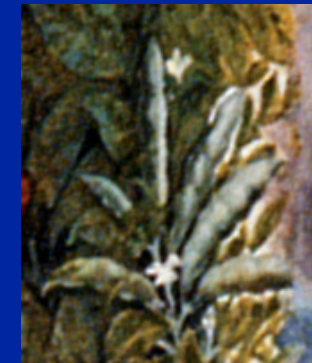
Legumes



Phaseolus vulgaris



Pisum sativum



Vicia faba



Trifolium medium



Ceratonia siliqua



Cassia fistula

Hordeum hexastichum



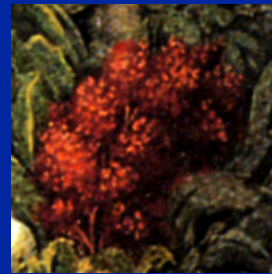
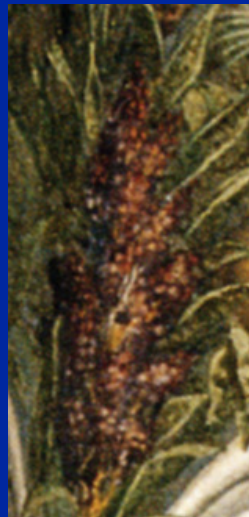
Triticum aestivum



Panicum miliaceum



Sorghum bicolor



Old World Cucurbits



Lagenaria siceraria



Cucumis sativus

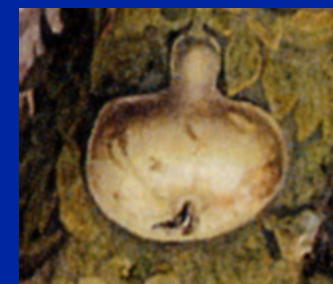


Cucumis melo

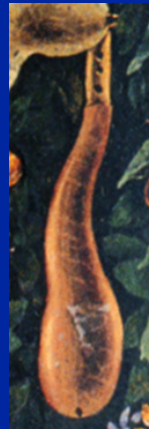
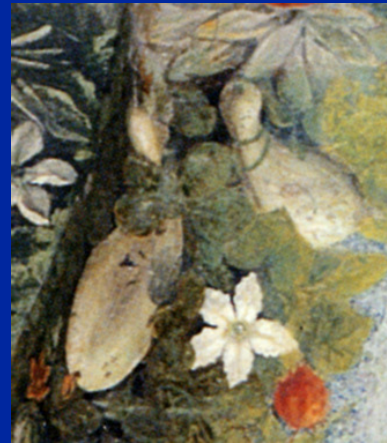
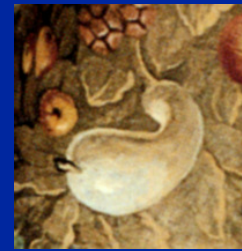
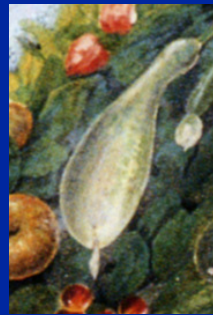


Citrullus lanatus

Lagenaria siceraria var. *a fiasco*



Lagenaria siceraria var. *longissima*



Cucumis melo

cantaloupensis



reticulata



flexosus



New World Cucurbits, Maize & Beans



Cucurbita maxima



Cucurbita pepo



Zea mays



Phaseolus vulgaris



New World Cucurbits

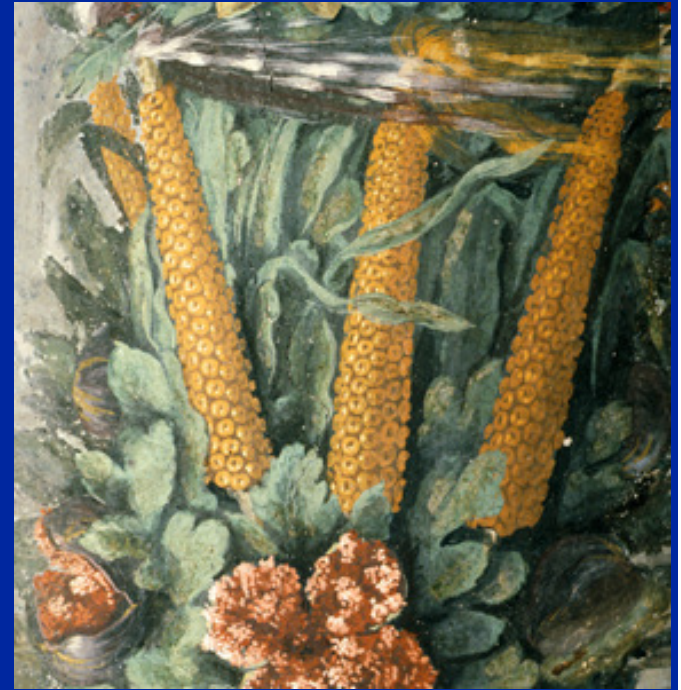


Cucurbita maxima

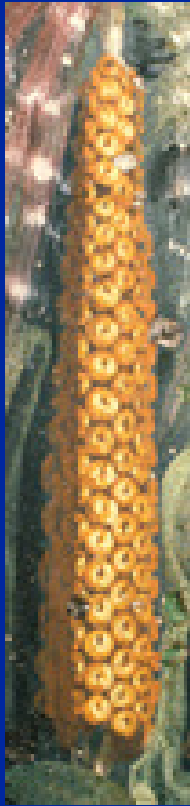
Cucurbita pepo

Maize

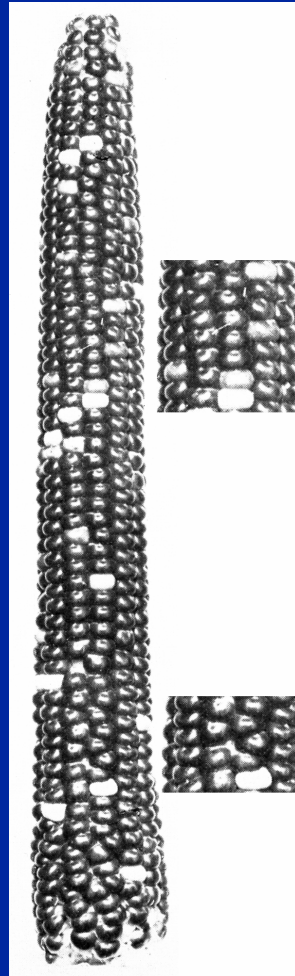
Long, slender, tapered



Maize Races



**Villa Farnesina
Image**



**Jémez
Pueblo, NM**



**Norteño
Largo, Spain**

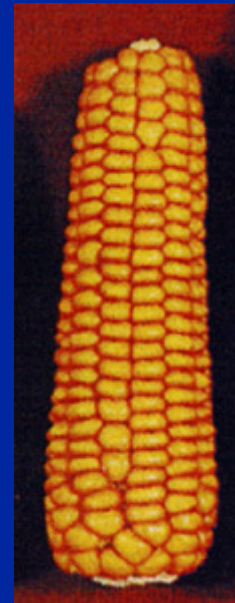
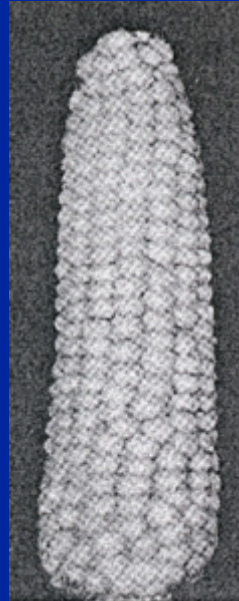


**Ottofile,
Italy**

Short, cylindrical or conical



Maize Races

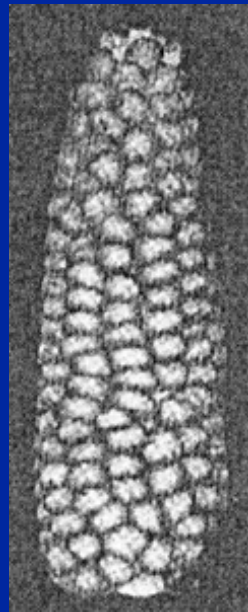


Gallego, Spain Conico, Portugal Giallo agostanello, Italy

Very short conical



Maize Races



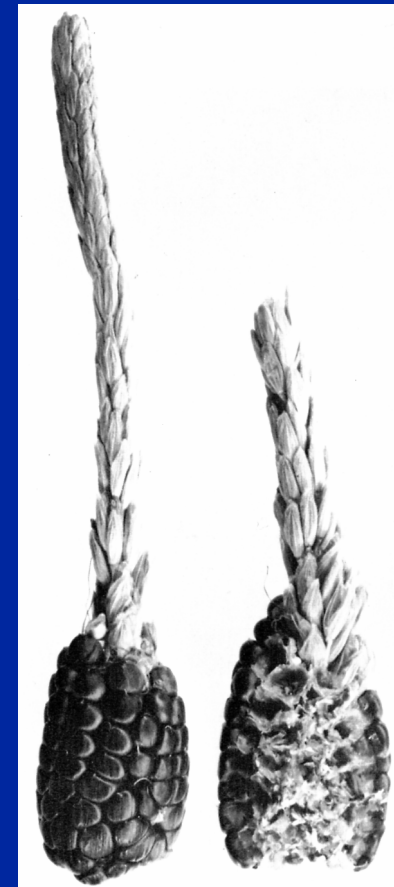
**Norteño,
Spain**



**Small Conico,
Portugal**

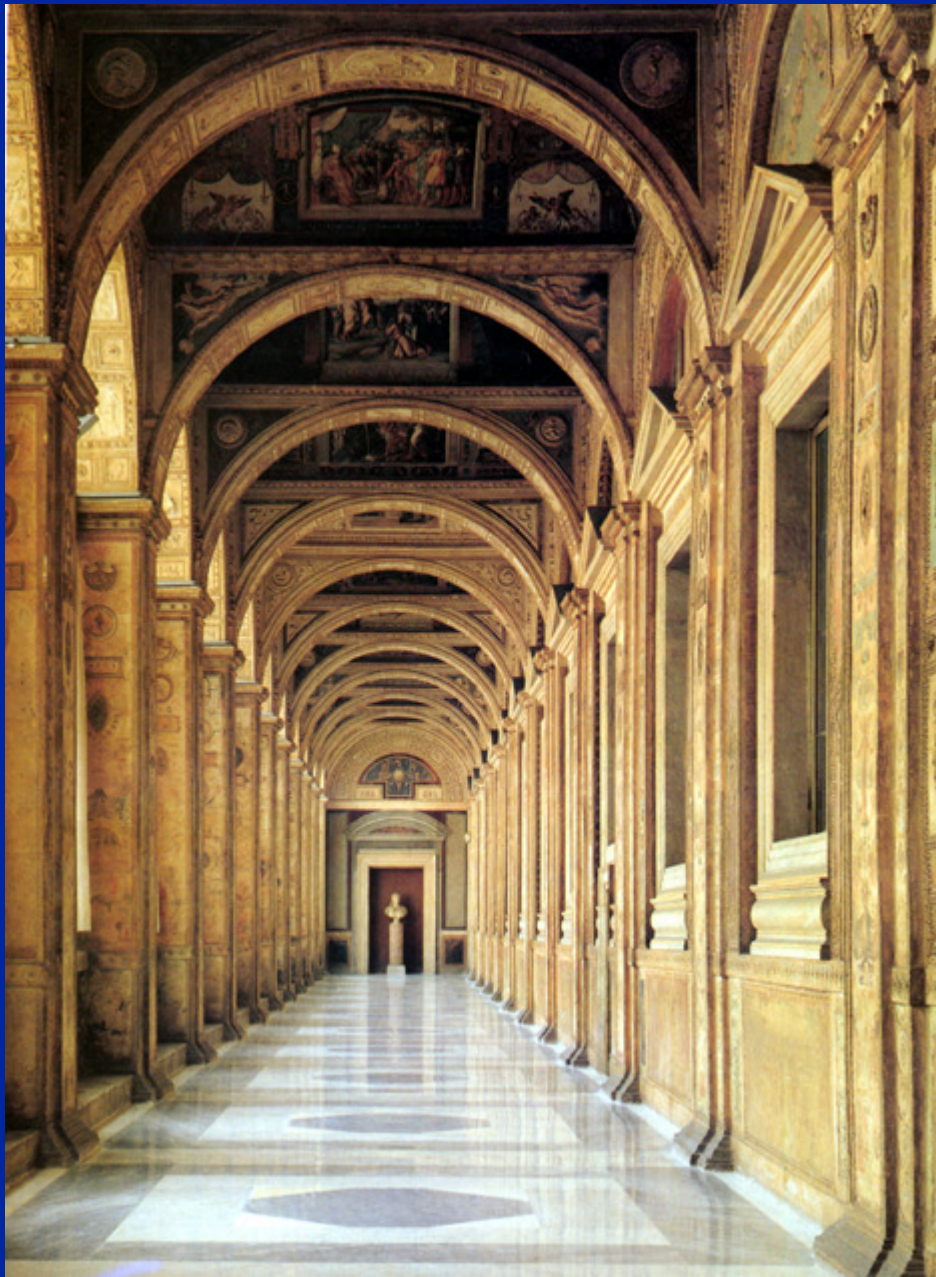


**Locale di Rho,
Italy**



Zapototec urn

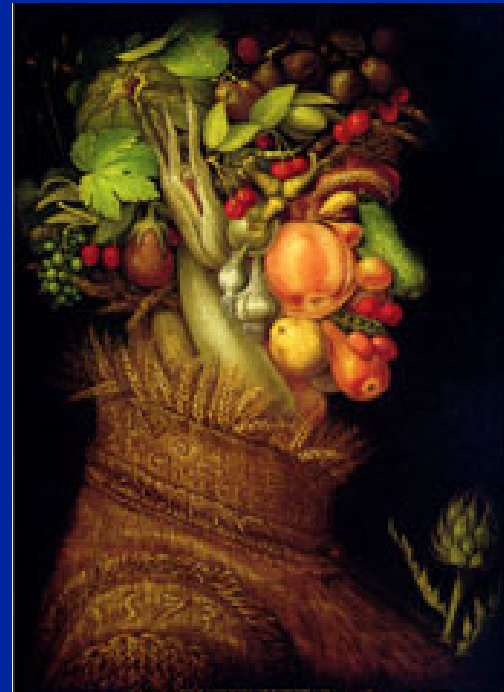




Maize in the Vatican Loggia of Raphael

**Giuseppe Arcimboldo
1527–1593**

Summer, 1573



**Portrait of Rudolf II as
Vertumnus, 1590**





Peter Martyr d'Anghiera



Cardinal Ascanio Sforza

**Letter of Pedro Martyr de Angleria to Cardinal Sforza,
based on first voyage of Columbus Nov. 13, 1493.**

“The islanders also easily make bread with a kind of millet, similar to that which exists plenteously amongst the Milanese and Andalusians. The millet is a little more than a palm in length, ending in a point, and is about the thickness of the upper part of a man’s arm. The grains are about the form and size of peas. While they are growing, they are white, but become black when ripe. When ground they are whiter than snow. This kind of grain is called maiz”

Letter dated May 3, 1494. Based on second voyage of Columbus.

“My messenger will also deliver to Your Eminence some of those black and white seeds out of which they make bread.”



**First maize
woodcut
*De historias
Stirpium*, 1542**

Leonhart Fuchs



Speckle

Fullmaurer

Meyer

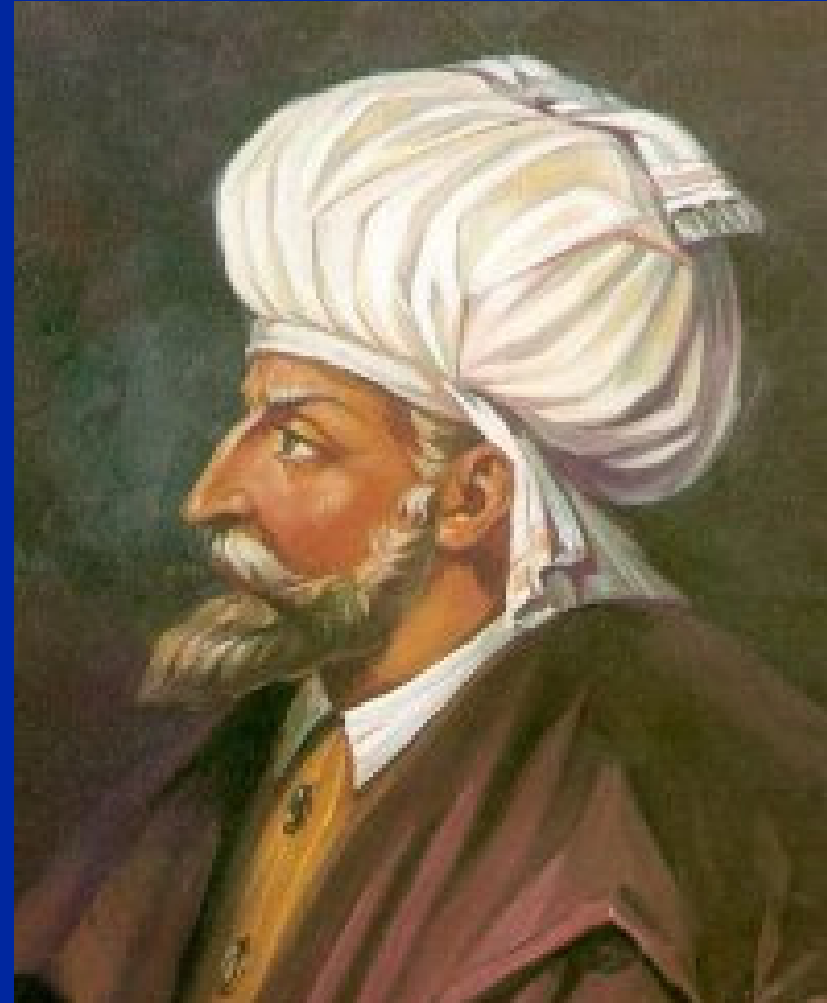
Turkish corn

**From Vienna Codex,
Codex Vindobonensis
*Palatinas***





Rodrigo Borgas *nee* Borjas
Pope Alexander VI
1492–1503



Bajazet II
Sultan of Turkey
1481–1512

**Agostino
Chigi
Bernini, 1652**



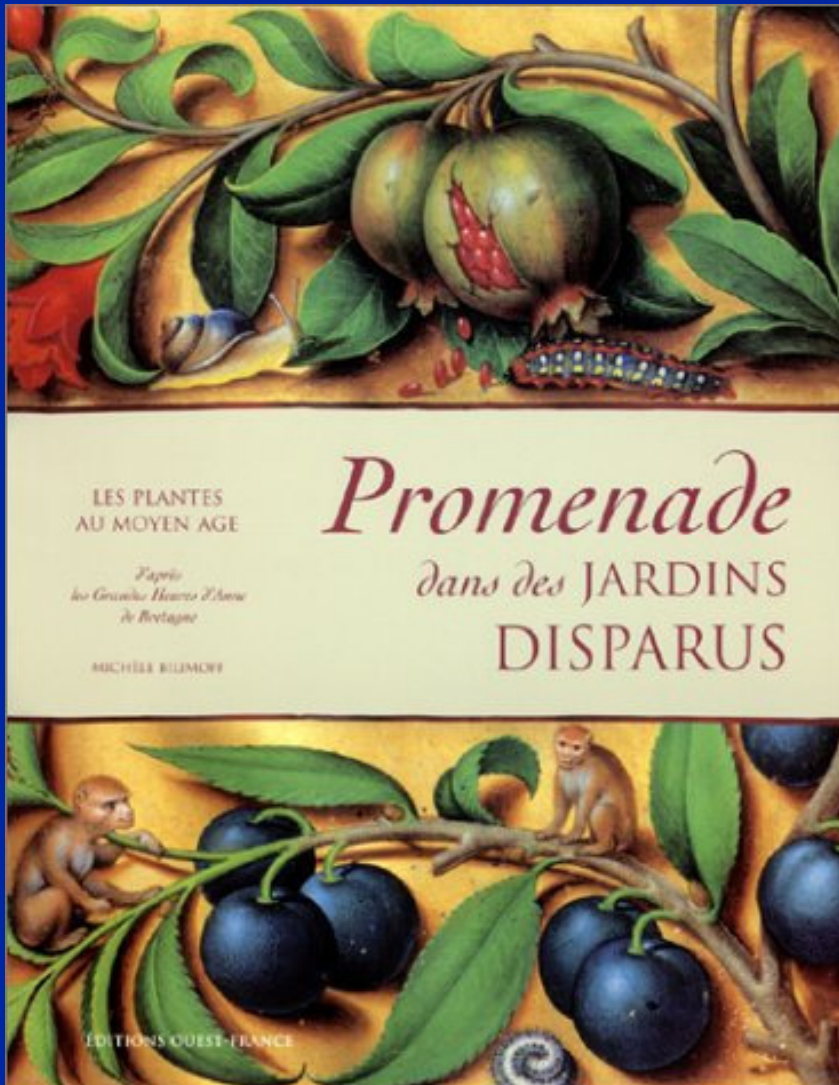
CONCLUSION

The decoration of the Roman Villa of Agostino Chigi from 1505 to 1517, is a microcosm of the humanist tradition of the Renaissance which combined appreciation of the pagan myths of the past with the new science of discovery.

The art still thrills us for the sensual images but also includes information on horticultural and botanical studies which has been neglected.

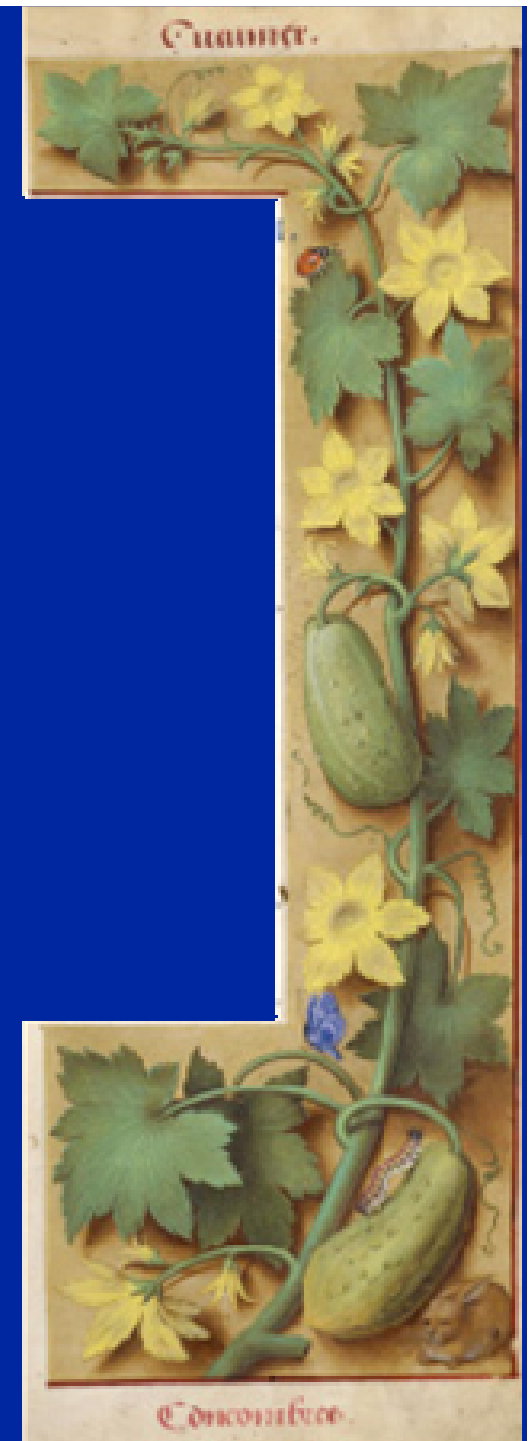
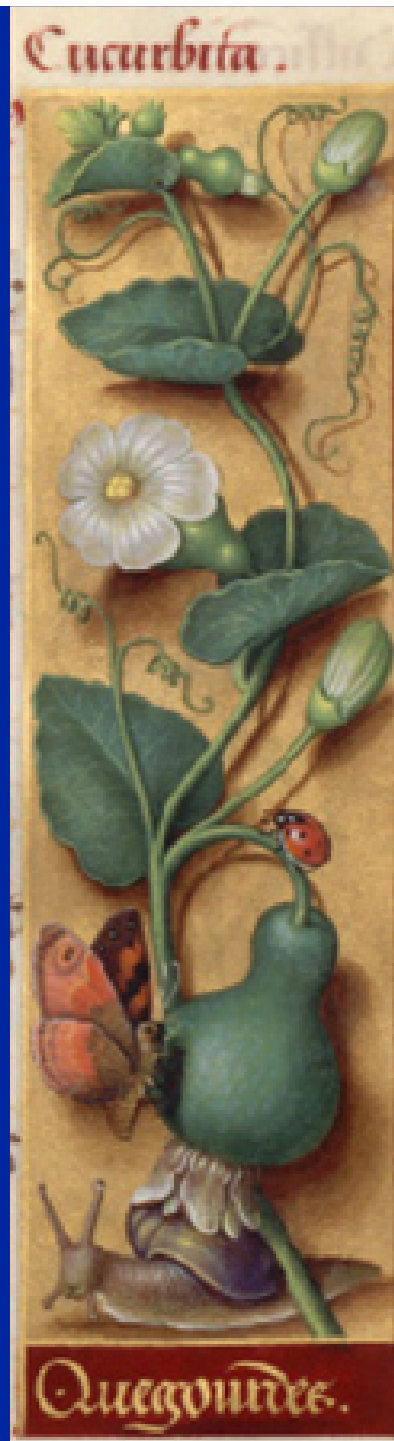
The encounter of Columbus with America was followed by a rapid dispersal of New World plants into Europe and Old World plants into the Americas which profoundly affected the agriculture of both hemispheres.

Grandes Heures d'Anne de Bretagne



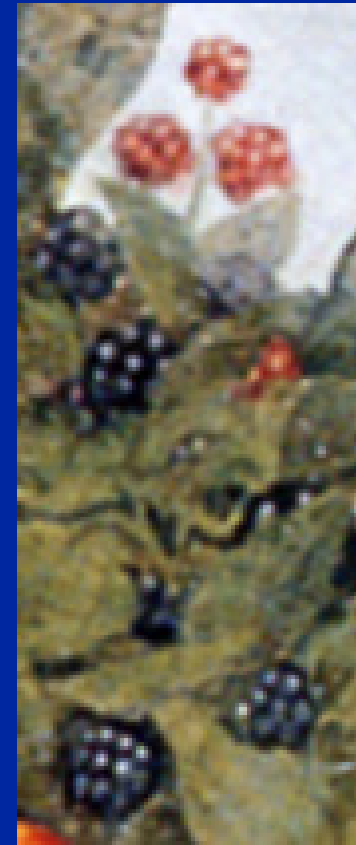
Cucurbits

- Cucurbita pepo*
- Lagenaria sciceraria*
- Cucumis sativus*



Rubus fruticosus?

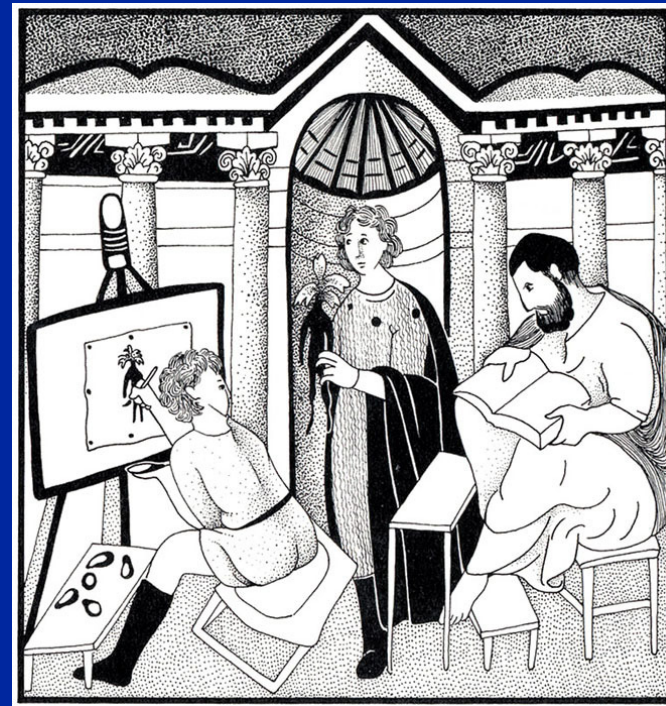
**Grandes Heures
d'Anne de Bretagne**



Farnesina Ceiling

Frontpiece of Dioscorides De Materia Medica

Juliana Anicia Codex
512



Krateus, Epinoia (Discovery), and Dioscorides

**Pedanius
Dioscorides
Juliana Anicia
Codex
512
Batos**



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Festoons in the Loggia of Cupid and Psyche painted
by Giovanni di Udine

