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RAPHAEL LIFE OF AN ARTIST

January 9 – March 21, 2010

Raphael Sanzio was one of the most extraordinary master painters and architects of the Italian High Renaissance, and *Arte ITALIA* is proud to present an exhibition about his life, work and influence on the American collector.

Raphael was born in Urbino, Italy in 1483 and displayed remarkable talent as an artist at a very young age. His relocation to Florence allowed him the opportunity to study the works of Leonardo da Vinci and Michelangelo, both of whom inspired Raphael during this defining period of art and culture. Raphael's successful Madonna and Child paintings commissioned by Florentine collectors helped establish his reputation as an accomplished artist.

Later summoned to Rome by Pope Julius II, Raphael served as painter to the papal court at the Vatican where he completed the Stanze della Signatura, a modernization of Pope Julius II's living quarters inside the Palace. Among his other great achievements, Raphael acted as chief architect of St. Peter's Basilica, in addition to designing ten hanging tapestries for the Sistine Chapel

During that time, Raphael also completed remarkable portraits of the people surrounding the papal court. It was during this period that he painted La Donna Velata – The Woman with the Veil. Inspired by the Mona Lisa, Raphael went beyond Leonardo da Vinci's style in creating new figure types whose round, gentle faces revealed true human sentiments and raised feelings of serenity.

Raphael contributed some of the most illustrious and significant works of not only the High Renaissance, but of Italy and the world. It is partly through his contributions that the concepts of modern art were founded.

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Arte ITALIA's exhibit of Raphael will run from January 9–March 21 at 442 Flint St. To view Raphael's original masterpiece, La Donna Velata, take the short walk over to the Nevada Museum of Art located at 160 West Liberty Street. Both exhibits are open from 10:00 AM-5:00 PM Wednesday thru Sunday and 10:00 AM-8:00 PM on Thursday.

