

# The last supper

BY



# Michelangelo



# The last judgment history

- The work was started in 1537 and completed in 1541.
- The work was painted on the wall behind the altar in the Sistine chapel.
- The painting was considered immoral and was denounced by the church.
- Later censored by Daniele da Volterra who was nicknamed the trouser artist

# Artistic significance

- This painting sparked the fig leaf campaign
- The fig leaf campaign was a movement from the catholic church to remove indecency from art.



Note the fig leaves



The much later  
blue box  
campaign

# Symbolism

- There are two major symbolic gestures in this painting
- The first is a depiction of Biagio da Cesena who was the Popes master of ceremonies and a major critic of this work as minos judge of the under word with donkey ears.
- When Cesena complained to the poped the pope stated that he had no jurisdiction in hell it would remain as is



Note the  
donkey  
ears

censorship



# Symbolism Cont

- The second was a depiction of Pietro Arentino as St. Bartholomew holding flayed skin which resembled Michelangelo
- Arentino (a satirist and erotic writer) was trying to extort a valuable drawing from Michelangelo
- The flayed skin represented his resentment at having to do the painting and his pain at being extorted





# Importance to Asher

- This painting was not assigned to Asher by Jacob Kahn
- Asher chose to do this picture to scare a classmate so he would stop picking on him.
- This painting is significant because it was the first time Asher really put an emotion other than happiness or sadness into one of his paintings
- I believe the artist chose this painting because Michelangelo similar to Asher put the faces of people who were causing him pain into the picture

# Bibliography

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