Medieval Art and Architecture in Europe

Italy, *Reliquary Head of St Theobald (Teobaldo Roggeri)*, 14th-15th century, silver, silver gilt, and paste jewel, 83.73a-c (not on view)

Spain, *Crucifixion*, about 1180, limestone, 2015.69a-d

France (Pyrenees region), *Madonna Enthroned in Majesty with the Christ Child*, late 12th century, marble, 66.24

France (Limoges), *Anointing of the Body of Christ*, about 1250, gilt copper with enamel, 58.8 (not on view)

France, Master of the Passion Diptych, *Diptych with Scenes from the Life of Christ*, about 1375, ivory, 83.72 (not on view)

France, *Virgin and Child*, 14th century, polychromed stone, 14.36
France, *Madonna and Child*, 14th century, polychromed limestone, 63.59 (not on view)

Austria (Salzburg), *St. Catherine of Alexandria*, about 1450-60, wood, pigment, and gold, 20.11

Attributed to Nikolaus Gerhaerts van Leyden, *Mary Magdalene,* c. 1460, polychromed lindenwood, 14.8

Hans Schnatterpeck, Austria, *Lamentation of Christ*, 1490s, polychromed and gilded pine, 2011.2

England (Nottingham), *The Adoration of the Magi*, 15th century, relief alabaster with polychrome decoration, 2001.268

Key Ideas: Romanesque Style
- "In the Roman manner" (coined in early 19th century): uses solid masonry walls and rounded arches and vaults of imperial Rome
- Also reflects Byzantine, Islamic, and early Medieval influences
- Period of great building activity: castles, manor houses, larger churches, monasteries
- Desire to glorify the house of the Lord and his saints (made manifest through earthly remains called relics)
- People make pilgrimages to view the holy sites and relics
- Sculpture and paintings represent important religious themes; serve to instruct and fascinate people with "the likeness of the Paradise of God"

Key Ideas: Gothic Style
- Gothic, known as "modern" or "French style" began in Île-de-France (area around Paris) and spread throughout Europe
- "Gothic" first used as pejorative term for art of the "Goths," Germanic invaders who destroyed classical civilization
- Unprecedented resources devoted to Christian art from the church, aristocracy and new emerging merchant class
- Urban cathedrals replace rural churches
- Universities and cathedral schools supplant rural monastic schools as centers of learning
- Architecture expresses divinity through quest for height and luminosity