

MICHELANGELO

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Michelangelo by Charles Clément

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CHARLES CLÉMENT

MICHELANGELO



MICHELAGNILO BUONARROTI.

"The whole world without Art would be one great wilderness."

MICHELANGELO

BY CHARLES CLÉMENT,

AUTHOR OF "MICHEL-ANGE—LÉONARD DA VINCI—RAPHAËL."



LONDON :

SAMPSON LOW, MARSTON, SEARLE, & RIVINGTON,

CROWN BUILDINGS, FLEET STREET.

1880.

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PREFACE.

I LAY claim to nothing except to following, as best I have been able, M. Clément's thoughts, and putting them into simple English. In a supplement I have introduced a few details of Michelangelo's private life, obtained chiefly from Mr. Heath Wilson's admirable book, "Life and Works of Michelangelo Buonarroti," and from Dr. Anton Springer's "Raffael und Michelangelo."

For obvious reasons I have abstained from any comment.

THE TRANSLATOR.



ARMS OF THE BUONARROTI.



ILLUSTRATED BIOGRAPHIES OF THE GREAT ARTISTS.

NOTICES OF THE PRESS.

1. Reprinted from the *Times*, January 23, 1880.

"Few things in the way of small books upon great subjects, avowedly cheap and necessarily brief, have been hitherto so well done as these biographies of the Great Masters in painting. They afford just what a very large proportion of readers in these hurrying times wish to be provided with—a sort of concentrated food for the mind. The Liebig's of literature, however, especially in that of the fine arts, need no small amount of critical acumen, much experience in the art of system, and something of the bee-like instinct that guesses rightly where the honey lies. The mere 'boiling down' of great books will not result in giving us a good little book, unless the essence is properly diluted and set before us in a form that can be readily assimilated, so to speak, and not in an indigestible lump of details. The writers of these biographies have, on the whole, succeeded in giving an excellent *aperçu* of the painters and their works, and better where they have adhered to the lives written by acknowledged specialists—such as M. Vosmaer for Rembrandt, Passavant for Raphael, and Dr. Woltmann for Holbein. The life of Holbein is by the editor, with whom the

2 *Illustrated Biographies of the Great Artists.*

idea of such a series originated, and to whose great experience is to be attributed the very valuable copies of all the important pictures contained in the different biographies. These have been selected with great taste and judgment, and being taken generally from less well-known works by the masters, they enhance the interest and add much to the practical utility of the books. The chronological lists of the works of the masters are also very useful additions."

2. From *La Chronique des Arts*, March 20, 1880.

"A un prix d'extrême bon marché, 4 francs environ, en petits volumes joliment cartonnés, et ornés de quinze à vingt planches, la maison Sampson Low, Marston, et Cie., à Londres, a entrepris de publier une série de biographies des grands artistes, résumées d'après les travaux les plus récents et les plus estimés. Une bibliographie, une liste des gravures exécutées par ou d'après l'artiste, une liste de ses œuvres ou de leurs prix; enfin, un index accompagnant ces résumés confiés à des écrivains distingués versés dans l'histoire de l'art. Ont paru ou sont en préparation dans cette série de notices: Titien, Rembrandt, Raphaël, Van Dyck et Hals, Holbein, Tintoret, Turner, Rubens, Michel-Ange, Léonard, Giotto, Gainsborough, Velasquez, Pérugin, Reynolds, Landseer, Delaroche et Vernet, les Petit Maîtres, les Peintres de figure en Hollande.

"Peut-être la maison Sampson Low, Marston, et Cie., devrait-elle tenter une édition française de ces jolis et intéressants petits volumes sérieusement étudiés, dont la brièveté substantielle et le bon marché deviennent une bénédiction par ce temps d'énormes publications à prix non moins énormes."—DUBANFF.

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