



ITALY

**LEONARDO  
THE GREAT  
VISIONARY**

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Florence, Uffizi. "The Annunciation", an oil painting on wood, attributed to Leonardo da Vinci, and dated between 1472 and 1475.

- ▶ This year marks the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci
- ▶ Leonardo is considered the ultimate Renaissance genius
- ▶ Born in 1452, he lived in Milan for almost 18 years, the most productive period of his life
- ▶ A great part of his writing has been lost; what remains today is for the most part an unsystematic series of annotations
- ▶ He spent the final two years of his life in the castle of Clos-Lucé, in Amboise, France



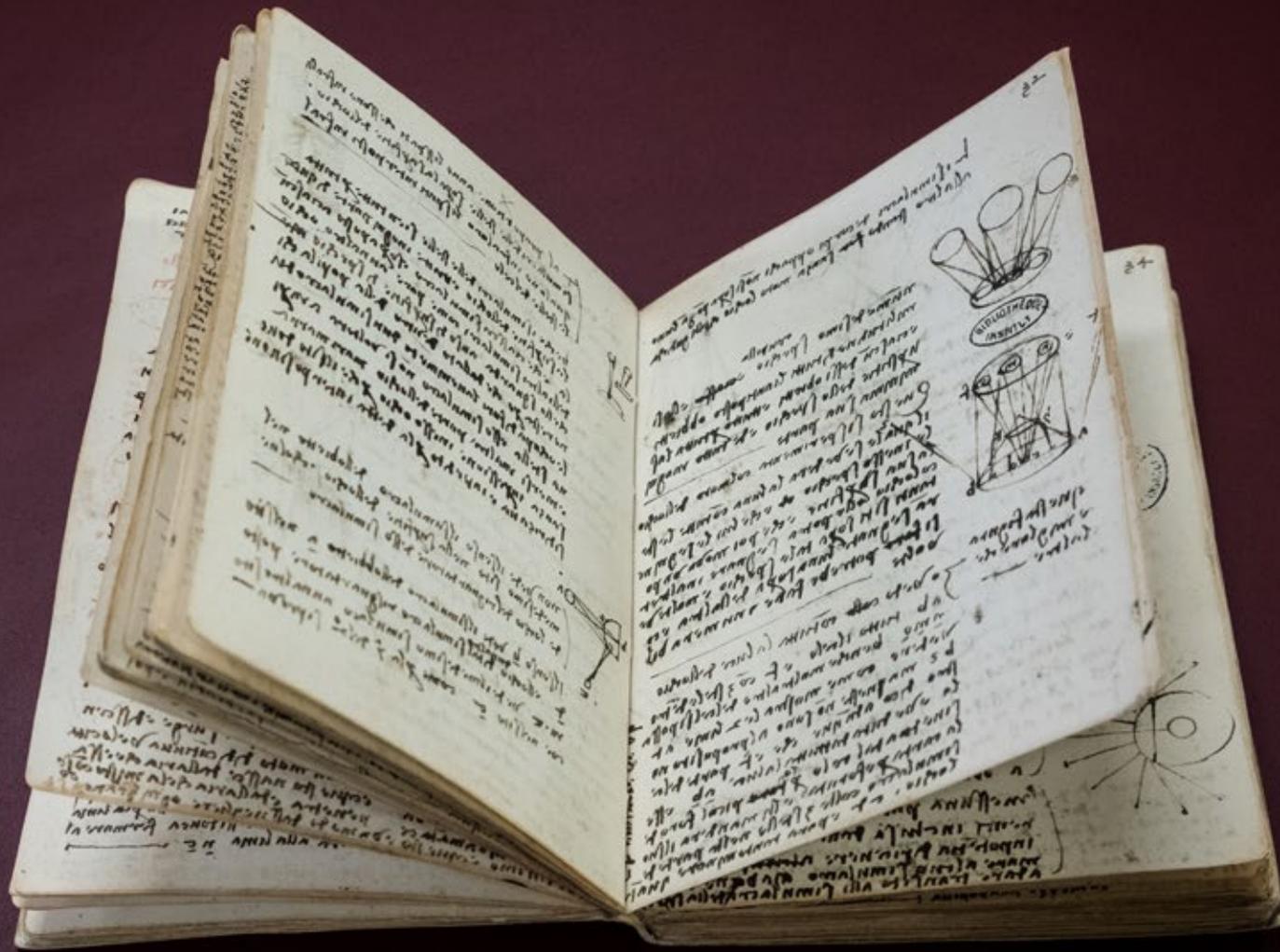
Vinci. Panoramic view from the house where, on 15 April 1452, Leonardo was born.



The anatomical museum of the University of Pavia.



Milan, the statue of Leonardo da Vinci in Piazza della Scala. Created by Pietro Magni, the statue was inaugurated in 1872.

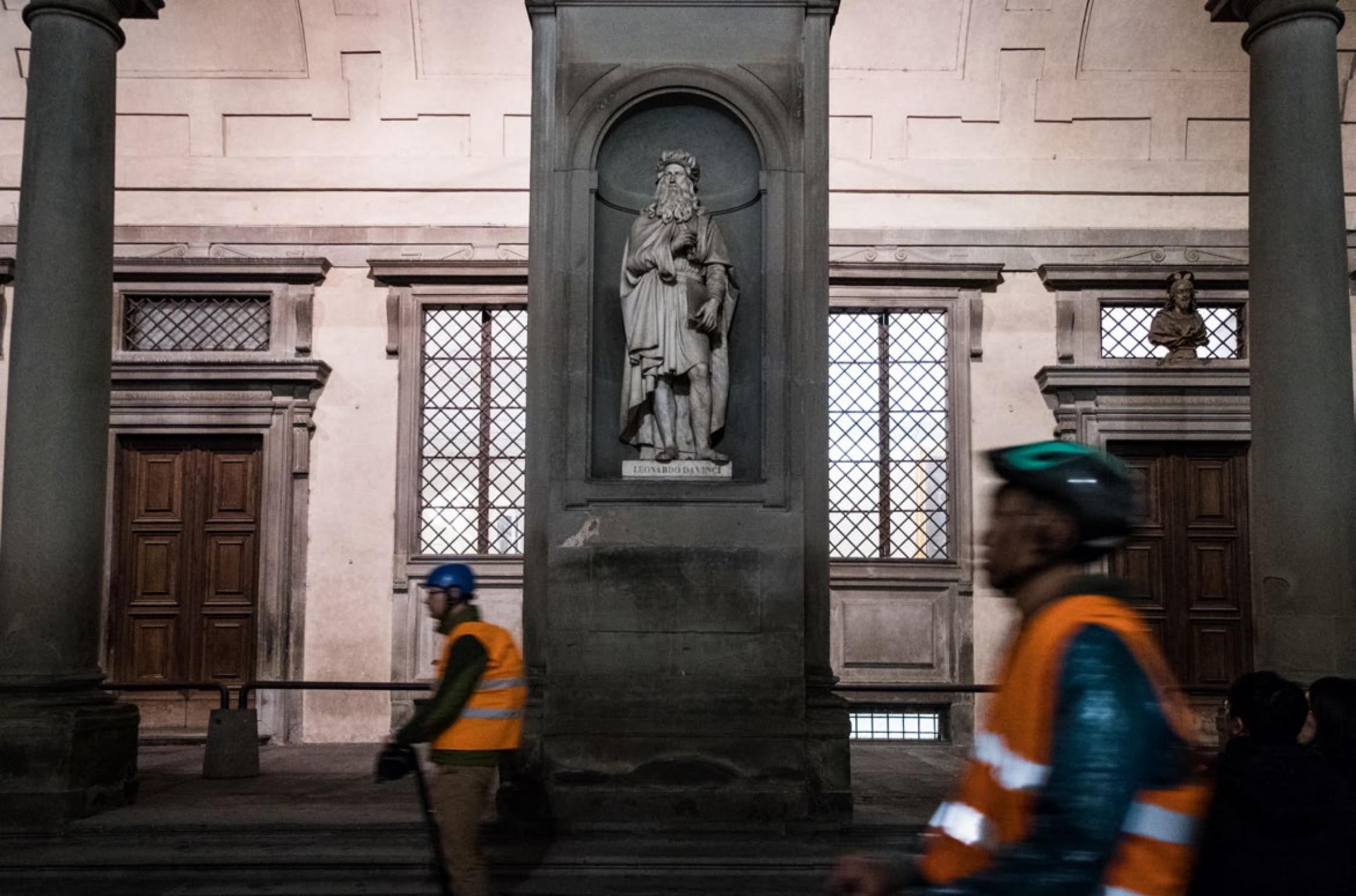


Prato. A facsimile of one of Leonardo's codices, in the workshop of the publishing house Giunti Editore. Giunti Editore has been producing facsimiles of all of Leonardo's codices in handmade, numbered copies since the middle of the '70s.

Five centuries after his death what remains of the genius from Tuscany?

Leonardo da Vinci died 2 May 1519 in Amboise, France. Exactly five centuries ago. Over the course of his long life – 67 years - Leonardo experimented with the effects of Gutenberg's invention, witnessed the fall of Byzantium and the unification of the Kingdom of Spain, saw nine popes between the two of them, experienced the court of Ludovico the Moor, and learned that the planet contained a "new", as yet unexplored continent. Leonardo is often referred to as the incarnation of the Renaissance man.

Insatiable for knowledge, his studies encompassed many different fields, from painting to engineering, sculpture to music, anatomy to scenography. And though he referred to himself as "a man without letters", he is considered history's first visionary. Beyond his paintings, the most precious objects of his legacy are his notes, the famous codes. To leaf through them is to take a trip through observations, designs, and intuitions. But what is left of Leonardo da Vinci today? In 2019 there are innumerable places, objects, paintings, and ideas that resound with the echoes of Leonardo the artist, architect, engineer, and inventor. In a single word: the genius.



Florence. The statue of Leonardo da Vinci sculpted by Luigi Pampaloni.



Castelfranco di Sopra (Arezzo). Le Balze del Valdarno, a characteristic geotope of various shapes made up of sand, clay, and layered gravel, up to one hundred metres in height, interspersed by deep gorges. It is believed that the Balze can also be seen in the background of the "Gioconda".



A "young Leonardo da Vinci" onstage during the play "Il Volo di Leonardo", at Teatro Orione in Rome.



Mario Taddei, scientific director of the exhibition Leonardo3 in Milan, climbs on to the reproduction of Leonardo's flying machine, which he constructed himself.



"The Last Supper", reproduced by Giuliano Melioli, is a work on view at the Mediopadana Alta Velocità (high speed) railway station, in Reggio Emilia.



Ludovico the Moor, backstage: "Il Volo di Leonardo", at Teatro Orione in Rome.



Paderno d'Adda. "The three horns" refer to the rocks around Adda, in the area surrounding the Ecomuseo Leonardo da Vinci, which Leonardo likely used for the background of his painting "The Virgin of the Rocks". There are two versions of the painting, one at the Louvre in Paris and one at the National Gallery in London.



Rome. Souvenirs depicting Leonardo da Vinci.



Rome. On the occasion of an exhibition dedicated to Leonardo, Riccardo Mei plays the part of Leonardo da Vinci during the presentation of the book "Le infinite ragioni" (The endless reasons) published by Albeggi Edizioni.



A view of Florence and the river Arno from Ponte Vecchio.



Milan, Spazio Ventura XV. Section dedicated to Leonardo da Vinci, at the exhibition "Nuova Real Bodies – Beyond the Human Body".



Florence, Uffizi. Three girls looking at a page of the Codex Leicester, one of Leonardo's famous manuscripts, which is owned by Bill Gates and being exhibited in public for the first time.



Marmore Falls, close to Terni. It is believed that the first drawing Leonardo ever signed is a depiction of these Umbrian waterfalls, though for a long time it was thought to be one of those located in Val di Chiana.



Mario Taddei, scientific director of the exhibition Leonardo3, in Milan, with the reproduction of one of Leonardo's machines, which he constructed himself. This represents the real bombard of Leonardo, a machine designed for naval and non-terrestrial use. The masterminds behind the Leonardo3 exhibition studied all of Leonardo's codices in order to intuit which ones were truly projects of Leonardo and those which the genius had copied from other engineers of the age.



Prato. A facsimile of one of Leonardo's codices, in the workshop of the publishing house Giunti Editore. Giunti Editore has been producing facsimiles of all of Leonardo's codices in handmade, numbered copies since the middle of the '70s.



Prato, the workshop of the publishing house Giunti Editore. Assembling a limited edition of one hundred of Leonardo's most beautiful drawings by hand. Giunti Editore is the only publisher allowed to reproduce all of the existing codices of Leonardo da Vinci.



Panoramic view of Florence from the terrace of Piazzale Michelangelo.



Milan, Spazio Ventura XV. Section dedicated to Leonardo da Vinci, at the exhibition "Nuova Real Bodies – Beyond the Human Body".



Part of a human skull used for anatomical studies at the University of Pavia. It is believed that Leonardo practiced dissections at the University of Pavia for many years, in order to better understand human anatomy.



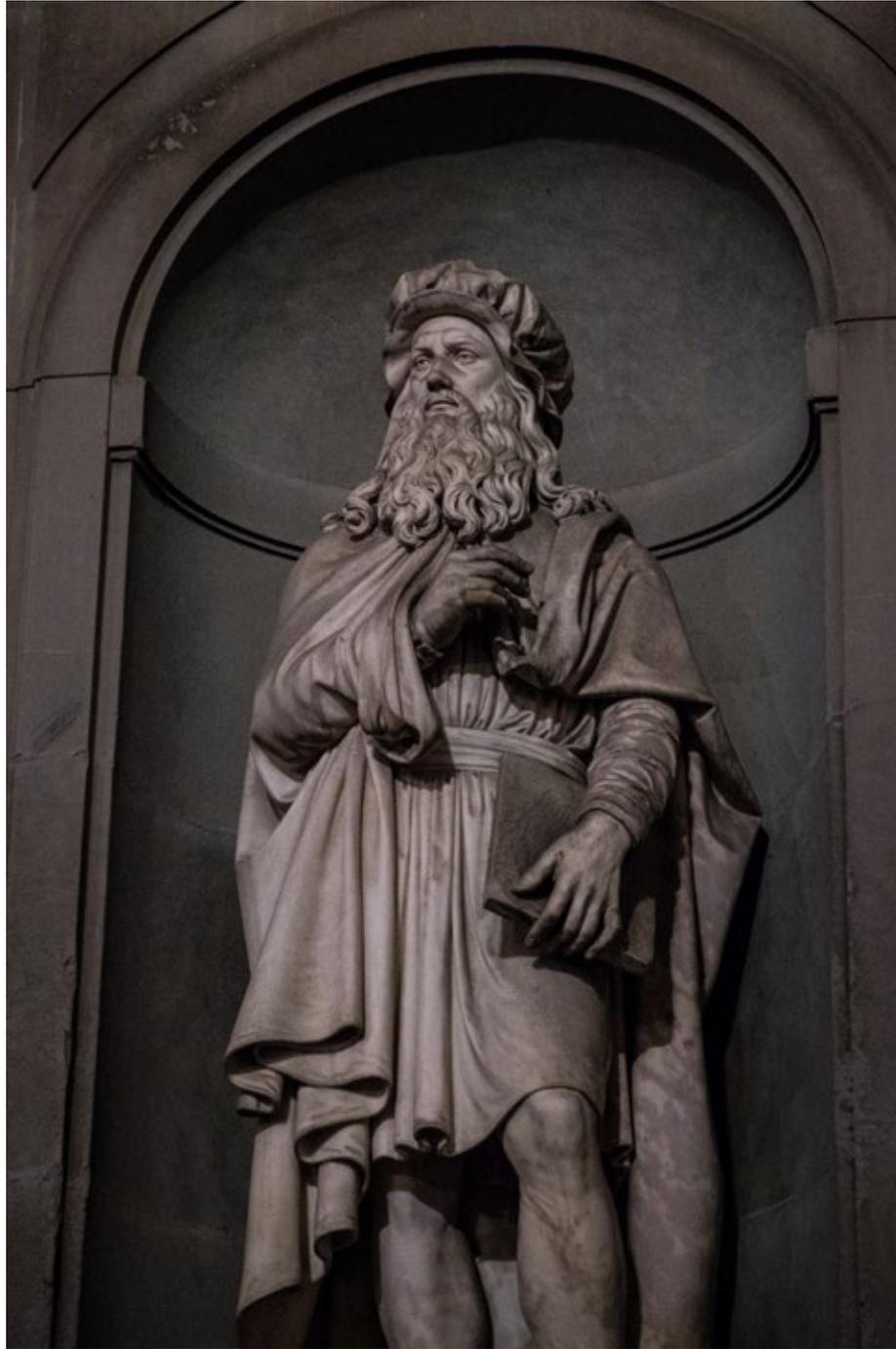
Milan, Spazio Ventura XV. A young woman visiting the section dedicated to Leonardo da Vinci at the exhibition "Nuova Real Bodies – Beyond the Human Body".



The "Mona Lisa" onstage during the play "Il Volo di Leonardo", at Teatro Orione in Rome.



Vinci. The house where, on 15 April 1452, Leonardo was born.



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