

Roots of European Civilisation

Age of Discovery

How it started



- Europe imported oriental exclusive products – spices, silk or china
- Ottoman Turks partially blocked traditional trade routes
- Development of cities leads to increased demand for imported goods
- Portuguese and Spaniards wanted to gain profits from trade

Portugal and beginnings of voyages



- At the beginning of the XV c. Portugal was one of poorer countries in Europe.
- Prince Henry the Navigator financed and organized sea voyages.
- At the beginning expeditions travelled to Africa for gold, slaves and ivory
- 1427 - Diogo de Silves discovered Azores
- 1482 - Diogo Cão discovered Congo
- 1488 - Bartolomeu Dias discovered Cape of Good Hope

Cristopher Columbus



- Was financed by Spain
- Tried to reach China and India going westwards.
- In 1492 he discovered America's islands (Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola)
- In next voyages he reached continental America

Vasco da Gama



- Portuguese sailor
- In 1498 he managed to arrive to India (Calicut)
- Although his first voyage was not very profitable, it was crucial for building Portuguese Empire.

Ferdinand Magellan



- 1519 – 1522
Ferdinand Magellan
made voyage
around the world



World Map c. 1700



Economical effects of Discoveries

- New plants and home animal (potato, tomato, turkey, tea, coffee)
- Better ships (galleons)
- Raise of number of merchants
- New markets
- Exploitation of new lands – new source of profit
- Influx of gold into Europe – inflation
- Beginings of industry - manufactures.



Social Effects of Discoveries

- Better education
- Change of mentality in Europe
- Earth bigger than expected
- Beginings of racism
- Decline of feudal world

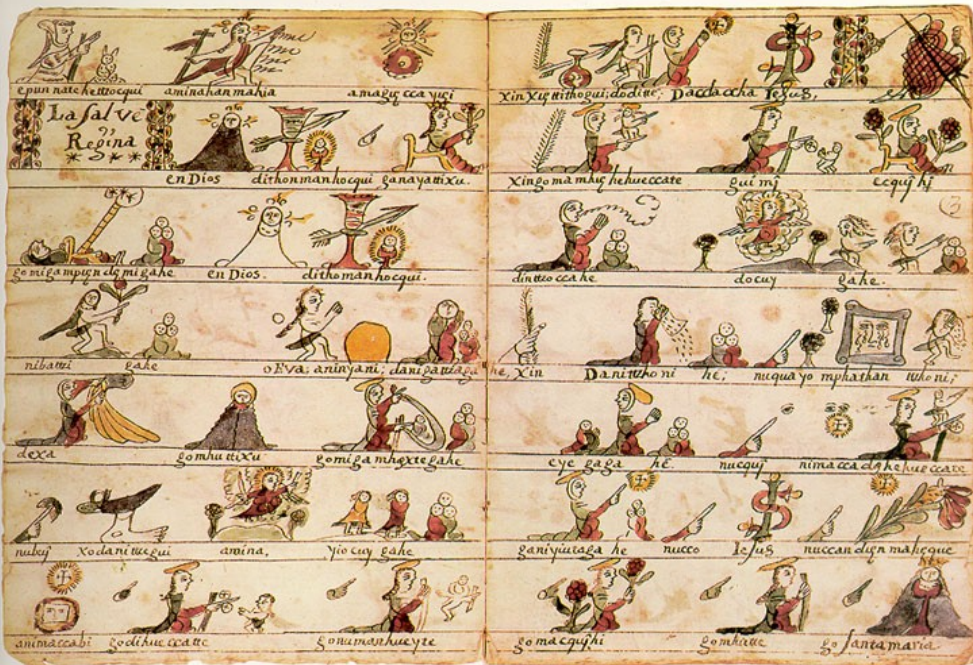


Political Effects of Discoveries

- Rise of political power of Spain and Portugal
- Developement of industry and power in Northern Europe
- Destruction of native cultures in America and partially in different continents



European civilization dominates Americas.

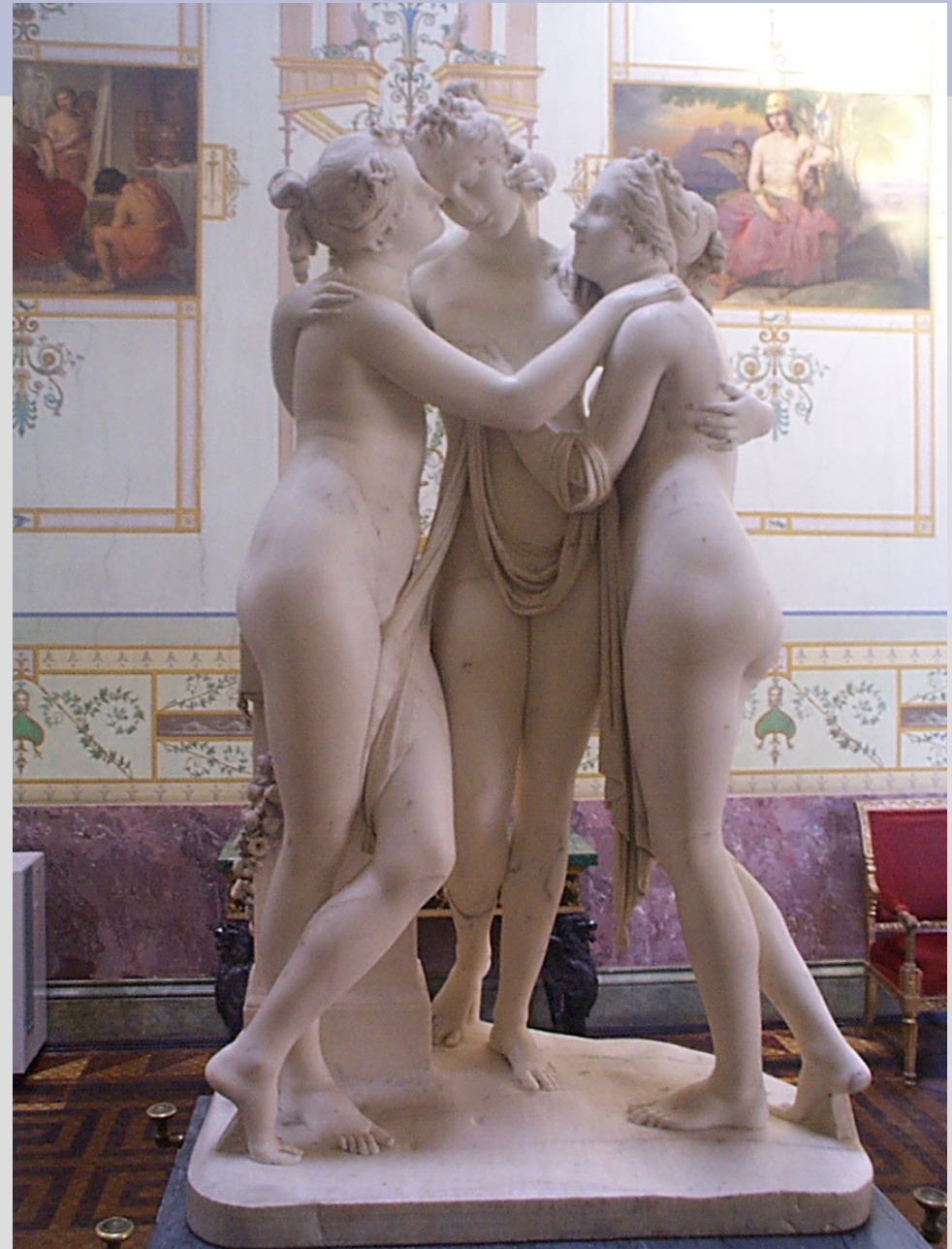


Enlightenment



Enlightenment

- Since about middle XVII w. more can observe changes in culture and philosophy which are described as „enlightenment”
- The most important feature of the period was belief in the power of human reason.



Art of Enlightenment

- Enlightenment as a philosophical period is more or less contemporary with later Baroque and Classicism in Art
- The peak of enlightenment is combined with XVIIIc. Classicism



Enlightenment and Baroque

- Eras of Baroque in Art and Enlightenment in philosophy are partially, but not fully contemporary
- Sometimes XVIIc. is considered a separate era in philosophy – Age of Reason
- Baroque is an Art Style visible since c. 1580 till c. 1730.
- Enlightenment is philosophy active since mid. XVII c. till the end of XVIII c.



Baroque Art

- Attempts to impress visitor by splendid form
- Elaborate form and profound symbolism
- Religion and Mythology are main subjects
- Very dynamic
- Playing with forms, words and symbols

Ecstasy of St Theresa by Bernini



Wilanów



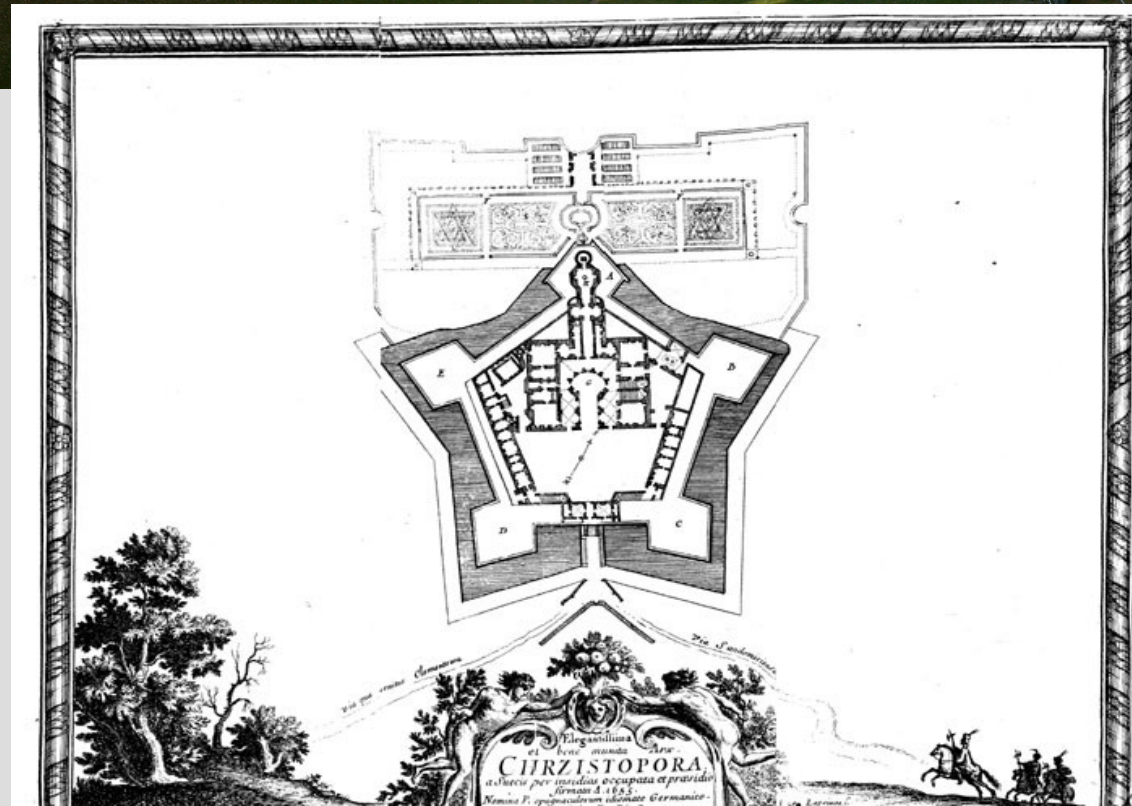
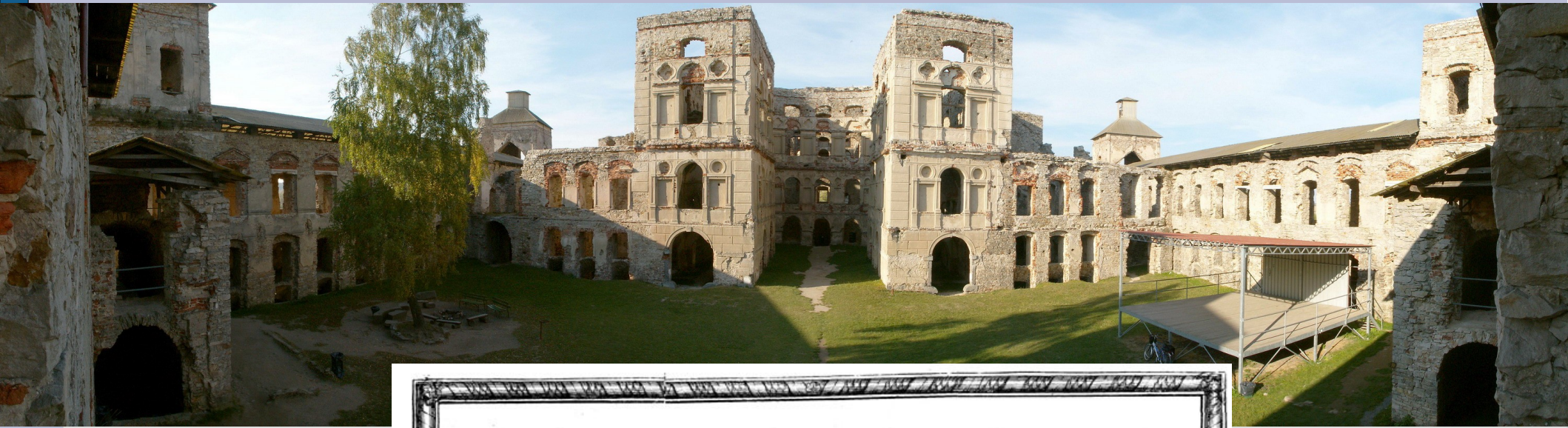
Royal Palace of Madrid Madrycie



St. Peters Square



Krzyżtopór in Ujazd



St Peter and St Paul in Vilnius



St Peter and St Paul in Vilnius



Interiors of Baroque churches: Poznań and Catania



Aeneas' Flight from Troy (Bernini)



Venus at a Mirror (Rubens)



The Surrender of Breda (Velazquez)



Polish Rider (Rembrandt)



**Thank you for
attention**

