

twice as many paintings, but I mean really first class paintings.

It's an interesting thing how there have been so many wonderful paintings in the time of the Rebaissance. I don't think there is anything to compare with it since. I think one reason for it is the fact they had all those little towns in Italy, each of which had its own prince, and its own church and they wanted to have the best art they could get. So there was something that stimulated artists and that gave the best artists the chance to be recognized. So there was a background for development. I don't think the people were necessarily any better artists naturally than they have beensince.

But there was a chance for something to lead them to develop their abilities in that direction. You take Leanardi davinchi and Machaelangelo and Raphael, well, to my mind these three would be as fine artists as about all other art put together. Of course there were many other mighty fine artists at that time.

For Renaissance art, the best place is Florence. Because in Florence, while you don't have as many paintings you've got the the Elfichi(?) and Pigie(?) Galæries have got well I could spend days -- just about every painting is a masterpiece. There is nothing like them that has been made since. There's no city in the world like Florence. There was an English family staying there when their daughtter was born, and they named her after the city. I think that's where the girl's name Florence came from, and she was Florence Nightingale who became quite famous. One of its citizens had half the world named after hêm--Americus Vespucius. He had America named after him. Of course Micahelangelo and Leonardidavinci (Raphale was not from Florence) but Leonardidavinci made a plan for an airplane which would fly. If they had had a good enough engine. They did not have the engine. He made the plan. He was one of the great minds of history.

There are comparatively few paintings by Leonardidavinci but just about every one of them is an absolute masterpiece. In London the National Gallery has his Madonna of the Rocks. I was in London one time 3 days, and each day I went to the National Gallery and to look at that. There were only a few paintings by him that were preserved. I don't know that he did a great many because he was so -- such a genius in so many different ways. But he was outstanding in just about everything he did.

It's remarkable what developed in Florenciaat that period. Whether anything has since I don't know. Certainly at that time it was tremendous. I stood with Francis Schaeffer one night looking at the cathedral in Florence with thelights on the front of it. I said, I just can't believe it. There can't be such a thing. He said, I don't either!