

Title: Mona Lisa

Date: 1503-1519 AD/CE

Location: Florence Italy / Paris France

This is one of the most famous art works of all time if not the most famous. Why? There is a certain mystery about her. Leonardo carried her with him until his

death when he gave the painting to the King of France King Francis, his best friend.

The painting was revolutionary for the time period giving it a mystical background and not just a portrait in a room feel. She holds the fashion for the time, and is recognized to be wealthy due to her clothing and headdress. She has no eyebrows, some say it is unfinished some say it was the style at the time. She is not fully smiling, but only half. But is she really smiling at all? Some say the story behind her portrait is that she had just learned she was pregnant and hadn't told anyone yet.

Others say it is shortly after she had lost a child and it is hard for her to smile through the pain. She is one of only 20 paintings that Leonardo

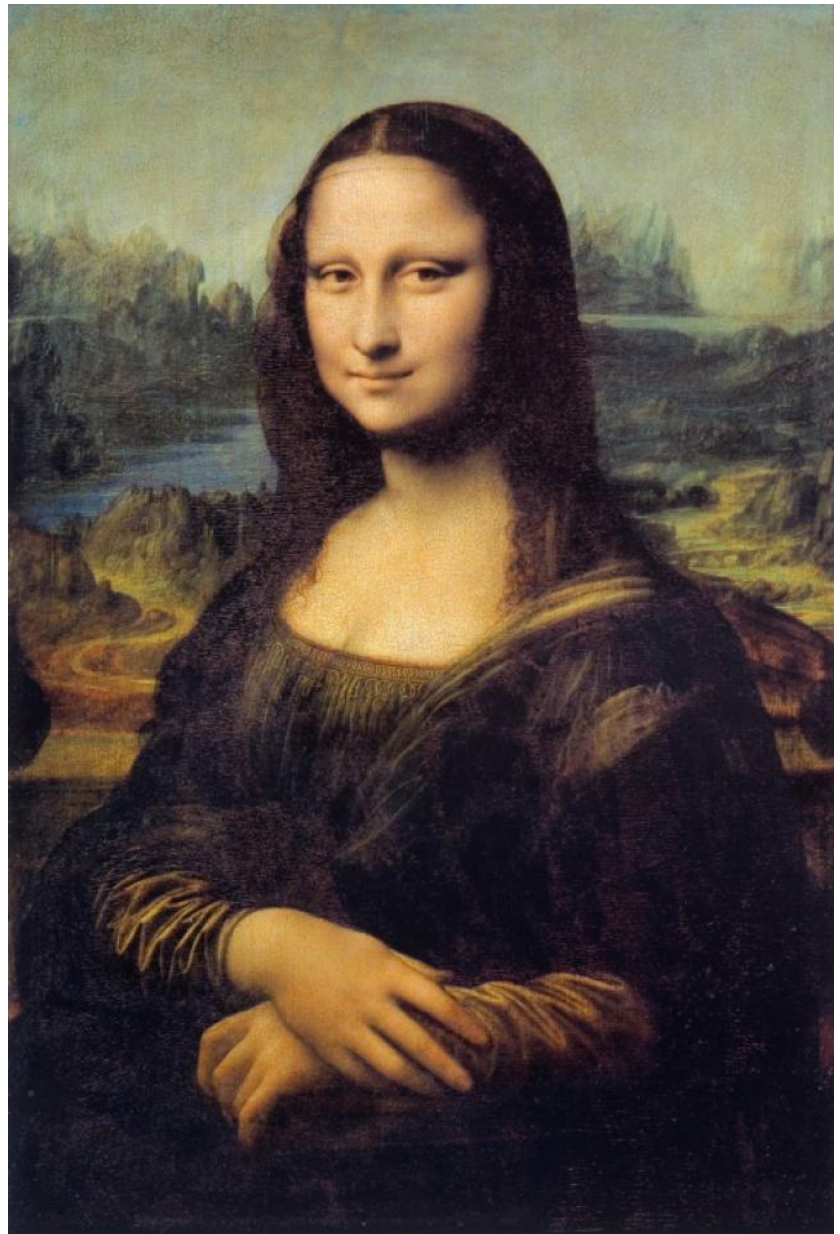


Image: Stuart Gregory / Getty Images

may have finished. He was a perfectionist and never liked how his paintings looked, therefore he did not finish most of his work.