

<http://www.michelangelo-gallery.com/pieta.aspx>

<http://www.italianrenaissance.org/michelangelos-pieta/>

Title: Pieta

Date: 1498-1500 AD

Location: Vatican City / Italy

Michelangelo claimed that the block of Carrera marble he used to work on this was the most “perfect” block he ever used, and he would go on to polish and refine this work more than any other statue he created. He was commissioned to create this for a side chapel in St. Peter's Basilica in Vatican City. The subject is Mary weeping over her son's body. She is made to be a larger figure and her son small. To show a mother's love. If this Mary would stand up she is well over 6 feet tall. Although Michelangelo is known for David (said to be the best sculpture ever created), the pieta is Michelangelo's favorite, and the only work he had ever signed. It was not intended to be signed, but at the reveal of the statue another person was claiming he made the statue and Michelangelo was furious. So in a bout of rage he carved his name into the sash across Mary's chest. The full inscription says “Michelangelo Buonarroti made this”

