two figures beautifully. This coupled with the arrangement of the figures close to the picture plain creates an arrangement pleasing to the eye.

I was drawn to this piece because of the attention to the faces and how expressive they were rendered. I also very much enjoyed the wonderful composition the artist employed. The artist did a bold move for the time and turned the face to a difficult three quarter view not oft seen during this period. In my opinion it had the subject matter close to the picture plain but not to the extent where you feel the detail is too “in your face”. When viewing this painting I found it visually pleasing on the eye and an engaging piece to focus on. You can appreciate the maternal bond between mother and son, and it is far from stagnant or stiff.

C

For my contrasting piece I choose the Berlinghiero Madonna and Child. Though a beautiful piece of art, there were clear differences that I felt took away from the visual appeal as compared to the Duccio. What was instantly apparent to me was the vast difference in facial features of the Madonna figure. Her face was not nearly as delicately rendered and was given a harsher expression peering painfully out on the audience. Unlike the bold and successful tactic of turning the Madonna’s head to a three quarter view, this is clearly front facing. This coupled with the infant Jesus’ front facing position creates a stiffness and formality in the connection of mother and son. The infant Jesus looks less of a baby then a shrunken adult in my opinion. Perhaps this was done to accomplish a ‘wise’ looking child, but for visual stimuli it failed to impress. The use of gold leaf is seen in this artwork but it does not carefully frame the figures as in the earlier mentioned piece which I feel takes away some of the strength in the composition and cuts off the flow of light in an awkward manner.

Jacometto

Portrait of a Young Man

Early Renaissance

A

Stylistic Characteristics

- Humanism
- Genre becomes more prominent
- Expansion from the inspiration of the proto renaissance.
- Portraiture
- Bodies have more realistic movement
- Detail in individual faces
- More subtle light and shadows
- Compositions are better spaced
- Increase in elements of realism

Patron Type

- Private patron; and individual desiring a portraiture of themselves, common in the upper middle and high social classes.