

Something that differed from trends during this time was showing two figures, since “multi-figured sculptures were rare” (“Michelangelo's Pieta”).

The depiction of Mary and Jesus after the Crucifixion would have been known by many people during this time, since there were many works of art on the same subject. Michaelangelo rejected the traditional treatment of showing Mary and Jesus, and showed another approach to the subject. He decided to show a younger version of Mary, where she would have been too young to have a child who is an adult. He decided to show her younger since he thought that Mary would not have aged like other women (“Michelangelo's Pieta”). Michelangelo also decided to portray Mary and Jesus as calm and almost tranquil instead of emphasizing the suffering as other artists did. The wounds are very small and Jesus almost looks asleep, so Michelangelo decided to focus on the relationship between them instead of on the Crucifixion. This shows the humanistic values during the time period of the Renaissance since Mary and Jesus have realistic features and show emotion instead of being idealized.

Figure 1 (“Michelangelo's Pieta”)

Work Cited

"Michelangelo's Pieta." *ItalianRenaissance.org*, 23 July 2021, www.italianrenaissance.org/michelangelos-pieta/.