

We decree with full precision and care that, like the figure of the honored and life-giving cross, the revered and holy images, whether painted or made of mosaic or of other suitable material, are to be exposed in the holy churches of God, on sacred instruments and vestments, on walls and panels, in houses and by public ways; these are the images of our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ, and of our Lady without blemish, the holy God-bearer and the revered angels and of any of the saintly holy men. The more frequently they are seen in representational art, the more are those who see them drawn to remember and long for those [holy figures] who serve as models, and to pay those images the tribute of salvation and respectful veneration.

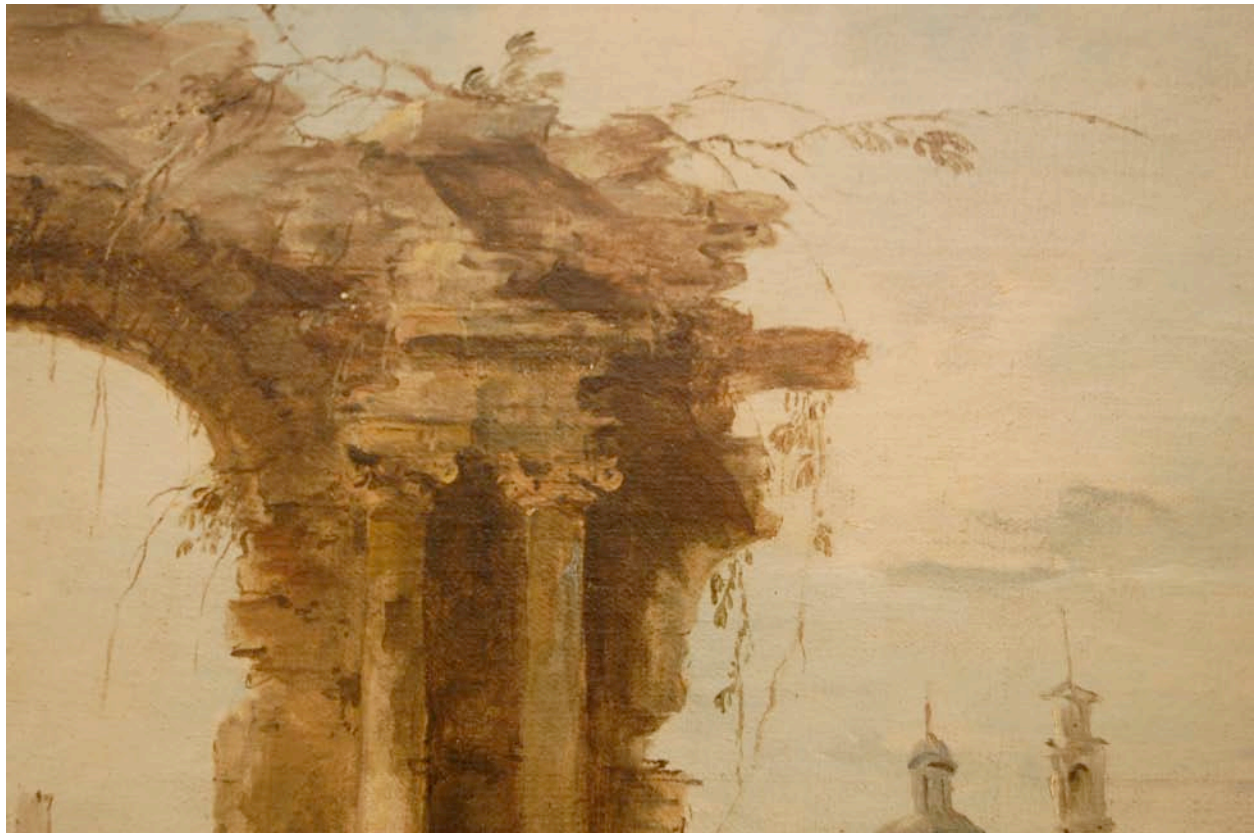
—Decree of the Second Council of Nicaea, 787













The mind is the real instrument of sight and observation, the eyes act as a sort of vessel receiving and transmitting the visible portion of the consciousness.

—Pliny, *Natural History*











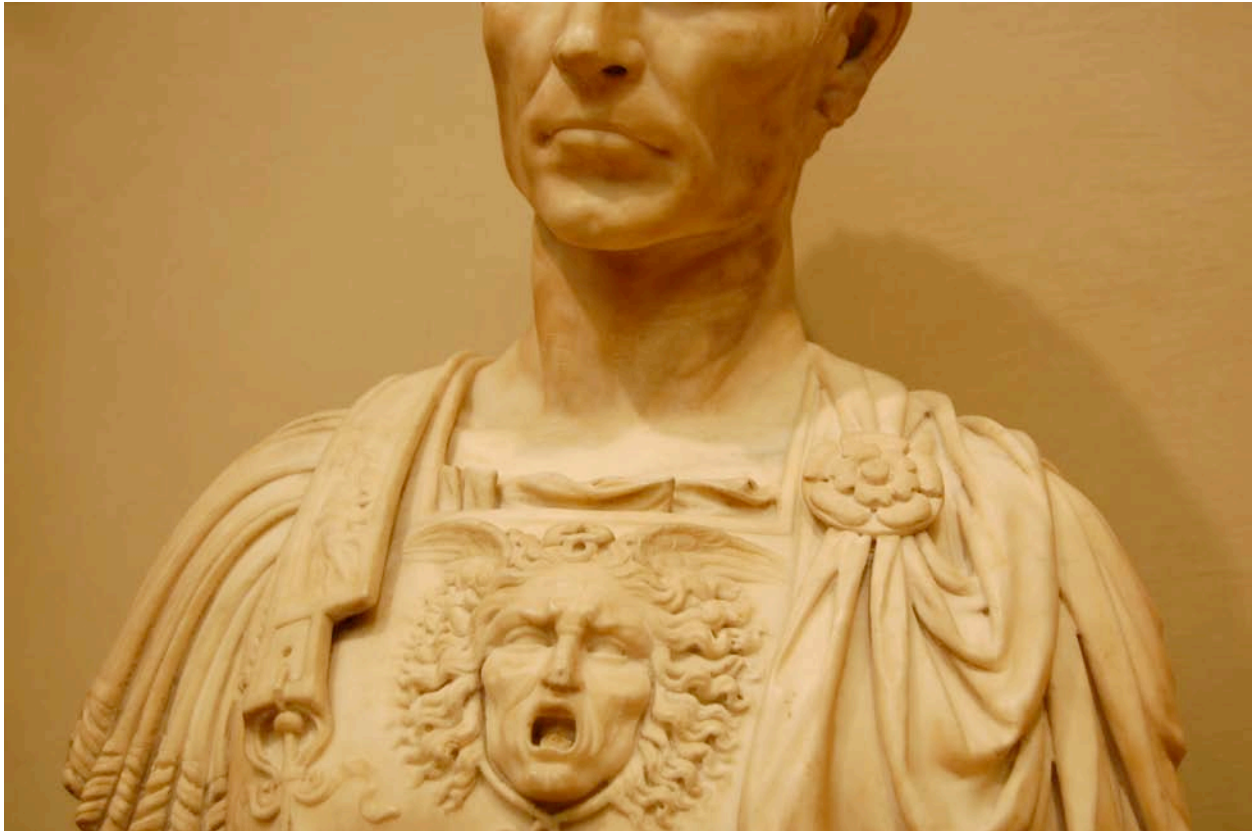
Nothing visible is understood by the sense of sight alone, save light and colors.

—Alhazen, c. 1000 AD





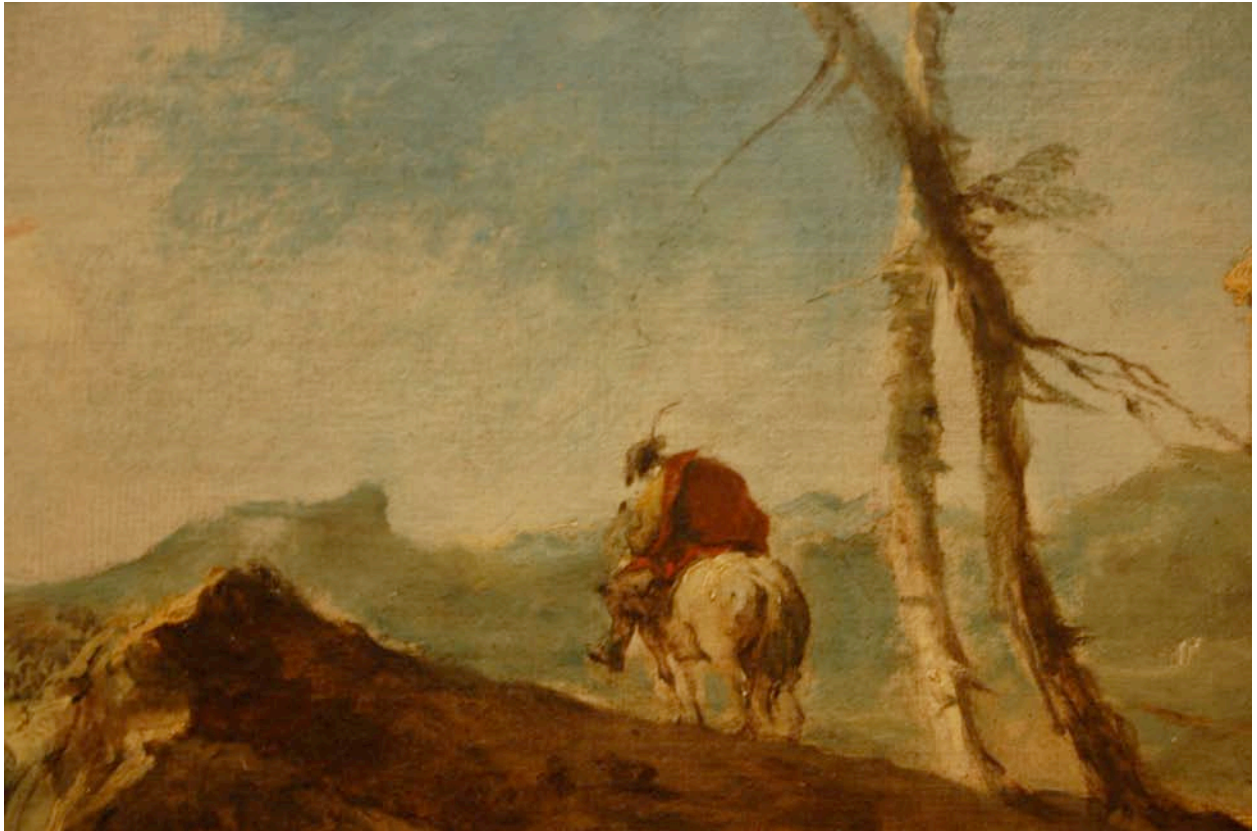






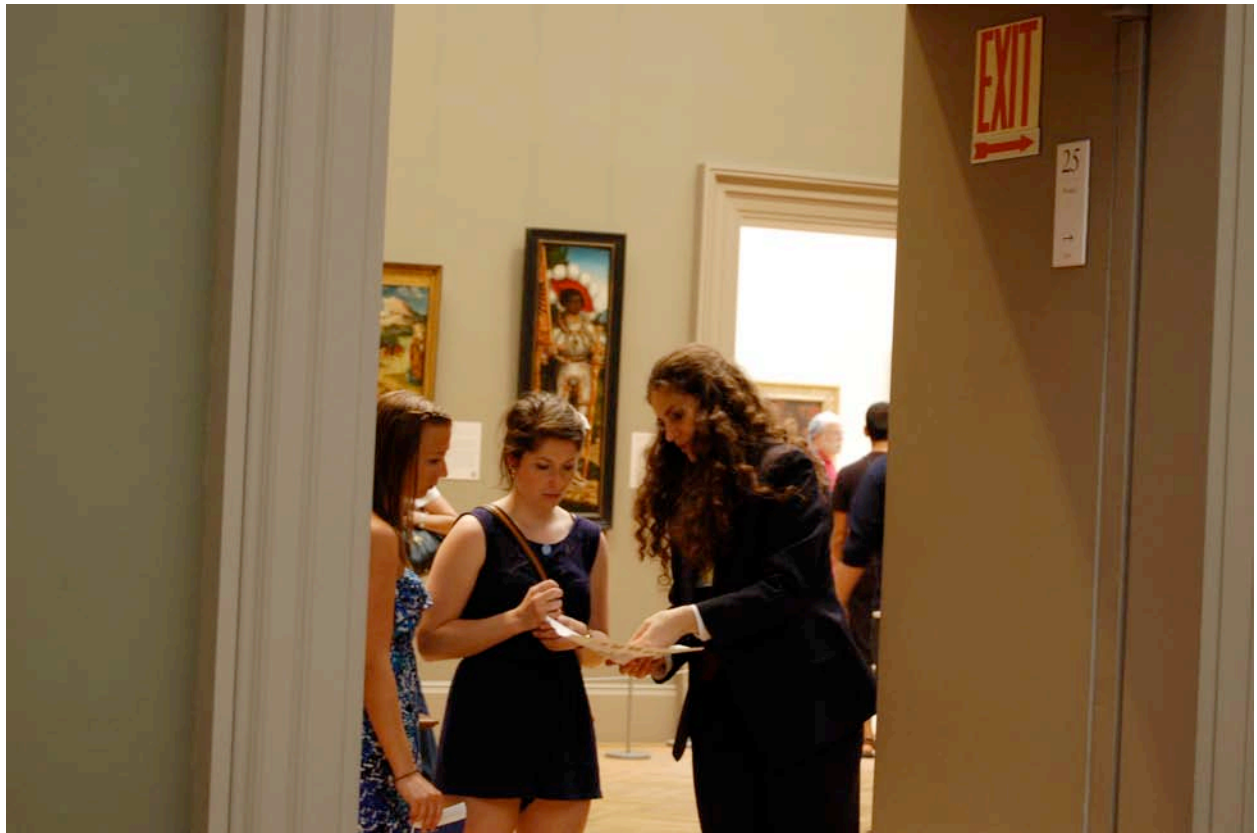
...it took the war to teach it, that you were as responsible for everything you saw as you were for everything you did. The problem was that you didn't always know what you were seeing until later, maybe years later, that a lot of it never made it at all, it just stayed stored there in your eyes.

—Michael Herr, *Dispatches*



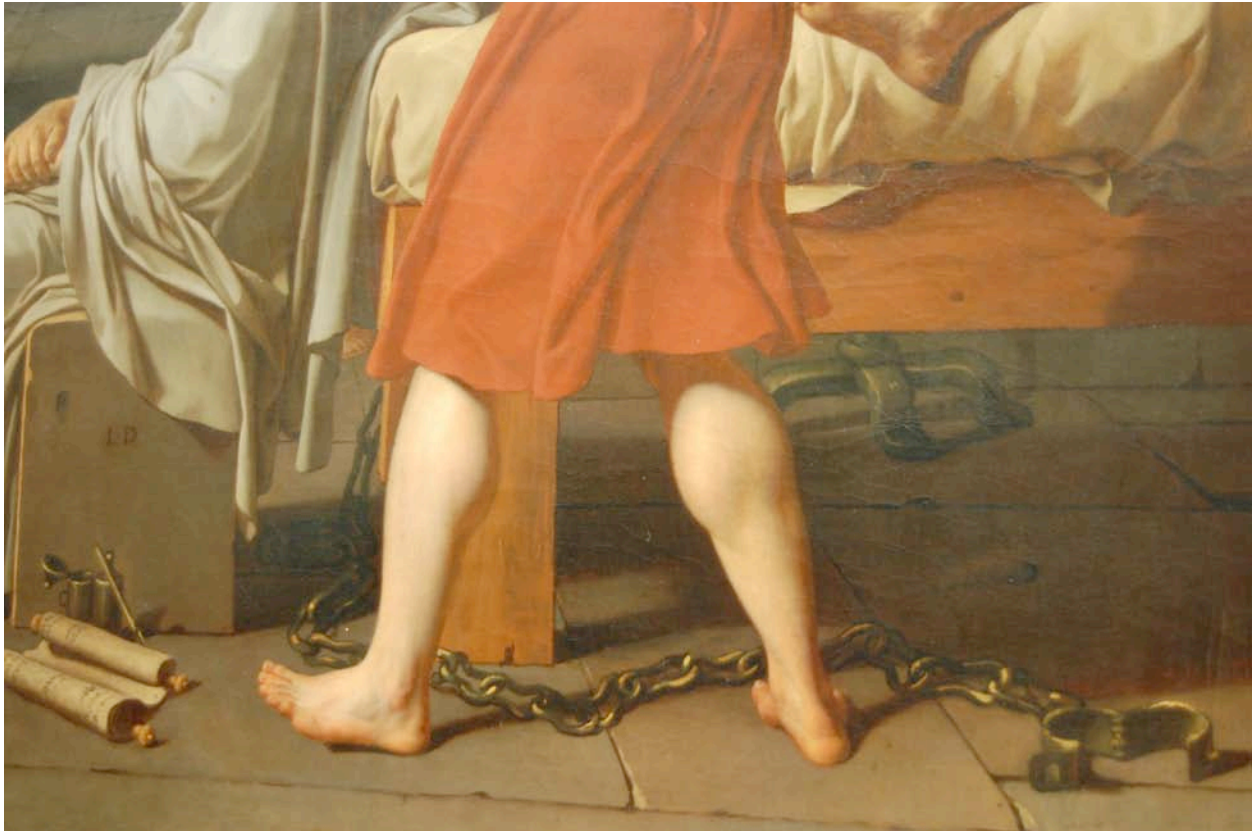


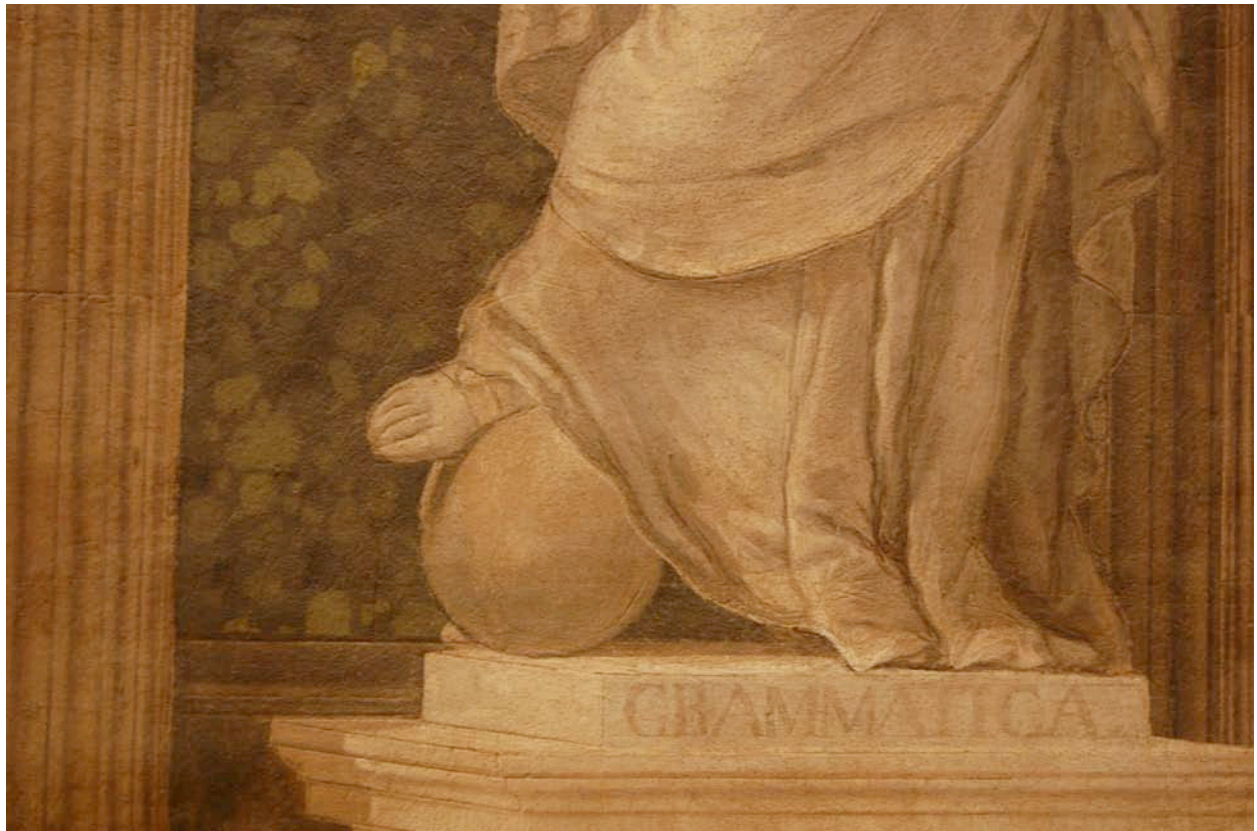














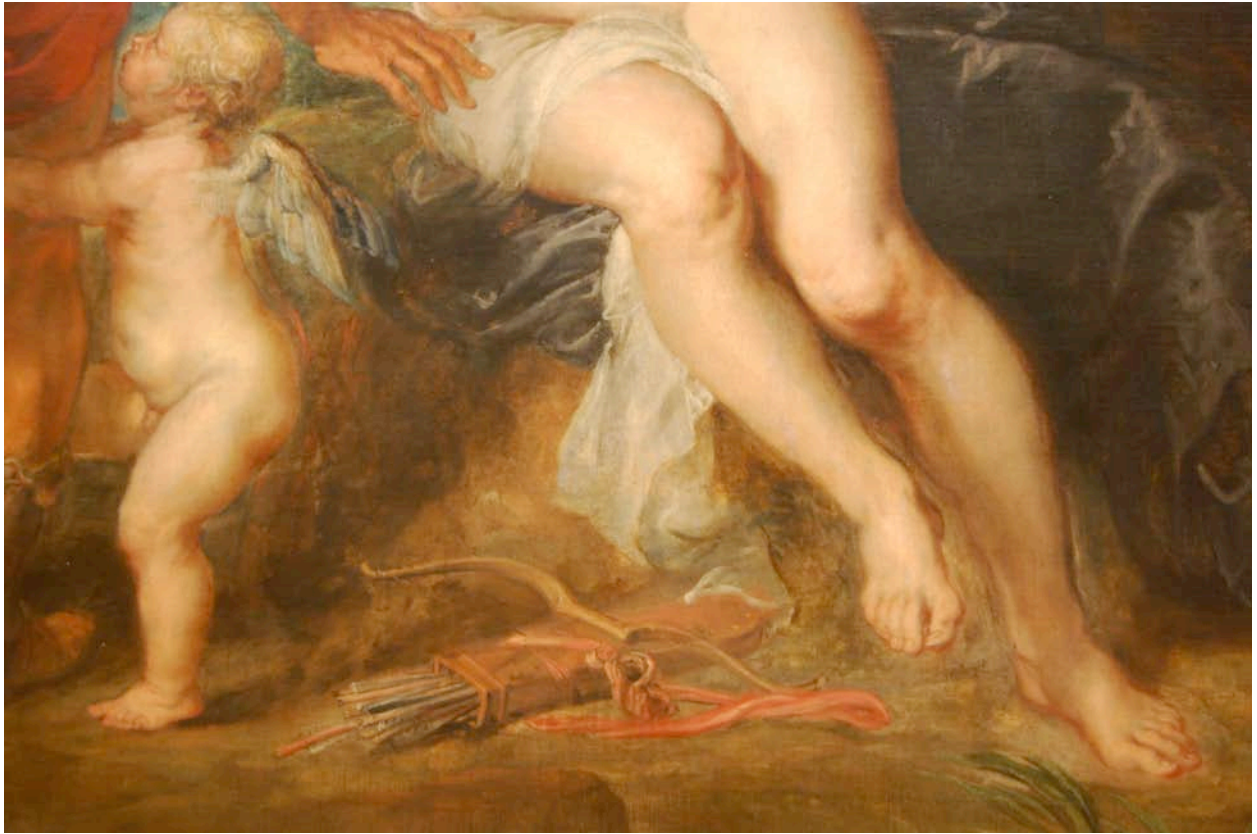


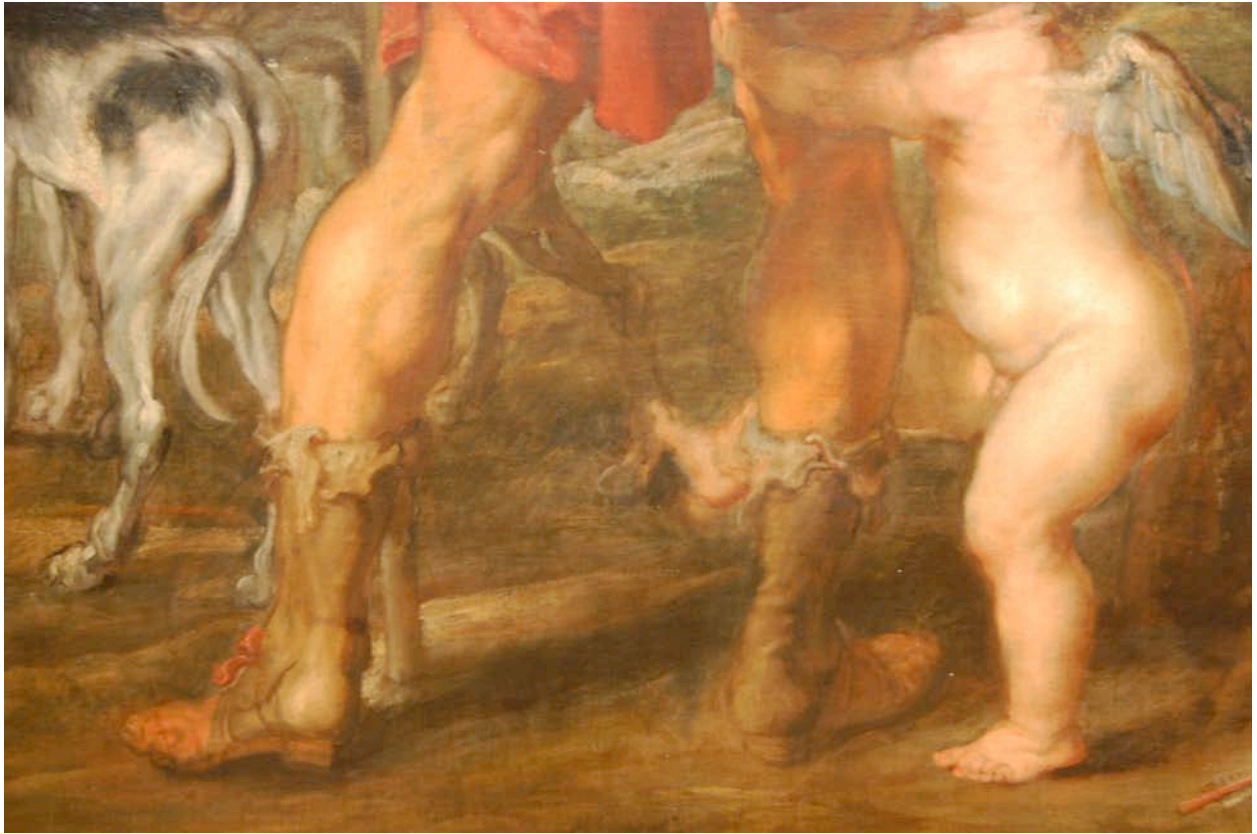






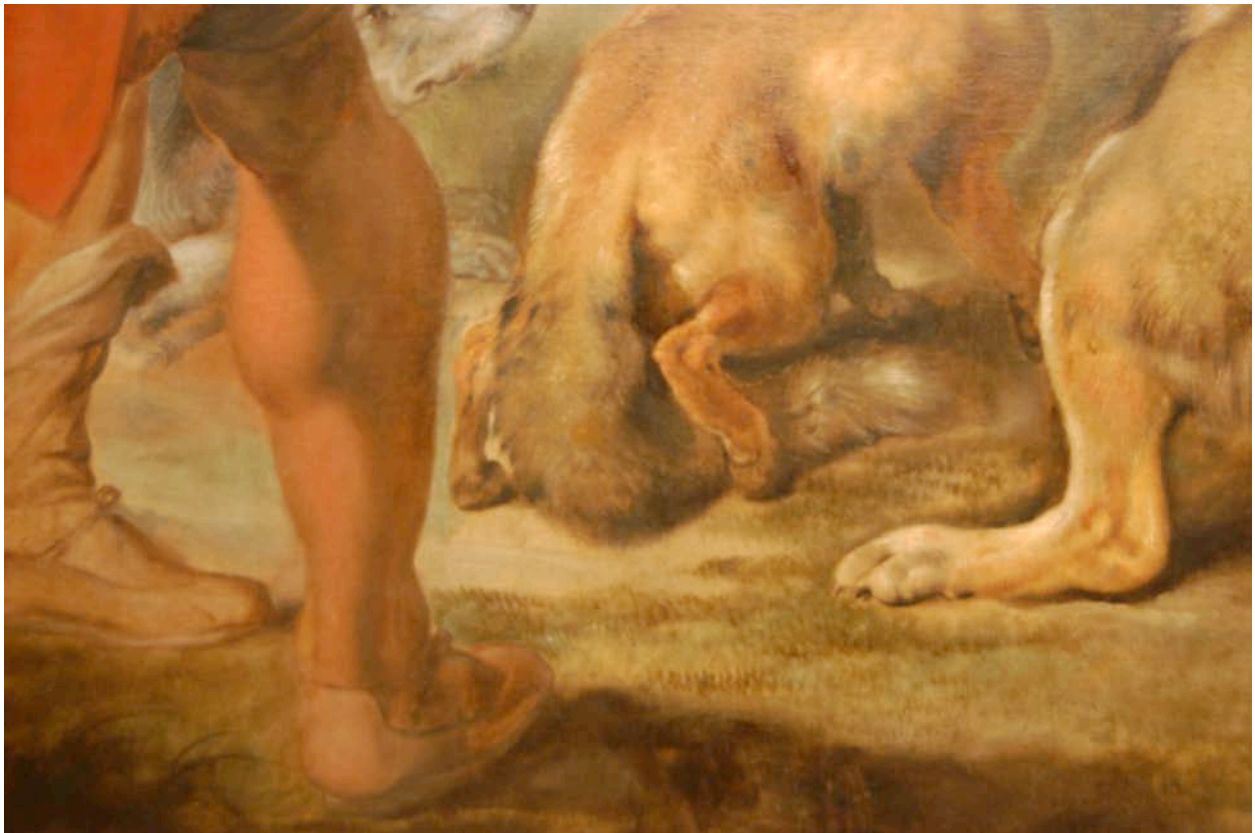






My mind is intent on singing of shapes changed into new bodies.

—Ovid, first line of *Metamorphosis*















Beauty, which is nothing but proportion, has an authority over humans which they cannot defend themselves against.

—Claude Nicolas Ledoux



