

BIBLIOGRAPHIC NOTES

Giampietrino

Giampietrino's name is primarily associated with his body of work. The National Gallery in London provides the following information: “Little is known about Giampietrino {...} Although their attribution may be uncertain, the paintings attributed to this artist form a stylistically coherent group (1). They reflect the influence {...} of Cesare da Sesto and, above all, Leonardo.”

He is said to have been active between 1508 and 1553. He may have been an apprentice in Leonardo da Vinci's workshop between 1497 and 1500, under the name Gian Pietro (2), although this connection with the master has not been clearly established. A painter of the Lombard school, he was strongly influenced by Leonardo da Vinci.

With the assistance of his workshop, he produced a large number of paintings, combining copies and variations with compositions of his own.

According to Franck Zöllner, Giampietrino very probably had direct access (3) to Leonardo da Vinci's works, particularly in the case of *Leda* (4). For this painting, he had initially planned to execute Leonardo da Vinci's *Saint Anne*. He first transferred the sketch of *Saint Anne* onto the panel from the master's cartoon, then painted *Leda* over it. He (and/or Boltraffio) also executed a copy of *The Last Supper* (Royal Academy of Arts, London).

(1): This is confirmed by the Italian Treccani encyclopaedia: “There is a lack of documents, and there are no signed works by him; his identity is reconstructed solely on stylistic grounds.”

(2): *Codex Atlanticus* (713r, around 1497), Biblioteca Ambrosiana, Milan.

(3): Zöllner, F. (2003), *Léonard de Vinci*, Taschen, p. 246: “In any event, and as the comparisons with other paintings and drawings by Leonardo cited above tend to suggest, Giampietrino had direct access to his master's works.”

(4): Zöllner, F. (2003), *Léonard de Vinci*, Taschen, p. 188. *Leda* (*Leda and Her Children*), around 1508-1513, in the art museum in Kassel, is a copy (without the swan) of Leonardo's now-lost *Leda and the Swan*, which is better known through the numerous reproductions made of it.