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Epitaph for Raphael's Tomb, c. 1520

Shearman, J.

Shearman, J. (2003) *Raphael in Early Modern Sources 1483–1602*, 2 vols, New Haven, CT and London, Yale University Press, vol. 1, p. 640, translation by K. Christian.

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[The inscription, possibly written by Pietro Bembo, was placed at the artist's grave in the Pantheon.]

TO THE MEMORY OF RAPHAEL SON OF GIOVANNI SANTI OF URBINO, THE MOST EMINENT PAINTER AND RIVAL OF THE ANCENTS. BEHOLD HIS ALMOST-BREATHING IMAGES AND YOU WILL EASILY SEE THE ALLIANCE OF NATURE AND ART.

WITH HIS WORKS OF PAINTING AND ARCHITECTURE HE SWELLED THE GLORY OF POPES JULIUS II AND LEO X

HE LIVED VIRTUOUSLY 37 VIRTUOUS YEARS

AND DIED ON HIS ON THE DAY OF HIS BIRTH, APRIL 6, 1520

THIS IS RAPHAEL. IN HIS LIFE

GREAT MOTHER NATURE FEARED DEFEAT

AND IN HIS DEATH SHE HERSELF FEARED TO DIE