Diary of Marcantonio Michiel, 6 April 1520

SHEARMAN, J.

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[Michiel was a Venetian nobleman and art enthusiast who was living temporarily in Rome at the time of Raphael’s death.]

Raphael of Urbino most excellent painter and architect of the church of St. Peter’s has died, to the great sorrow of everyone and of the Pope, who had sent someone many times to visit him. He was a young man of 34, and he left 3,000 ducats in cash behind, and houses, property in Urbino, and the house where he lived that he bought for 3,000 ducats, therefore altogether 16,000 ducats. All men of letters are grieving his death, since he never finished the description and survey of ancient Rome that he was working on, which was indeed a wonderful thing […] He died at the 3 hour after sunset on Holy Friday, with Saturday coming, the day of his birthday.