

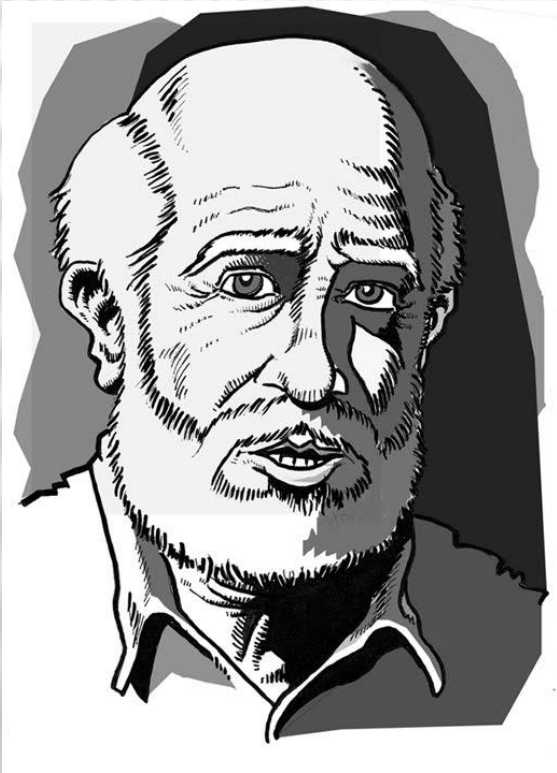
Element of Art

VALUE

# WHAT IS VALUE

In art, value is used to describe lights and darks. There are two ways value is used in art:

- Tone: to describes the lightness and darkness of colors.
- Chiaroscuro: to demonstrate how light interacts with objects.



# tone

Describes the lightness and darkness of colors.

It can be used to help define a specific color or the overall color in a work of art.

## Vocabulary used to describe tone:

Tint- adding *white* to a color to make it *lighter*.

Shade-adding *black* to a color to make it *darker*.

Contrast- describes the differences between lights and darks in a work of art.

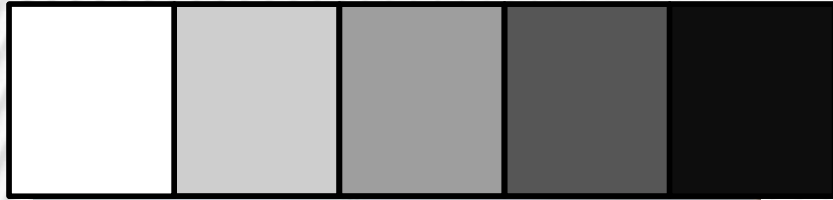
(Ex: high contrast = Black and White; Low contrast: gray)

Tonal Scale: a chart that show *sharp, distinctive transition* from light to dark (Think steps).

Gradation Scale: a chart that show a smooth the transition from light to dark. (think light fading into dark)

**VALUE SCALES** A chart that shows a gradual transition from light to dark values

Tonal Scale: a chart that show *sharp, distinctive transition* from light to dark.



Gradation Scale: a chart that show a *smooth transition* from light to dark.



# CHIAROSCURO

An Italian word meaning "light-dark". In art it is used to describe how light *interacts* with objects.

Stages of values in Chiaroscuro

Highlight

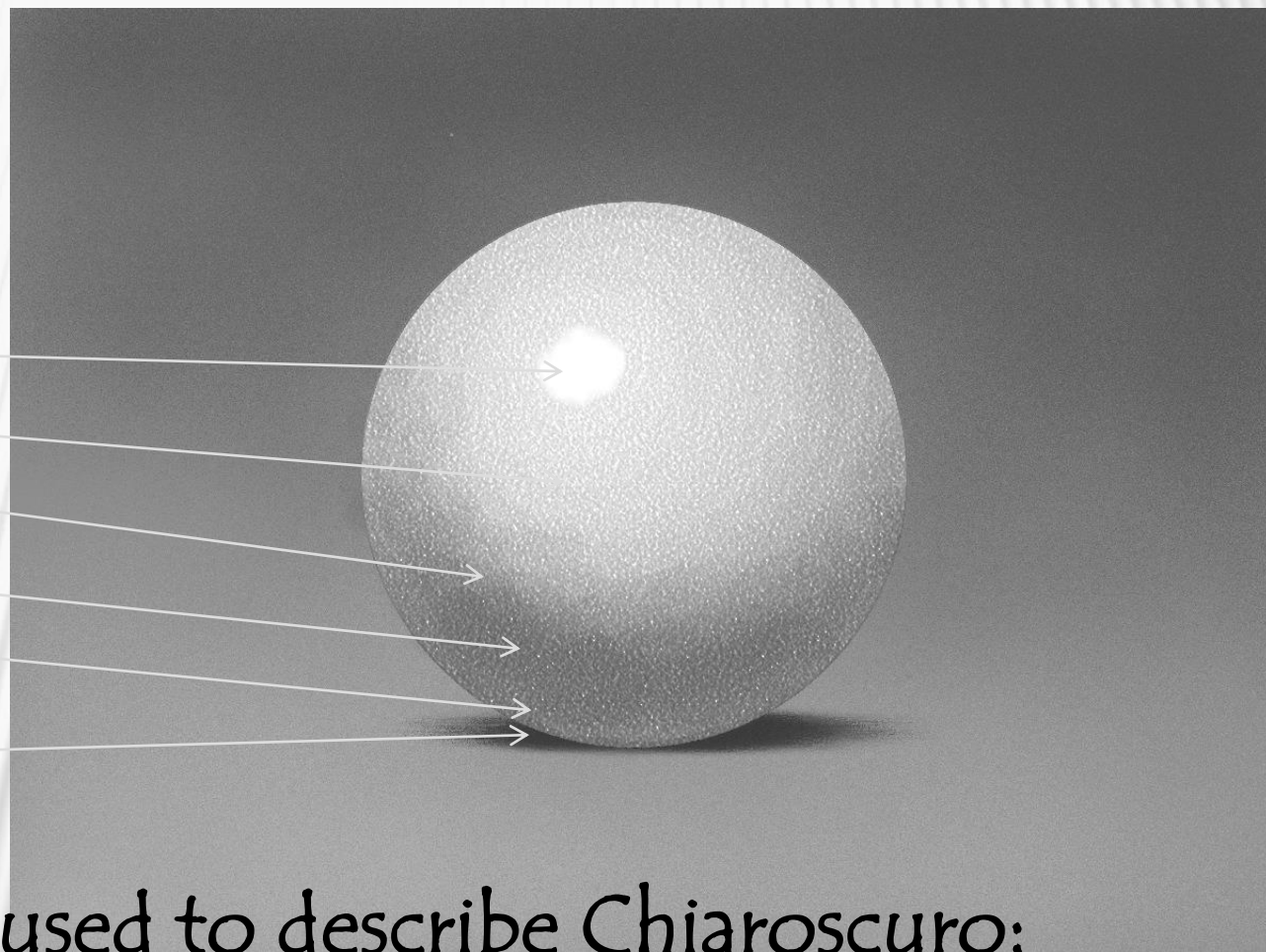
Mid-tone

Shadow

Core Shadow

Reflected Light

Cast Shadow



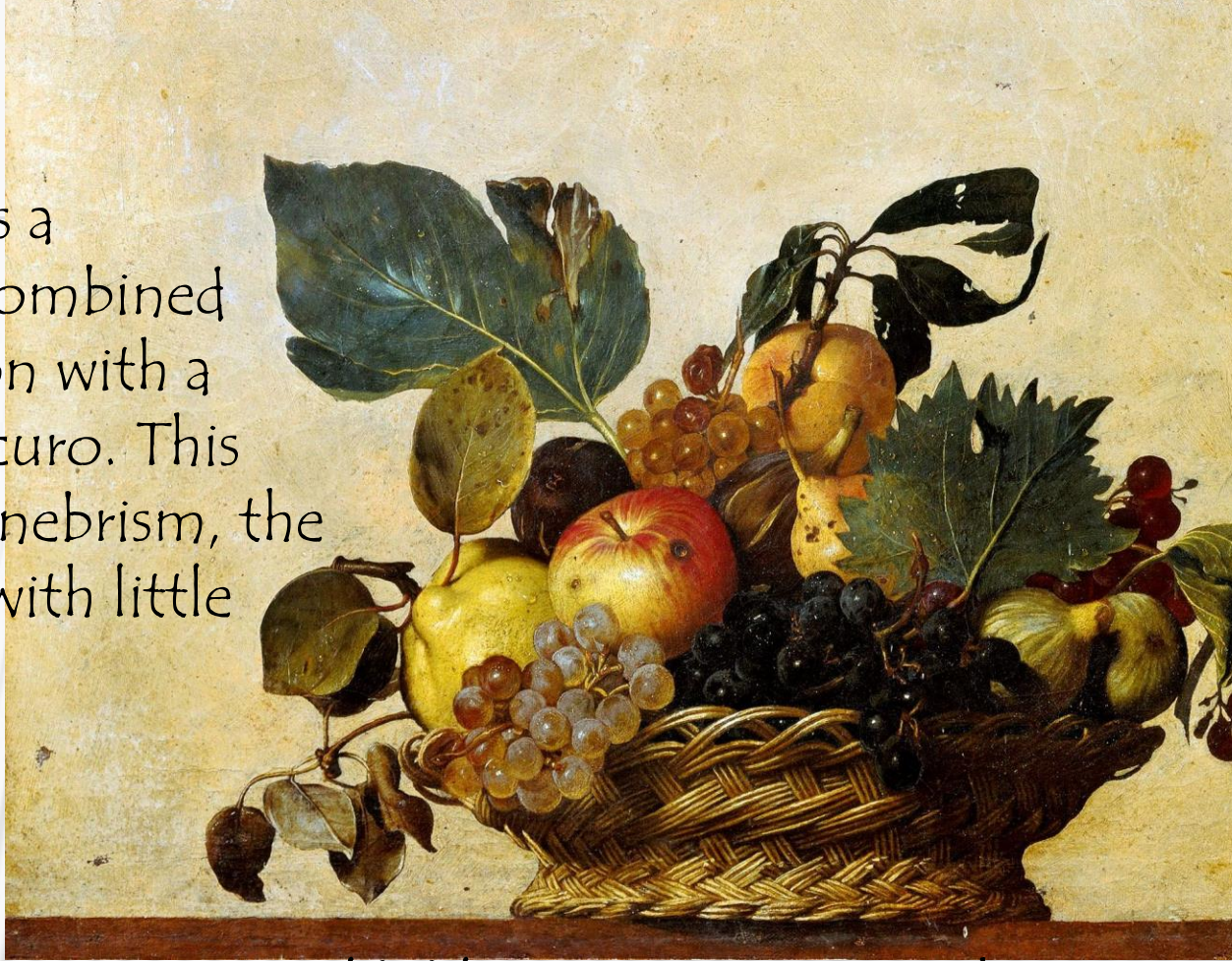
**Vocabulary used to describe Chiaroscuro:**

High Key: overall artwork has more Highlights than Low.

Low Key: Overall artwork has more Lowlights than High.

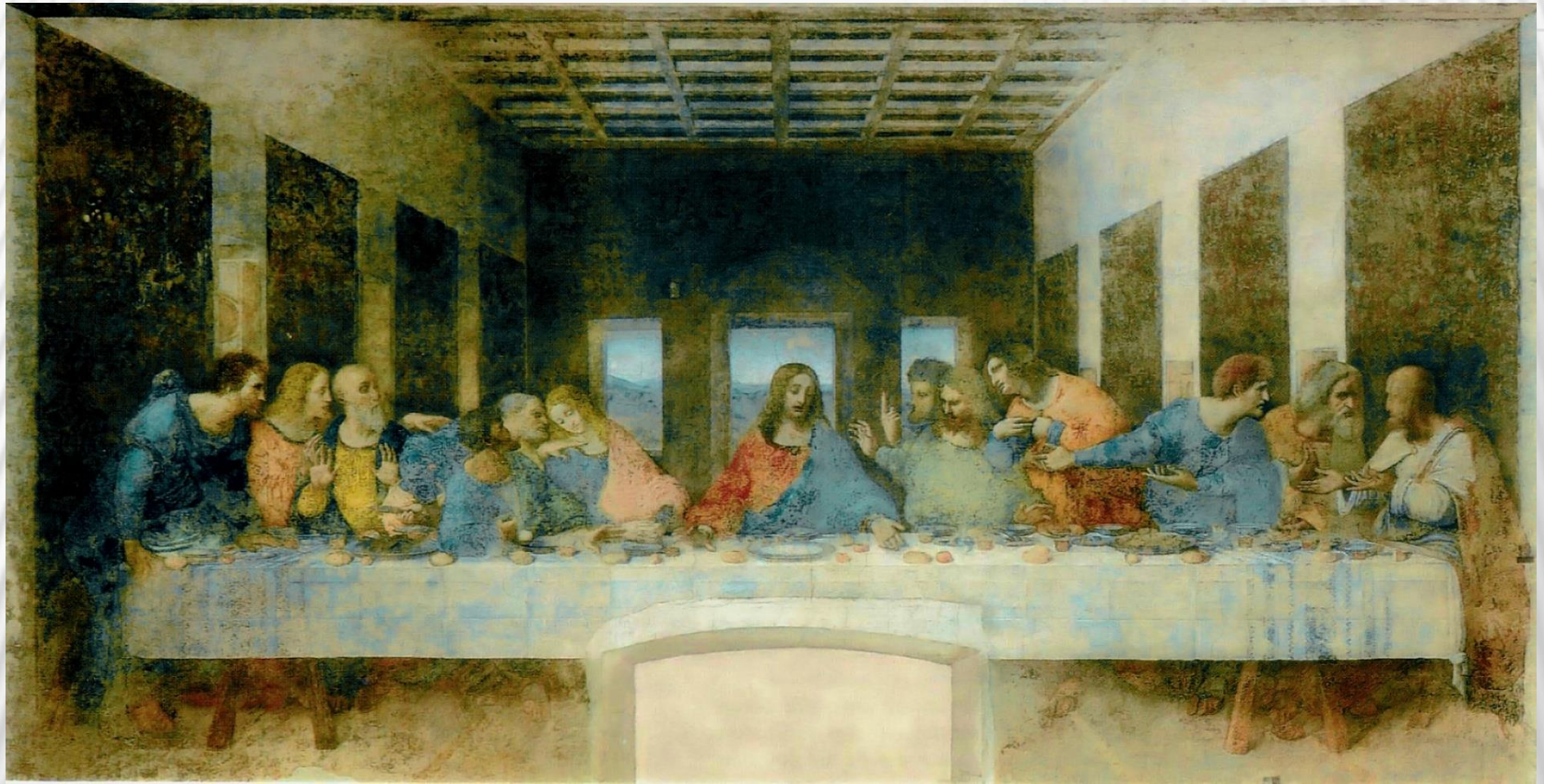
# CARAVAGGIO

Caravaggio's novelty was a radical naturalism that combined close physical observation with a dramatic, use of chiaroscuro. This came to be known as Tenebrism, the shift from light to dark with little intermediate value.



He also started to "update" traditional bible stories to make them accessible to the common person. He did this by putting classic saints and religious figures in current modern clothing and settings but still relied on traditional iconography people were familiar with to identify the seen.

# RENAISSANCE PAINTINGS



Red= symbolizes the presence of God and the blood of martyrs

Blue= symbolize heavenly grace

Gold (the metal) circle around someone = the light of God

Figures are usually shown wearing clothing that was similar to ancient Greeks/Romans (robes and togas) less important people where usually shown in more current clothing and were usually portraits of people who commissioned the artwork.







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Painting commissioned by Cardinal Matthieu Cointerel (in Italian, Matteo Contarelli) had left in his will funds and specific instructions for the decoration of a chapel based on themes related to his namesake, St Matthew. Caravaggio was the artist chosen for the commission.

The painting depicts the story from the Gospel of Matthew (Matthew 9:9): "Jesus saw a man named Matthew at his seat in the custom house, and said to him, "Follow me", and Matthew rose and followed Him." Caravaggio depicts Matthew the tax collector sitting at a table with four other men. Jesus Christ and Saint Peter have entered the room, and Jesus is pointing at Matthew. A beam of light illuminates the faces of the men at the table who are looking at Christ.

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT CARAVAGGIO:

- Started painting in a hyper (super) realistic style
- Would "stage" what he was looking at to make it as realistic as possible
- Made religious stories accessible to current events (put all people in current clothing and setting)
- Used Chiaroscuro (use of light and shadows) to represent "Truth" (knowledge and understanding)

