

SUPPLEMENTI

# La Galleria dell'Eneide di palazzo Buonaccorsi a Macerata.

Nuove letture e prospettive  
di ricerca per il Settecento  
europeo



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## La Galleria dell'Eneide di Palazzo Buonaccorsi a Macerata. Nuove letture e prospettive di ricerca per il Settecento europeo

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Nuove letture e prospettive di  
ricerca per il Settecento europeo

a cura di Giuseppe Capriotti, Francesca Coltrinari,  
Patrizia Dragoni, Susanne Adina Meyer, Massimiliano Rossi

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## Parte III

Parole e immagini: letture iconografiche

# The Painter at the Crossroads: Sebastiano Ricci in Florence and the Interplay between the Arts

Rodolfo Maffei\*

## *Abstract*

This paper examines Sebastiano Ricci's pictorial activity in Florence, with the aim of elucidating the sophisticated set of visual references through which the Venetian painter enriched his culture during his stay in the Tuscan city. The study addresses at first the decorative cycle of Palazzo Marucelli, a close analysis of which reveals Ricci's fascination for the Florentine sculpture of the Cinquecento. New hints are then given on the painter's articulated relationship with Florentine "stuccatori" and "quadraturisti", who worked alongside him in the palace. Lastly, the article focuses on some relevant English commissions, where previous experiences converge, however with some minor changes aimed at meeting the aesthetic demands of the foreign audience.

Il presente contributo esamina l'attività pittorica di Sebastiano Ricci a Firenze, analizzando il sofisticato complesso di riferimenti visivi con i quali il pittore veneto

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This study is part of a larger research project on Ricci to which I could devote myself as Andrew W. Mellon Fellow in the Department of European Paintings at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in 2014-2015. My sincerest thanks to Keith Christiansen, Andrea Bayer, Xavier F. Salomon and Stephan Wolohojian for their tutorship, encouragement and fruitful conversation.

arricchisce la propria cultura durante la sua permanenza nella città toscana. Lo studio sonda dapprincipio l'influenza, sia iconografica che stilistica, della grande scultura fiorentina del Cinquecento nel ciclo decorativo di Palazzo Marucelli. Quindi tratteggia alcuni aspetti innovativi dell'articolato rapporto di Ricci con gli stuccatori e i quadraturisti fiorentini che lo affiancarono nell'impresa. Infine si sofferma sui cantieri inglesi nei quali tali esperienze precedenti confluiscono, ma dove intervengono anche sottili modifiche legate alle aspettative estetiche di un pubblico non italiano.

One of the most important stages of Sebastiano Ricci's artistic pilgrimage was Florence. Early contacts between the Gran Principe Ferdinando de' Medici and the painter date from 1704, through Niccolò Cassana in Venice, and concern the commission of an altarpiece for the church of San Francesco de' Macci. The Medici's updated patronage must have subsequently led the painter to the city between 1705 and 1707<sup>1</sup>.

When he was in Florence, Sebastiano also weaved relationships with some of the members of the aristocracy, which longed to align themselves with the patronage of the reigning family. And possibly challenge it. These contacts did not always lead to good results: for the Gaddi family, for example, Ricci designed an *Allegory of Tuscany* whose preparatory drawing still exists, with a note in a contemporary hand: «Not executed because it was not possible to reach an agreement on the price»<sup>2</sup>.

On another occasion, however, the Florentine aristocrats were less stingy and more forward-looking, and Ricci created for them a painted decoration that is unanimously considered as the birth certificate of the Italian Rococo. It was the case of the Marucelli<sup>3</sup>.

Palazzo Marucelli on Via San Gallo, Florence, is located not far from the ancient Palazzo Medici di Via Larga, a landmark of the district of the city most closely connected with the early Medici. The Marucelli palace bears a façade designed by Gherardo Silvani around 1630, whose somewhat severe

<sup>1</sup> For the documentation and discussion on Ricci's contacts and permanence in Florence see: Haskell 2000, p. 387, doc. A; Daniels 1973; D'Arcais 1973a, pp. 18-19; Daniels 1976, pp. XIII, 28-38; Del Torre 2002; I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, pp. 43-65, 130-164; F. Farneti, in Farneti, Bertocci 2002, pp. 72-74; Scarpa 2006, pp. 29-34, 64-65; Röttgen 2007, p. 334; M. Chiarini, in Pavanello 2010, pp. 62, 66; Freddolini 2013, pp. 57-59, 166-168, 170-171; Stefani 2015, pp. 80-84, 159-162.

<sup>2</sup> «Bastian Ricci Veneziano Il modello è in Palazzo de' Pitti che fu fatto p(er) farlo Fresco in Casa Gaddi e non ne fu fatto altro o(er) non esser stati d('accordo) del Prezzo» (cf. D'Arcais 1973c, p. 6; Daniels 1976, pp. 29-30; Marinelli G., in Pavanello 2010, p. 68). Ricci's fees were notoriously high. Angiola Pellegrini wrote in a letter to Rosalba Carriera (dated 9 June 1714) that some of the painter's English patrons were afraid of his requests (cf. Daniels 1976a, p. XVII; Sani 1985, pp. 282-283; X. Salomon, in Pavanello 2010, p. 72).

<sup>3</sup> A long line of authoritative scholars (Longhi, Pallucchini, Haskell, D'Arcais, Rosenberg) indeed shares the opinion that the main features of eighteenth-century decoration were ultimately rooted in this cycle, cf. Daniels 1976a, p. XIII. See also Röttgen 2007, pp. 330-343.



style derives from the great Roman palaces of the Renaissance<sup>4</sup>. At the height of the Baroque Age the Palazzo Medici was decorated with frescoes by Luca Giordano. Relying on this precedent, in the first decade of eighteenth century, Sebastiano Ricci was commissioned to create a cycle of both frescoes and canvases in five rooms on the first floor of the Marucelli palace<sup>5</sup>.

The family had come to wealth in the previous century with the silk trade, but at the beginning of the eighteenth century their activities were based mainly on baking and politics. In those days the family had close ties with the Medici: of the male descendants, Giovanni Filippo was a member of the holy order and secretary of State to the Grand Duke, while his brothers – Orazio and Giuseppe – were both senators<sup>6</sup>. Not surprisingly, such political connections played a role in the iconography of the cycle; moreover the painter himself shown an apt readiness to incorporate the distinct visual tradition of the city and of its sculptural tradition in particular, thus taking an active part in the process of adaptation of the decoration to the Florentine context<sup>7</sup>.

The first room is dedicated to the *The Golden Age* (fig. 1). In the central compartment Peace and Abundance walk over the clouds while Mars – the god of war – is pushed out of the heavens. Around the central scene, some *putti* and Furies in naturalistic colors stand out against a gold background. The reflections of the large gold surface dazzle. This gold background was a true innovation in Florence and possibly brings memories of the mosaics of San Marco in Venice. The figure of Mars is painted on a raised area of *stucco* to emphasize the impression of a realistic fall beyond the frame. Although the source of this three-dimensional effect can be identified in the baroque frescoes by Giovan Battista Gaulli in the Church of the Gesù in Rome, here the illusion is not aimed at persuasion in a religious sense, but just at pure entertainment: the intellectual pleasure of the iconography is enhanced by the optical – and almost tactile – illusion of Mars flowing over the frame. In a way, the falling

<sup>4</sup> For a thorough reconstruction of the history of the palace and its owners, see I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, chapters I-III.

<sup>5</sup> The main bibliographical references on Ricci's interventions at Palazzo Marucelli are: Haskell 2000, pp. 240-241, 387; Daniels 1973; D'Arcais 1973a-b-c; M. Chiarini, in Rossen 1974, pp. 158-159, 304-305; 308-309; Daniels 1976a, pp. XIII, 32-38; Daniels 1976b, pp. 106-108; I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, *passim*; Scarpa 2006, pp. 29-34, 187-193; Röttgen 2007, pp. 330-343; V. Conticelli, in Sisi, Spinelli 2009, pp. 156-159, 178-181; M. Chiarini, in Pavanello 2010, pp. 62-65; P. Maccioni, in Gregori, Visonà 2012, pp. 48-51; C. Brovadan, in Gregori, Visonà 2015, pp. 156-160.

<sup>6</sup> I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, pp. 31-81.

<sup>7</sup> Among the scholars who noticed somewhat the influence of Florentine sculpture in the cycle, only Isabella Bigazzi carried out a first, substantial survey of possible sources (see I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, pp. 55-56, 146, 157, 160-163). Freddolini (2013, p. 58) is inclined to think that Ricci aimed at challenging the local sculptural masterpieces within the rhetorics of the *paragone* debate. Others addressed the topic briefly and exclusively in connection with the fictive marble group of *Hercules and Antaeus* in the Room of Hercules (see discussion below): Pilo 1976, p. 45; Daniels 1976a, pp. 36-38; Scarpa 2006, p. 33; Röttgen 2007, p. 335.

god is “becoming incarnate” through the mutual help of the painting and the *stucco* relief.

Here we find a first declaration of what will be Ricci’s innovation in these rooms: overcoming the theoretical opposition of the long standing debate on the *paragone* between the arts, the painter mixes the two media to increase the amazement, and then the enjoyment, of the viewer.

What gold does, basically, is to change color and multiply the reflections according to the source of illumination. The apartment was intended for summer use, hence it was principally approached from the garden. The room has two windows that provide good daylight, but in the evening, in the candlelight, the effect of movement of the *putti* on the shiny golden vaults had to be intense. The surface indeed is not flat, but concave, and dense shadows play on it. A hitherto unpublished preparatory drawing for the scene of *The Golden Age*, – where a *putto* harnesses a wolf and a lamb while two others burn trophies of war (Windsor, RL 7128, fig. 2)<sup>8</sup> –, shows that such an emphasis on shadows was already there, in the first thought of the painter. Furthermore, in a nice contrast of materials, the fur of the wolf and the wool of the lamb – resting together as a sign of Peace (Isaiah 11.6) – make a statement of naturalism against such a precious background.

The ceiling contains a political message: in another section a Fury is hurling a torch at two *putti*, who protect themselves by hiding beneath a standard with the coat of arms of the Marucelli. The scene is a reference to the role of peace keeper of Giovanni Filippo, who was appointed Knight of Santo Stefano and used to live in these rooms.

A subtle tribute to the Medici patronage is the representation of the *Sleeping Cupid*, on which a nymph is scattering flowers. One of the most famous pieces of the grand-ducal collections was indeed the *Sleeping Cupid* by Caravaggio, a painted version of the ancient sculpture that, according to Vasari, was also imitated by the young Michelangelo. Caravaggio’s Cupid has a pale and cadaverous body, starkly illuminated in grazing light, and has the black wings of a raven. Ricci’s child is fair less dramatic, but undoubtedly related to that precedent. A tribute to the same Medici piece had already been commissioned by the family Dell’Antella in 1620, when they had it portrayed by Giovanni da San Giovanni on the façade of their palace in Piazza Santa Croce, where it still can be seen, although worn by four centuries of sun and rain.

A powerful complement to Ricci’s fresco, is that of the two Tritons and two Nereids modeled out of *stucco* in very high relief in the corners of the room. The Tritons appear to be desperate for the fall of Mars, while the Nereids play musical instruments to express their joy at the advent of Peace. According to the documents, Giovanni Baratta was responsible for these *stucchi*, being

<sup>8</sup> Daniels 1976a, p. 34, note 2.

paid for them in September 1705<sup>9</sup>. However, due to the unparalleled intensity of these works in Baratta's career and their stylistic similarities with Ricci's frescoes, there is a general critical agreement that the latter might have supplied the preparatory drawings<sup>10</sup>.

If one compares Baratta's sculptural details to Ricci's *Taming of Cupid* on the ceiling of another room, close affinities not only in the posture but also in the substance of the flesh become evident. And there is definitely a connection between the free brushstrokes of the eyes, nose and lips of the Venus in the same painting and the handling in the putty-knife work of the Nereids.

Ricci again reprised the type of the Triton when he envisioned the fictive bronzes, painted in dark green with gilded highlights, in the four corners of the last and main room: the *Salone d'Ercole*. A further example of the tight stylistic affinity between the *stucchi* and the frescoes is in the flying Fury that falls over a scared putto (fig. 3). The monster can be easily compared with analogous creatures modeled out of *stucco* on the gold leaf in an adjacent room, which holds no paintings by Ricci, but where his teaching clearly resonates (fig. 4).

The main theme of the second room can be defined as *Youth choosing between Virtue and Vice* (fig. 5). It is a joyful composition which – far from stigmatizing the decadence of vices – depicts instead a festive celebration of the pleasures of life. The intense coloring of the figures along the edges creates a *chiaroscuro* contrast and a three-dimensional effect of nearly tangible bodies, that gradually fades in the brightness of the sky on top of the vault.

But what amazes the beholder is the interaction between the *stucco* figures in very high relief and the painted scenes: the *stucchi* not only help to unify the whole composition by providing an intermediate zone between the walls and the ceiling, additionally they create a true counterpart to the frescoes. Painted lovers are flanked by *stucco* nymphs pouring flowers; tritons are riding marine horses in *stucco* sea waves; images of men laying on the cornice possibly deriving from the *Torso del Belvedere* correspond to figures of gods with high-arched backs in the frescoes<sup>11</sup>.

The game of mirrors between painting and sculpture is epitomized in a joke in a corner of the second room, where a colored *stucco* monkey – famously associated with Painting in Renaissance art treatises – looks into the mouth of a lion, whose tail is frescoed while the rest of the body gradually emerges from the wall, with the head and paws of *stucco* in high relief (fig. 6).

This detail has been overlooked so far, whereas it's very revealing. The iconographic reference is a tale of Phaedrus in which the lion, in an attempt to approach and devour the monkey, asks her if his breath stinks. Instead she

<sup>9</sup> Freddolini 2013, p. 168.

<sup>10</sup> D'Arcais 1973b, p. 19; Scarpa 2006, p. 31.

<sup>11</sup> Bigazzi pinpoints several citations of the Hellenistic marble in the frescoes, cf. I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, pp. 161-163.

responds that it smells of cinnamon as do the altars of the gods. Then the lion, pleased by the flattery, abandons his purpose and leaves the monkey alive. Astuteness of the animal, painter's wit: perhaps foreshadowing the superior deceptive abilities of painting over the pompous regality of sculpture.

Ricci's meditation on sculpture reaches its peak in the main hall. The *Room of Hercules* is entirely frescoed from the floor to the ceiling. On the walls, the Labors of Hercules can be seen through three arched openings, flanked by porphyry columns with bronze capitals and marble arches<sup>12</sup>. The remaining areas are inhabited by young smiling *putti* and satyrs, fruit garlands and white fictive statues of Allegories against gold background. The *Ascension of Hercules to the Olympus* decorates the vault within an oval framework, which emulates the opening of the heavens (fig. 7).

The Florentine specialist Giuseppe Tonelli (1668-1732) was responsible for the highly innovative *quadratura*<sup>13</sup>. Detached from the bold illusive Baroque architectures, his painted arcades are light, open, and theatrical, allowing Ricci's figures to move, expand, and fly in a boundless, luminous space which foreshadows Tiepolo's frescoes. The lightness of his architectural arrangement, based on strong color contrasts – violet, green, white, gold – is what gives the painting freedom to unfold without being forced into a corset of vanishing lines.

The character of Hercules was connected to the imagery and iconography of Florence since its foundation. As a symbol of city pride and Medici power the hero is recalled in many statues and paintings such as Bandinelli's group in front of the entrance of the Palazzo Vecchio, or Pietro da Cortona's ceiling pictures in the Palazzo Pitti. There is no doubt that, by choosing such a theme, the Marucelli intended to openly honor the reigning family<sup>14</sup>. At a deeper level the frescoes also hide a subtle network of references to the Medici's artistic patronage: among many examples we may mention the *Mercury* by Giambologna, while some echoes of Michelangelo's tombs can be seen in the figure of Neptune laid over the clouds.

On the walls, *The Fight of Hercules and the Centaur* is openly composed after the imposing marble group by Giambologna (fig. 8), whose political implications in relation to its original location at the Canto de' Carnesecchi have been perceptively elucidated by Michael Cole<sup>15</sup>. Once again, Marucelli's desire to flatter the Medici led to the insertion of an iconographic reference that turned into a stylistic suggestion for Ricci.

For the scene of *Hercules and Cacus*, Sebastiano relies on two distinct models of exceptionally muscular male bodies. In the *bozzetto* (fig. 9) he composes the

<sup>12</sup> The basic features of the architectural arrangement derive from the *Salone di Giovanni da San Giovanni* in Palazzo Pitti, see: D'Arcais 1973b, p. 22; Röttgen 2007, p. 334.

<sup>13</sup> On Florentine Baroque *quadratura* see: Farneti, Bertocci 2002; Farneti, Lenzi 2004; Gregori, Visonà 2012. On Tonelli: Raggi 2000; Farneti 2002; P. Maccioni, in Gregori, Visonà 2012, pp. 228-229; C. Brodavan, in Gregori, Visonà 2015, pp. 57-66; Brodavan 2016.

<sup>14</sup> Cf. I. Bigazzi, in Bigazzi, Ciuffoletti 2002, p. 151

<sup>15</sup> Cole 2011, pp. 263-273.

figure after the *Hercules Farnese*, that could be seen in various engravings or small bronze versions. Then he changes his mind and paints on the wall an entirely different Hercules (fig. 10): standing, viewed from behind with high-arched back, the head sunk between his shoulders, and a muscular texture that closely recalls the Neptune from the *Ocean Fountain* by Giambologna, at the Boboli Garden<sup>16</sup>.

However, the key-image of this room is the monochrome, or rather the fictive statue, of *Hercules and Antaeus* (fig. 11). The composition is clearly indebted to marble groups such as the *Hercules and Antaeus* by Vincenzo de Rossi (Firenze, Palazzo Vecchio), *The Rape of the Sabine Woman* by Giambologna (under the Loggia), and Ammannati's bronze once atop the fountain designed by Niccolò Tribolo for Villa Medici at Castello<sup>17</sup>. Ricci's version has a greater upward thrust, from the extreme curvature of the bodies to the arm that crosses the frame, and the dramatic light effect from below. The preparatory drawing appears to be a vigorous dynamic knot where the form seeks to release itself from the tangle of lines (fig. 12): up to five arms are visible in a hectic process of corrections whose intermediate stages are deliberately left detectable. The drawing was presented by Ricci to Tonelli, who proudly wrote two lines at the bottom to commemorate the fact<sup>18</sup>. Tonelli also added the year – «1707» – a date as pointed as the elbows agitated in the air.

To sum up: Ricci's attraction for sculpture, almost absent in his previous work, grew intensely during his stay in Florence. References to the Medici iconography, stemming from Marucelli's political connections, may have played a considerable role in the process. This had, in turn, a consequence on a stylistic level. Ricci's painting achieved a greater accuracy and firmness, and an increase of plasticity. He began to sketch his figures one by one, or at most in pairs, with individual elegance and a taste for the *contrapposto*, thus leaving behind the continuous figurative stream that was typical of the Baroque.

It can be hardly denied that Ricci's reuse of Mannerist formal prototypes conferred to his figures a swirling touch of elegance and a precision in drawing that they did not have before, and that such a cultural enrichment was part of shaping a distinctive eighteenth-century style.

Upon leaving Florence, Ricci returned to Venice where he came increasingly under the influence of Veronese and the great sixteenth-century painters,

<sup>16</sup> For accurate information on this work and apposite photographs see the catalogue entry by Dimitrios Zikos, in Paolozzi Strozzi, Zikos 2006, pp. 246-247. The entire volume is rich in analysis on various matters (from iconography to technical issues and the European diffusion of the artist's inventions).

<sup>17</sup> On these artists and the mentioned works see again the catalogue by Paolozzi Strozzi and Zikos (2006), as well as Pizzorusso 2008; for a thorough discussion of Ammannati's bronze see the catalogue entry by Mirella Branca in Paolozzi Strozzi, Zikos 2011, pp. 282-287; for a recent interpretative contribution on formal principles of Mannerist sculpture, its materiality and reception see Passignat 2011.

<sup>18</sup> Cf. P. Maccioni, in Gregori, Visonà 2012, p. 49.

apparently forgetting about sculpture. However, some years later, in London, Florentine memories suddenly reappeared.

Around 1713-1714 he had established contact with the young Richard Boyle, 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Burlington, who commissioned the four canvases which decorated the original staircase at Burlington House, Piccadilly. George Knox has labelled the cycle «A great Venetian decoration *alla romana*», maintaining that it was marked by a strong resonance of Italian classicism<sup>19</sup>. Raphael's *Story of Cupid and Psyche* in the Farnesina, Titian's *Bacchanals*, and the *Galleria Farnese* have been correctly identified as the main figurative sources. The celebrity of these works was enormous at that time, they were the must-sees of any "Italianate Englishman" on the Grand-Tour.

Nevertheless, in the ceiling above the main staircase, Ricci painted a canvas with *Cupid before Jupiter* (fig. 13) whose composition, enclosed within an architectural fictive oval, turns out to be a selection of poses from that larger repertoire of the *Sala d'Ercole* which he had created some seven years earlier in Florence.

The ensemble had a kind of an eclectic result. The overall impression is that, entering into this pantheon of aristocrats passionate about Classical art, Ricci had to follow the rules quite strictly. He succeeded in giving an Italian taste to the whole decoration, but he was allowed to re-use his Florentine repertoire just in a limited way. Despite all his efforts, Ricci could correspond only partially to the "Palladian" ambitions of Lord Burlington. The painter's intimate connection with Mannerist sculpture ultimately distanced him from Classicism, bringing to a stylistic contradiction. Soon after, however, a different British patron employed Ricci for another mythological cycle, and on that occasion the artist was able to create a more coherent decoration.

A friend of Lord Burlington, Henry Bentinck, 1<sup>st</sup> Duke of Portland, was a patron of Italian music and a lover of Italian art. As such he made the Grand Tour in 1701, accompanied by the historian Thoyras Rapin. Between 1712 and 1714, he commissioned two truly remarkable decorative cycles by Sebastiano Ricci: the first of which was for his house in London, St. James Square.

Of that program only one picture exists, which portrays the ceiling just partially (fig. 14). It was published in the Christmas issue of «Country Life» in 1937 just before the demolition of the building, which took place a year later<sup>20</sup>. The subject is once again the *Labors of Hercules* in the large side niches, and a triumph of the hero in the central compartment. The image is not easy to read, but with a bit of an effort one can discern several brazen self-citations from the Florentine *Salone d'Ercole* (i.e. the lunette with *Hercules at the Crossroads*).

Not everything comes from Florence, there are new labors and new compositional and formal choices, but yet the references to sculptural models

<sup>19</sup> Knox 1985.

<sup>20</sup> Oswald 1937, p. 658, fig. 11.

are from the same figurative tradition. The detail of the *Fight of Centaurs* shows tense lines of hyper-muscular arms as in Bandinelli's groups, and *Hercules and the Nemean Lion* is all identical to the prototype by Giambologna, as can be seen in the bronze casted in multiple versions.

As in the case of Burlington, Ricci was employed as an Italian painter to give an Italian taste to the residence. But apparently – unlike Burlington who had wanted to rediscover in his cycle the beloved samples by Raphael, Titian and Carracci – Bentinck's approach as a patron had to be more liberal and his control over the painter's choices less strict. So, instead of plagiarisms of the *Bacchanals* and the *Farnesina*, Ricci could go back, with variations, to his program for the Marucelli to produce a Venetian decoration *alla fiorentina*.

We must therefore conclude that his work for Portland, as well as the ceiling compartment at Burlington House, rooted as they are in the painter's Tuscan experience, should be regarded as part of – let's say – Ricci's Florentine agenda in England. What had been created within a specific, rather political, communication strategy inherent to the connections between the Marucelli and the Medici, was confidently adapted to English private spaces, where the artist saw fit to use his most cultivated vocabulary, peppered with sculptural citations, to match the expectations of foreign patrons longing for Italian art. In the end, the smart monkey had once again deceived the majestic lion.

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*Appendix*

Fig. 1. Sebastiano Ricci and Giovanni Baratta, *The Golden Age*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 2. Sebastiano Ricci, *A putto harnesses a wolf and a lamb while two others burn trophies of war*, Windsor, RL 7128



Fig. 3. Sebastiano Ricci, *A Fury falling on a scared putto*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 4. Giovanni Baratta, *Flying Fury*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 5. Sebastiano Ricci and Giovanni Baratta, *Youth choosing between Virtue and Vice*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 6. Giovanni Baratta, *The monkey and the lion*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 7. Sebastiano Ricci and Giuseppe Tonelli, *The Ascension of Hercules to the Olympus*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 8. Sebastiano Ricci and Giuseppe Tonelli, *The Fight of Hercules and the Centaur*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 9. Sebastiano Ricci, *Hercules and Cacus*, Firenze, Le Gallerie degli Uffizi



Fig. 10. Sebastiano Ricci and Giuseppe Tonelli, *Hercules and Cacus*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 11. Sebastiano Ricci and Giuseppe Tonelli, *Hercules and Antaeus*, Firenze, Palazzo Marucelli



Fig. 12. Sebastiano Ricci, *Hercules and Antaeus*, Firenze, Gabinetto Disegni e Stampe degli Uffizi



Fig. 13. Sebastiano Ricci, *Cupid before Jupiter*, London, Burlington House, Royal Academy of Arts



Fig. 14. Sebastiano Ricci, *Labors and Apotheosis of Hercules*, formerly London, Norfolk House (destroyed)

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