

Before Photography- Part 1

Diego Rodríguez de Silva y Velázquez

By Mario Sarra



A few facts about Velázquez:

- was born in Sevilla in 1599
- worked as an apprentice at the workshop of Francisco Pacheco
- in 1619 Married Pacheco's daughter
- in 1623 was appointed court painter in Madrid after painting a portrait of the king
- 1629 traveled to Italy where he studied Raphael, Michelangelo, and Titian
- 1631 appointed palace superintendent
- 1652 appointed palace chamberlain
- 1659 Invested Knight of the Order of Saint James

1959
 #893-902(10)
 MARCH 24
 IN HONOR OF
 VELAZQUEZ



1961
 #983-86(4)
 Apr. 17
 300th Ann
 death of V.



Whom or what did
Velázquez paint?

Everyday People...

El vendedor de agua de Sevilla

The Waterseller of Seville, c 1618-22,
2 of 3 versions shown



Left: Apslet House, London
Above: Walters Art Museum,
Baltimore,
each 41 x 31 inches

La vieja friendo huevos

Old Women Frying Eggs, 1618,

National Gallery of Scotland, Edinburgh, 39 x 67 inches



El almuerzo

Peasants at the Table, c 1620, Museum Of Fine Arts,
Budapest, Hungary, 44 x 38 inches

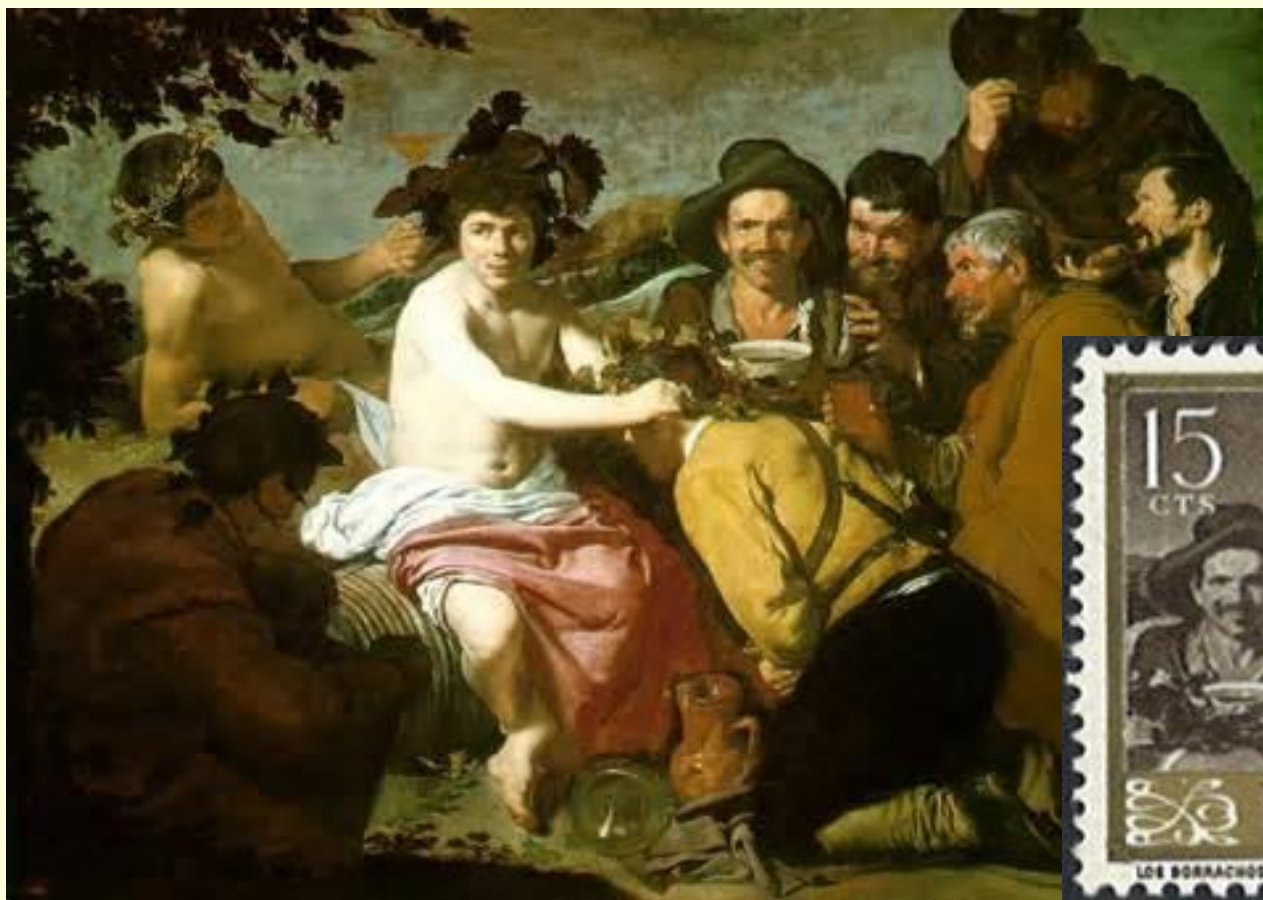


Everyday people...

Visited by mythological figures

Los borrachos (el triunfo de Baco)

The Drunkards (The Triumph of Bacchus), 1628,
Museo del Prado, Madrid, 65 x 89 inches



Painted for
King Philip IV
for 100 ducats.



Las hilanderas (The Fable of Arachne)

1697, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 66 x 99 inches

Painted for
Don Pedro de
Arce as gift to
Philip IV.



Apolo en la fragua de volcan

Apollo in the Forge of Vulcan, 1630,
Museo del Prado, Madrid, 88 x 144 inches





Myth by Themselves

La Venus del espejo

Venus at her Mirror (Rokeby Venus), c 1647-1651

National Gallery, London, 48 x 70 inches



Painted while in Rome.
Believed to be his
mistress there.

Religious Themes

La coronación de la Virgen

Coronation of the Virgin, c 1635-1648,
Museo del Prado, Madrid, 69 x 48 inches





Lesotho M5

CHRISTMAS 1989
LESOTHO

The Coronation of
the Virgin
VELÁZQUEZ
1599-1660



Assorted
religious
figures



La cena de Emaús

The Supper at Emmaus, c 1622-1623

Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, 48 x 52 inches



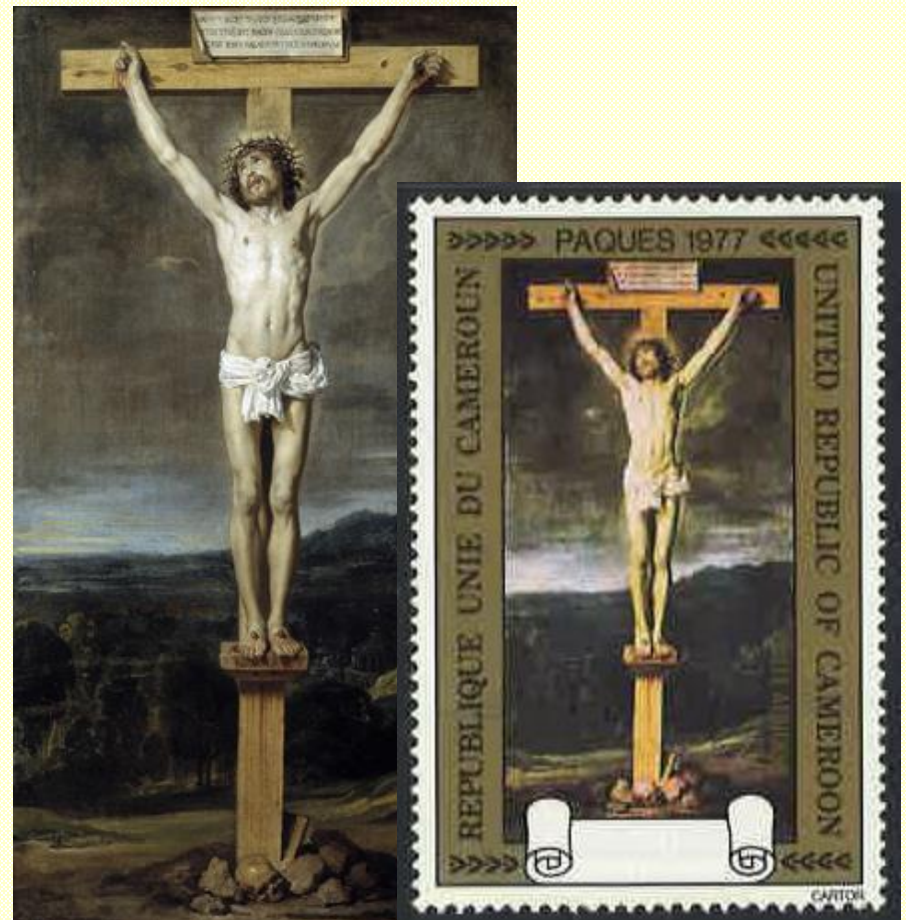
Christ Crucified

1632, Museo del Prado,
Madrid, 98 x 67 inches



Christ on the Cross

1631, Museo del Prado,
Madrid, 39 x 22 inches



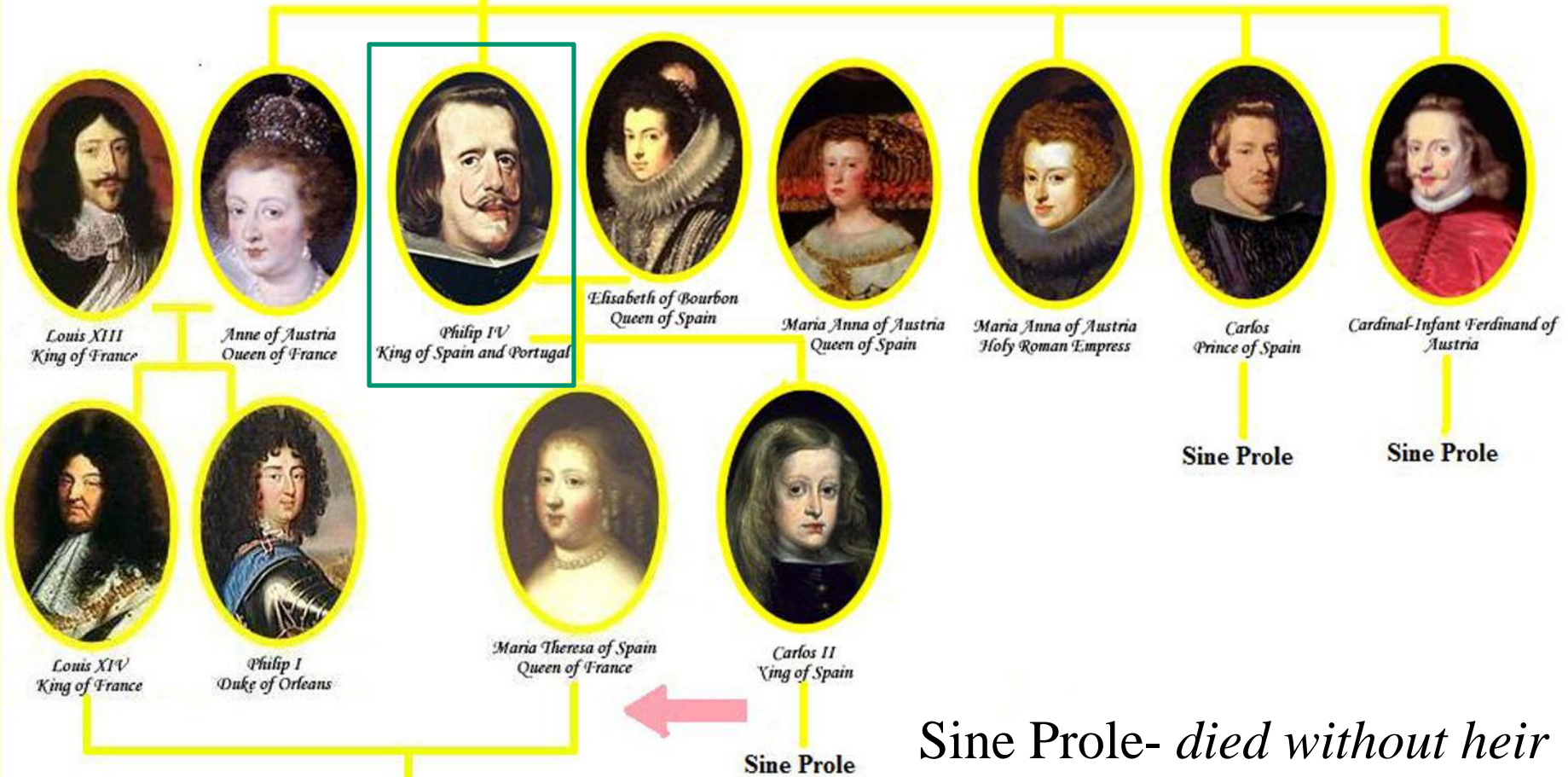
Adoración de los Reyes (Adoration of the Magi)

1619, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 80 x 50 inches



Famous People...

...especially members of the Habsburg Royal Family of Spain



King Philip IV on Horseback

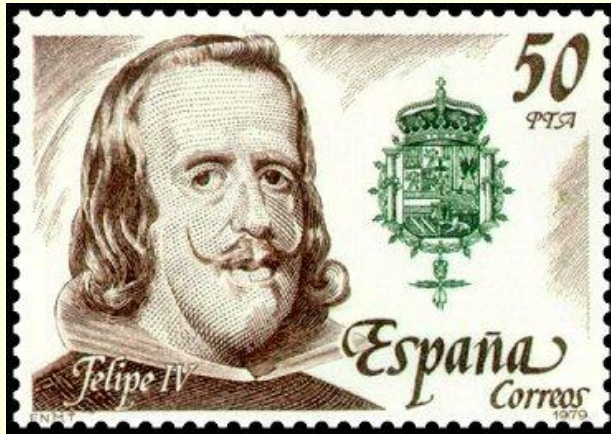
Date?, Packwood House, Warwickshire, UK, 287 x 238 inches



attributed to Velázquez

Portrait of King Philip IV

1656, National Gallery, London, UK, 19 x 15 inches



Immediate Family of King Philip IV

Married in 1615 to Elisabeth of Bourbon (daughter of Henry IV of France, died 1644)

Children:

Infanta Maria Margaret of Spain (14 Aug 1621 – 15 Aug 1621)

Infanta Margaret Maria Catherine of Spain (25 Nov 1623 – 22 Dec 1623)

Infanta Maria Eugenia of Spain (21 Nov 1625 – 21 Aug 1627)

Infanta Isabella Maria Theresa of Spain (31 Oct 1627 – 1 Nov 1627)

Balthasar Charles (17 Oct 1629 – 9 Mar 1646), Prince of Asturias

Infante Francis Ferdinand (12 March 1634)

Infanta Maria Anna "Mariana" Antonia of Spain (17 Jan 1636 – 5 Dec 1636)

Infanta Maria Theresa of Spain (1638–1683), married Louis XIV of France

Married in 1649 to Mariana of Austria (1634–1696) – his niece

Children:

Margaret Theresa of Spain (12 Jul 1651 – 12 Mar 1673), first wife of Leopold I, Holy Roman Emperor

Infanta Maria Ambrosia de la Concepción (7 Dec 1655 – 21 Dec 1655)

Philip Prospero, Prince of Asturias (28 Dec 1657 – 1 Nov 1661)

Infante Ferdinand Thomas Charles (23 Dec 1658 – 22 Oct 1659)

Charles II of Spain (6 Nov 1661 – 1 Nov 1700)

Elisabeth of Bourbon

1632, Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna, 52 x 40 inches

First wife of King Philip IV, daughter of Henry IV of France



Queen Mariana of Austria

1652, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 90 x 51 inches

Second wife of King Philip IV, daughter of Emperor Ferdinand



El príncipe Baltasar

Prince Baltasar Carlos

1635, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 82 x 68 inches

The only son of King Philip IV of Spain and his first wife Elisabeth of France. Heir to the throne. Died at age 17.





Prince Balthasar Carlos as a Hunter

1635, Museo del Prado,
Madrid, 75 x 41 inches

Prince Philip Prospero

1635, Kunsthistorisches Museum,
Vienna, 50 x 39 inches

Heir apparent to the Spanish throne 1657-1661



Don Fernando of Austria

c 1633, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 75 x 42 inches

Brother of King Philip IV. Became Archduke of Austria, Archbishop of Toledo (1619–41), military commander during the Thirty Years' War, and Cardinal of the Holy Roman Church.



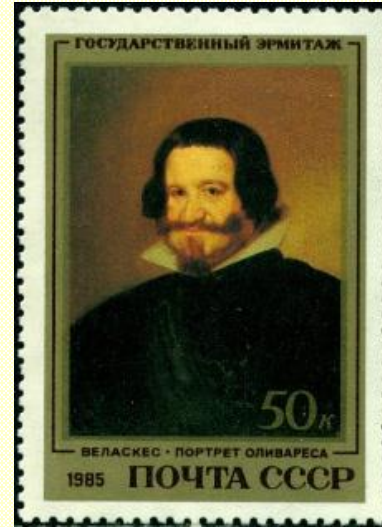
Portrait of Maria Anna

1630, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 23 x 17 inches

Sister of Philip IV



Other People of Note



Duke of Olivares, friend and original patron of Velasquez, was painted three times by him in an equestrian portrait and two standing portraits now at the Hermitage and São Paulo, Brazil.

Giovanni Battista Pamphilj, Pope Innocent X from 1644 to 1655.

Las meninas o la familia de Felipe IV (The Maids of Honor)

1656, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 125 x 108 inches

Depicting the Spanish Court
life of Philip IV



The people in the painting...



Queen Mariana and King Philip IV
Velázquez

José Nieto Velázquez- Queen's Chamberlain

Marcela de Ulloa- Princess' Chaperone

Unidentified Bodyguard

María Agustina Sarmiento de Sotomayor - Lady in Waiting

Princess Margaret Teresa

Isabel de Velasco- Lady in Waiting

Maria Barbola- German dwarf

Nicolas Pertusato- Italian dwarf

Princess Margaret Teresa



Infanta Margarita

1656, Kunsthistorisches Museum,
Vienna, 35 x 41 inches



Age 5

Infanta Margarita

1660, Museo del Prado,
Madrid, 83 x 58 inches



Age 9

An assortment of parodies...



unknown



Picasso



Bottero

... and a re-make by Picasso



Velazquez made several portraits
of dwarves in the Royal Court...

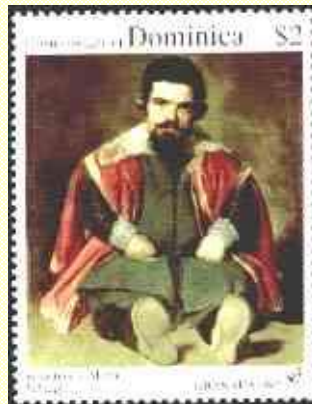
Court Dwarf Don Antonio el Inglés

c 1640-1642, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 42 x 56 inches



Portrait of Sebastián de Morra

c 1645, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 42 x 32 inches



El Nino de Vallecas

The Dwarf Francisco Lezcano

c 1643-1645, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 42 x 33 inches



Historical Events

La rendición de Breda The Surrender of Breda

1634-1635, Museo del Prado, Madrid, 121 x 144 inches



The Classical Past...

Esopo (Aesop)

1638, Museo del Prado,
Madrid, 70 x 37 inches

Made for the Torre de la Parada hunting lodge in the Pardo forest.

Ancient
classical
fabulist



Menippos

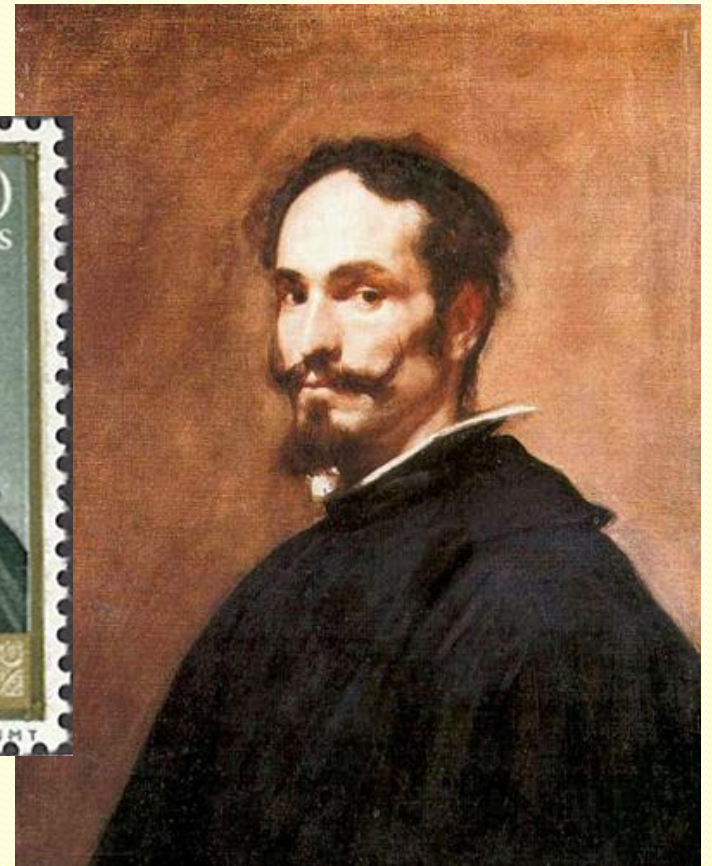
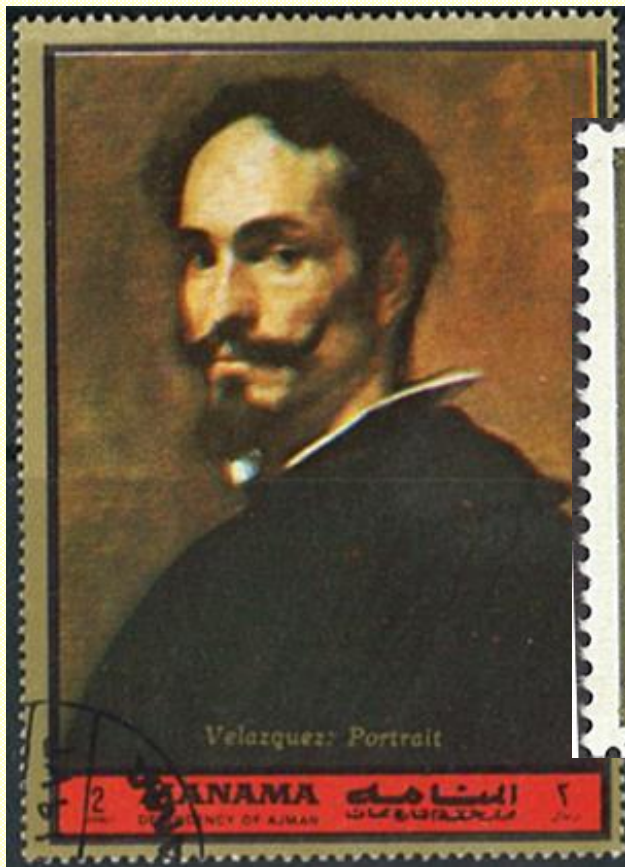
1639-1642, Museo del Prado,
Madrid, 70 x 37 inches

300 BC
Greek satirist
and cynic



...and a fellow painter, Alonso Cano Portrait of a Man

C 1649, Wellington Museum, Apsley House, London, 30 x 26 inches



Now for a bit of photography...

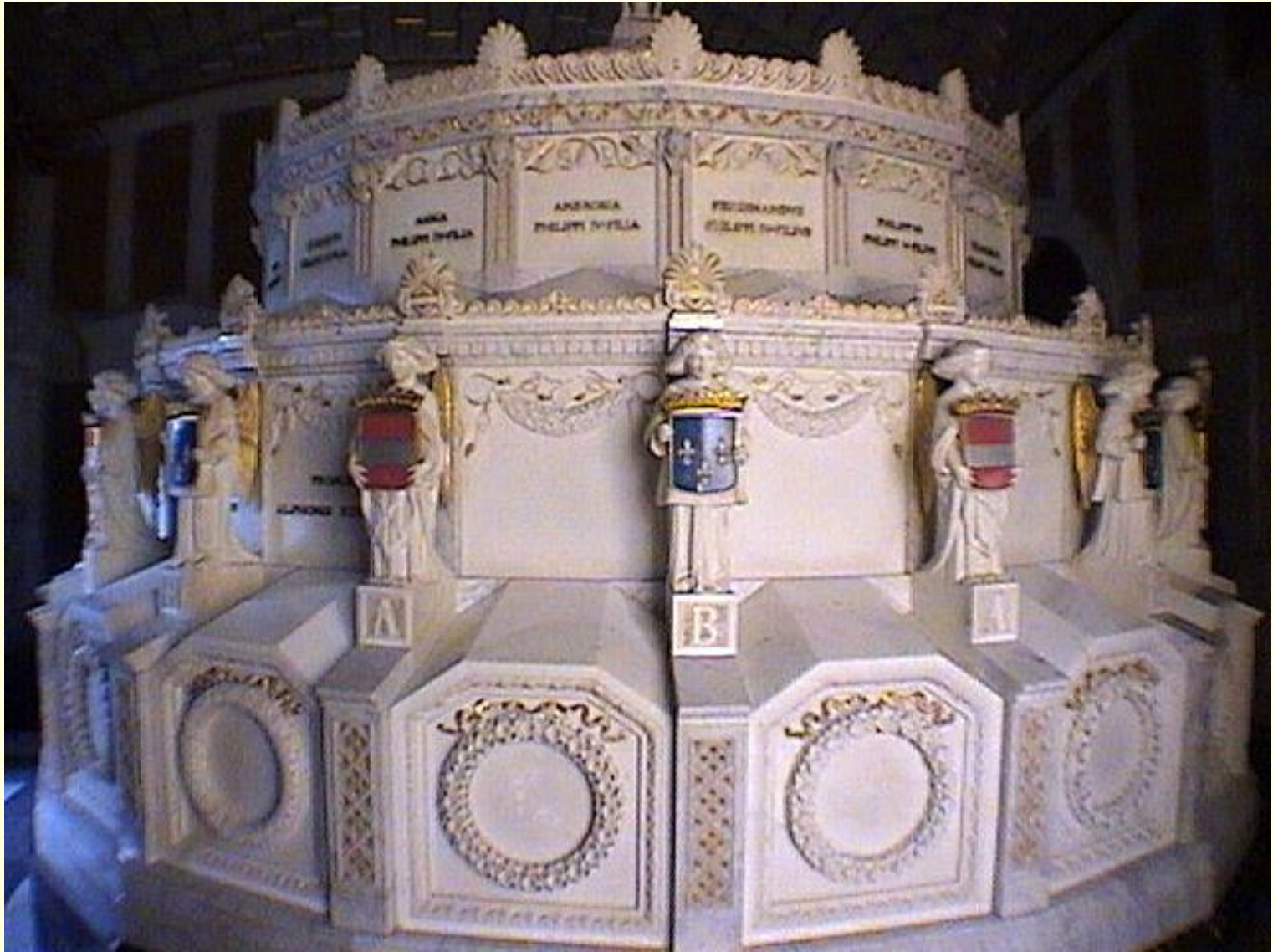
The Royal Site of San Lorenzo de El Escorial is a historical residence of the King of Spain, about 45 km NW of Madrid.



Altar inside the Royal Pantheon of Tombs, El Escorial



Tomb of the Infants, El Escorial



Velázquez statue at the entrance of the Prado Museum, Madrid.



Where is the body of Velásquez?

- Velásquez may be a mummy. A forensic anthropologist in Spain wants to take the fingerprints of a mummy found below the altar of a church to determine if the mummy might be that of Velásquez.

To perform such a comparison, researchers have had to find Velásquez's fingerprint on one of his paintings. Although they accomplished this, they have written to art museums around the world asking them to look for other fingerprints. The more fingerprint samples the researchers have, the higher the probability that the mummy is Velásquez, if matches are made.

Once the fingerprints are gathered, the next step is to exhume the body so that the mummy's fingerprints may be taken and matched. "The results of this study will be irrefutable because fingerprint analysis is 100 percent reliable," researcher Jose Manuel Reverte said at a recent seminar, according the Spanish news agency Efe.

Velásquez was thought to be buried under the floor of the Church of St. John. In the 1800s the church was torn down and the bodies buried there moved to San Placido Church. The mummy thought to be Velasquez was discovered in 1994 at San Placido Church by a group restoring some of the church's art works.

- On the other hand, Velásquez may simply be a skeleton. He was buried with a sword, a black cape and hat in 1660. Some officials are convinced that the mummy couldn't be Velásquez, that his body must still remain in the ruins of Church of St. John, though not beneath the altar. Instead, they believe the body must have been buried in the middle nave.