

# Unlocking the Talent



Michelangelo (1475 – 1564) was an Italian Renaissance painter, sculptor, architect, poet and engineer. “Despite making a few forays beyond the arts, his versatility in the disciplines he took up was of such a high order that he is often considered the archetypical Renaissance man, along with his rival and fellow Italian, Leonardo da Vinci,” according to an article in Wikipedia.

Michelangelo created two of the most influential works in fresco in the history of Western art: the scenes from Genesis on the ceiling and *The Last Judgment* on the altar wall of the Sistine Chapel in Rome.

When Michelangelo was ordered by church leadership to decorate the walls of the Sistine Chapel, he refused. He had never done any work of that kind, and said he could not do it. But he was told his refusal would not be accepted.

When he discovered that there was no alternative without unpleasant consequences, he mixed his colors and went to work. And then came into being the world’s finest painting.

There are few who realize what possibilities are locked up within them until some necessity compels them to attempt something they have always considered impossible.

– Beecher Hunter