



Peter Paul Rubens

Picture Study

Emily Cook, Kathy Weitz, & Alyssa Bohon

The images contained in this PDF are copyrighted, as per the person or museum who owns it, therefore we cannot offer them as a printed book. If you want the pictures in print, the copyright allows for you to print and bind them into a little volume for personal and educational purposes only.

Honeysuckle Bower
Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1609



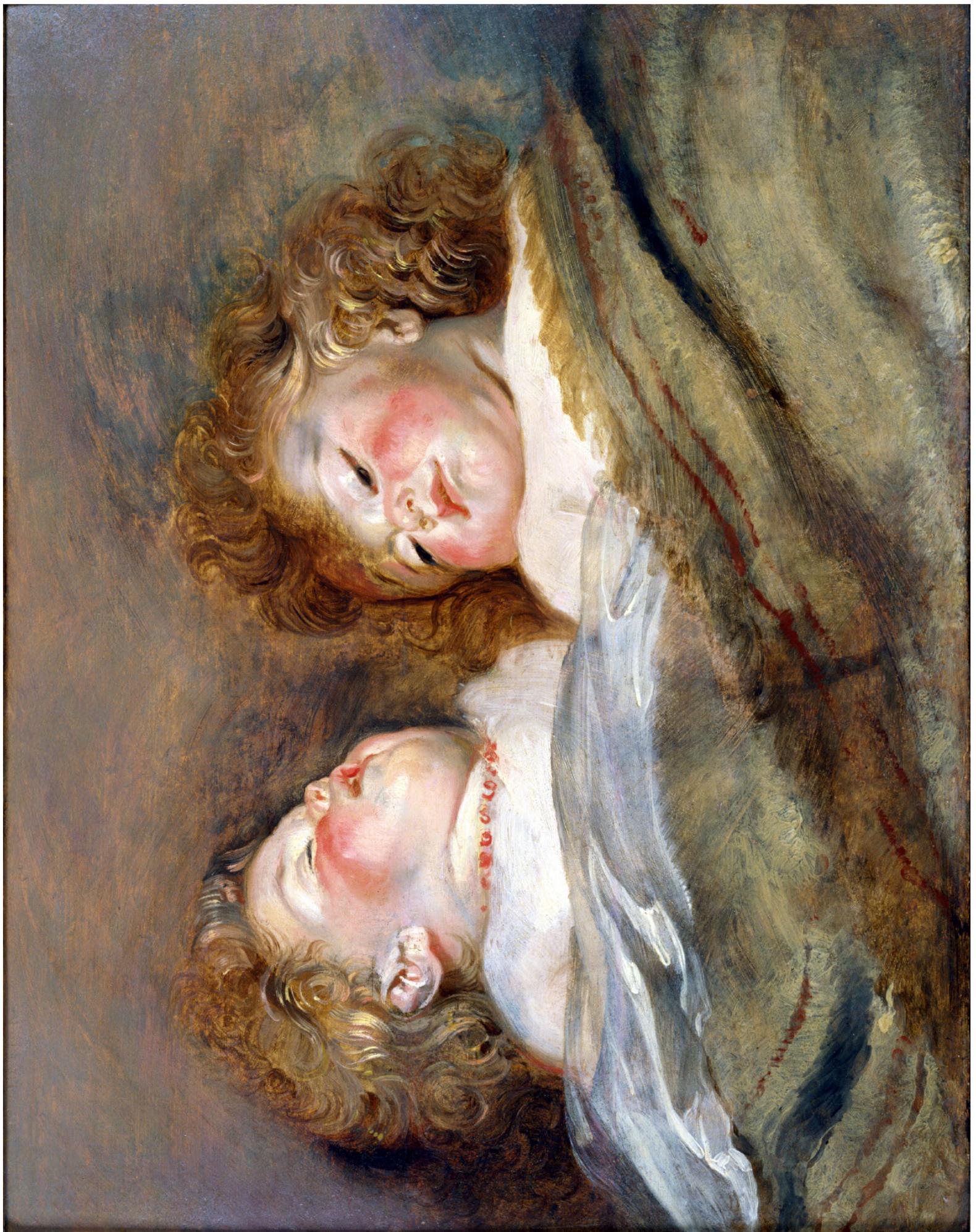
Mulay Ahmed de Tunis

Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1609



Two Sleeping Children

Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1612-13



Tiberius and Agrippina

Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1614



Daniel in the Lion's Den

Peter Paul Rubens, 1614-1616

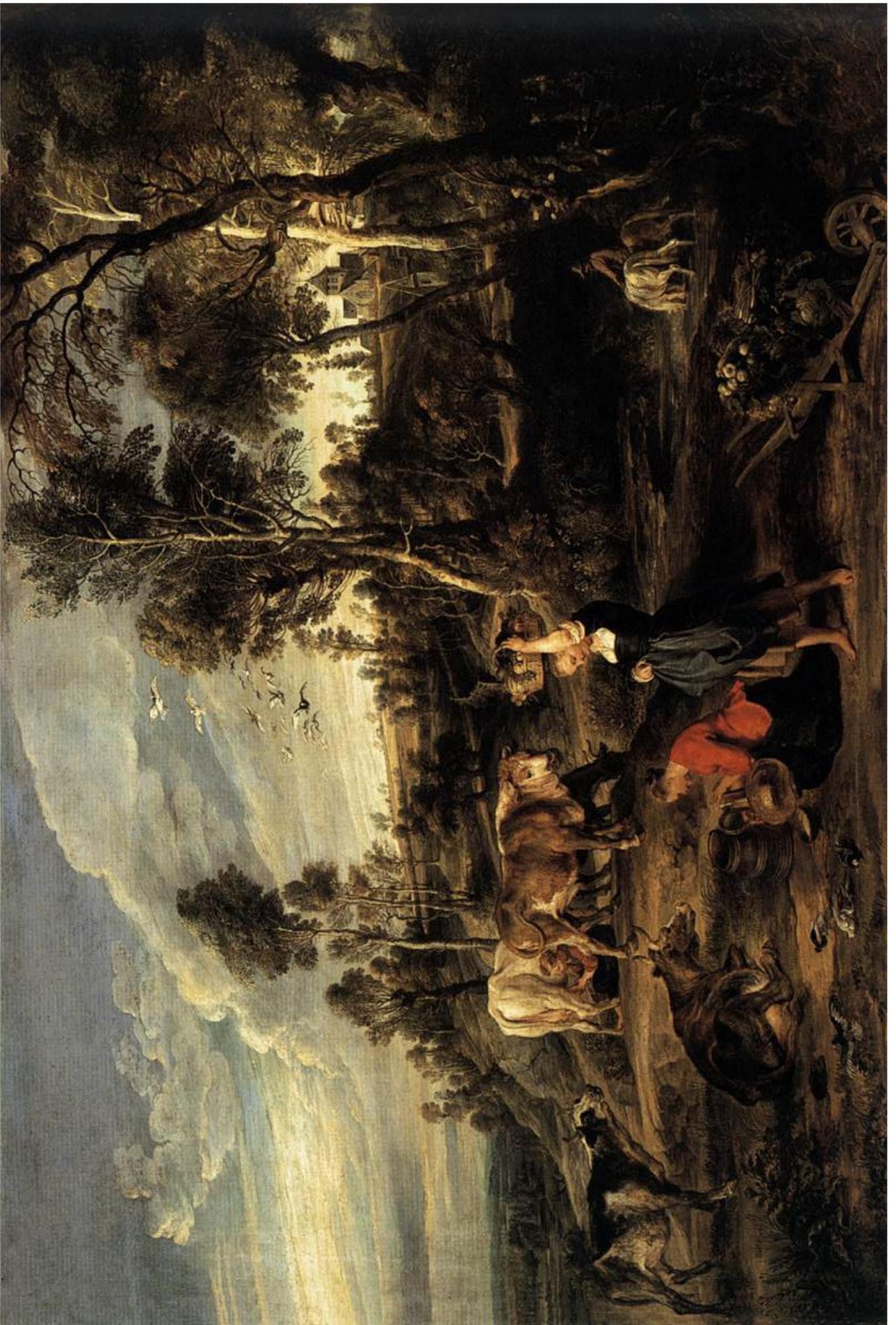


David Slaying Goliath

Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1616



Farm at Laken
Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1618



Portrait of a Man as the god Mars

Peter Paul Rubens, c. 1620-1625



The Wedding by Proxy of Marie de' Medici to King Henri IV

Peter Paul Rubens, 1622-1625



Vulcan Forging the Thunderbolts of Jupiter

Peter Paul Rubens, 166-1638



PETER PAUL RUBENS

ARTIST BIO NOTES

These notes are provided to aid the teacher's own background research on the artist and his or her works. This is not meant to be presented to students as a list of facts and dates. When you first introduce the artist, tell students where the artist fits into the timeline of history, and where the artist lived and worked. Add a few more details with each new picture, but the information you share should be short and simple unless your students ask questions or wish to know more. Keep the main focus of your Picture Study time on observation and narration of the details of the picture.

Note: if a footnote appears with a fact that is not a direct quote, the fact comes from ONE source only.

LIFE & CHARACTER

Italicized portions indicate historical events affecting the artist's life

- ◆ Born 1577 in Siegen, Germany (father fled from Belgium with family because of religious persecution for Calvinist beliefs); named after the apostles Peter and Paul.
- ◆ Returned to Antwerp, Belgium following the death of his father; raised Catholic by mom
- ◆ Trained in the classics for education; thus grounded in background of religion and classical education
- ◆ 1600, witnessed the proxy wedding of Marie de Médici to King Henry IV
- ◆ 1608, rushed from Italy to Antwerp upon hearing word of ailing mother. She died before he arrived. Wanted to return to Italy, but stayed in Antwerp because his fame grew quickly.
- ◆ *1609-1621, the Twelve Year's Truce with the Dutch Republic (peaceful in Antwerp)*
- ◆ 1609, married first wife Isabella Brant. Two children.
- ◆ *1618-1648, the Thirty Years' War*

- ◆ 1626, beloved wife Isabella died.
- ◆ 1630, married young Helene Fourment. 5 children.
- ◆ 1623-1631, thanks to international fame, served as a diplomat between for Spain (Philip IV) to England (Charles I). Knighted by both kings for his service in helping England and Spain establish a peace treaty.
- ◆ Died 1640 in Antwerp from gout.

TRAINING & CAREER

- ◆ Age 14 (1591), artistic apprenticeship to landscape painter who was a relation.
- ◆ Age 15 (1592), apprenticeship with Flemish artist whose emotional artistic style had strong influence on Rubens
- ◆ 1598, Rubens accepted into the painter's guild in Antwerp
- ◆ 1600, traveled to Italy, studying Renaissance paintings by artists such as Titian
- ◆ While in Italy, hired by a duke. Mainly painted copies of Renaissance paintings.
- ◆ 1601, traveled to Rome, studying works by Michelangelo and Raphael, commissioned to paint for Roman church
- ◆ Quickly sought after in Antwerp upon return
- ◆ 1609, court painter to Archduke Albert and wife Isabella, but still received commissions from many others
- ◆ 1622, commissioned by Marie de Médici (former queen of France, at this time her son ruled) for paintings representing her life
- ◆ Simultaneous diplomat and artist: worked on commissions for Charles I
- ◆ 1630s, multiple commissions for King Philip IV
- ◆ Able to produce several large works thanks to his studio, with his assistants and apprentices helping create his works. He created design and painted important components.

- ◆ Painted more landscapes after marrying Helene and settling down.
- ◆ Last commission: Mythological paintings in King Philip IV's hunting lodge

ART STYLE & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Body of work: portraits, landscapes, religious compositions, mythological compositions, cycles
- ◆ Best known for: religious and mythological
- ◆ Style: Flemish realism infused with the classicism of Italian Renaissance art = exceptional model of Baroque art.
- ◆ Style: thrived on large scale projects; lots of movement, oil paint, lush color, abundance
- ◆ Titian's influence noted in his style. Rubens studied and copied Titian's works.
- ◆ Showed his support for the Counter-Reformation through his religious art
- ◆ Indefatigable artist: commissions, diplomat endeavors, running a studio, raising a family; reportedly arose at 4 a.m. almost every morning
- ◆ Influence spread internationally due to his talent, fame, and immense output of works.
- ◆ Famously titled "Painter of princes and prince of painters"
- ◆ Looser brushstrokes in later years
- ◆ *The Wedding by Proxy of Marie de Médici to King Henry IV*: Rubens witnessed himself in 1600 while working for Marie's duke brother-in-law

BAROQUE STYLE

- ◆ "Bold naturalism" and "heroically idealized forms of Michelangelo and Raphael"

ARTIST BIO LINKS

<http://www.britannica.com/EBchecked/topic/511894/Peter-Paul-Rubens>

<http://www.nga.gov/content/ngaweb/Collection/artist-info.1847.html?artistId=1847&pageNumber=1>

http://www.wga.hu/bio_m/r/rubens/biograph.html

<http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/artists/peter-paul-rubens>

<http://www.newadvent.org/cathen/13214c.htm>

<http://www.abcgallery.com/R/rubens/rubensbio.html>

<http://www.notablebiographies.com/Ro-Sc/Rubens-Peter-Paul.html>

http://www.parisartstudies.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=130&Itemid=1 (informative timeline)

PICTURE SOURCES

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/f/ff/Peter_Paul_Rubens_Peter_Paul_Rubens_-_The_Artist_and_His_First_Wife%2C_Isabella_Brant%2C_in_the_Honeysuckle_Bower.jpg

[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mulay_Ahmed_de_Tunis_\(Hafsid\).jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Mulay_Ahmed_de_Tunis_(Hafsid).jpg)

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/3/31/Rubens_Two_Sleeping_Children.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tiberius_and_Agrippina_-_Sir_Peter_Paul_Rubens.png

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Portrait_of_a_Man_as_the_god_Mars_by_Rubens.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Sir_Peter_Paul_Rubens_-_Daniel_in_the_Lions'_Den_-_Google_Art_Project.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Peter_Paul_Rubens_David_Slaying_Goliath.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Peter_Paul_Rubens_-_Farm_at_Laken_-_WGA20396.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Marriage_of_Maria_de'_Medici_and_Henri_IV_per_proxy_Rubens.jpg

https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Rubens_-_Vulcano_forjando_los_rayos_de_J%C3%BApiter.jpg