

# Colonial Latin American Art, 1520s-1820s

## Part 1: VICEROYALTY OF NEW SPAIN



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**COLUMBUS RECEPTION BY THE KING FERDINAND AND QUEEN ISABELLA OF SPAIN.**  
AFTER HIS FIRST RETURN FROM AMERICA.

**COLUMBUS EMPFANG VON KÖNIG FERDINAND UND KÖNIGIN ISABELLA VON SPANIEN.**  
NACH SEINER ERSTEN RÜCKKEHR VON AMERIKA.





## Spanish Reconquest (1492)



## Christopher Columbus (1492)

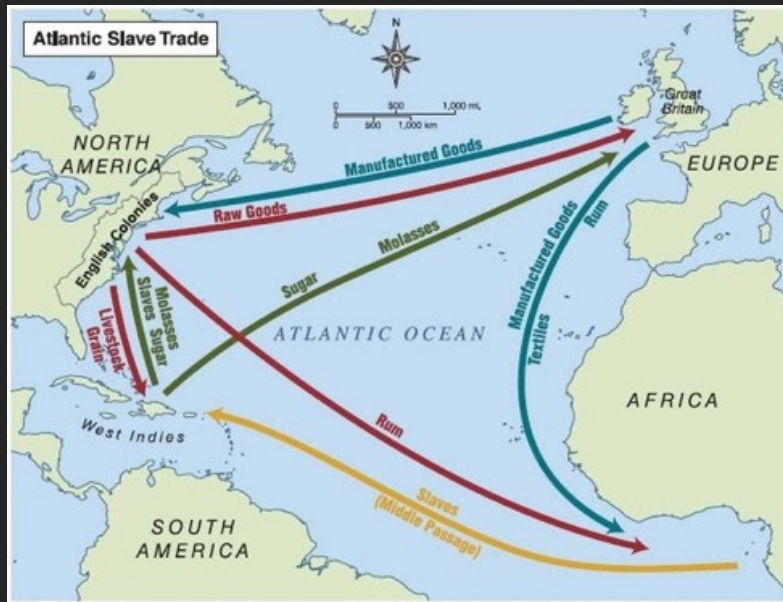




## Manila Galleon Trade, starts 1565

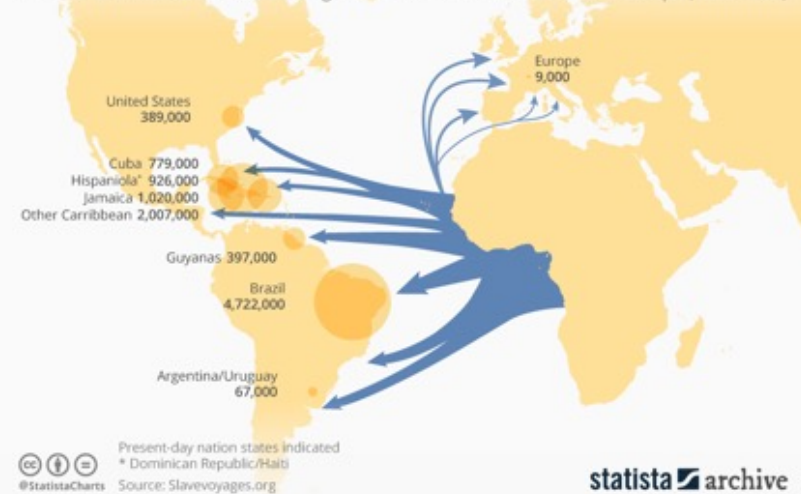


## Atlantic Slave Trade, starts 1505 (African diaspora)



### The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade Uprooted Millions

Number of enslaved Africans arriving on the American continent and in Europe (1501-1866)



statista archive



## How was the Spanish conquest depicted in prints?



Galle "The Discovery of America," from *Nova Reperta*, c. 1600



de Bry, *Christopher Columbus arrives in America*, 1594





Florentine Codex, 1575-1577

Codex Duran, 16<sup>th</sup> cent.



Codex Telleriano-Remensis,  
16th century





## Military and Political Conquest

Cortes invades the Aztec capital city of Tenochtitlan in 1521

Pizarro invades the Inka capital of Cuzco in 1534







## VICEROYALTY OF SPAIN

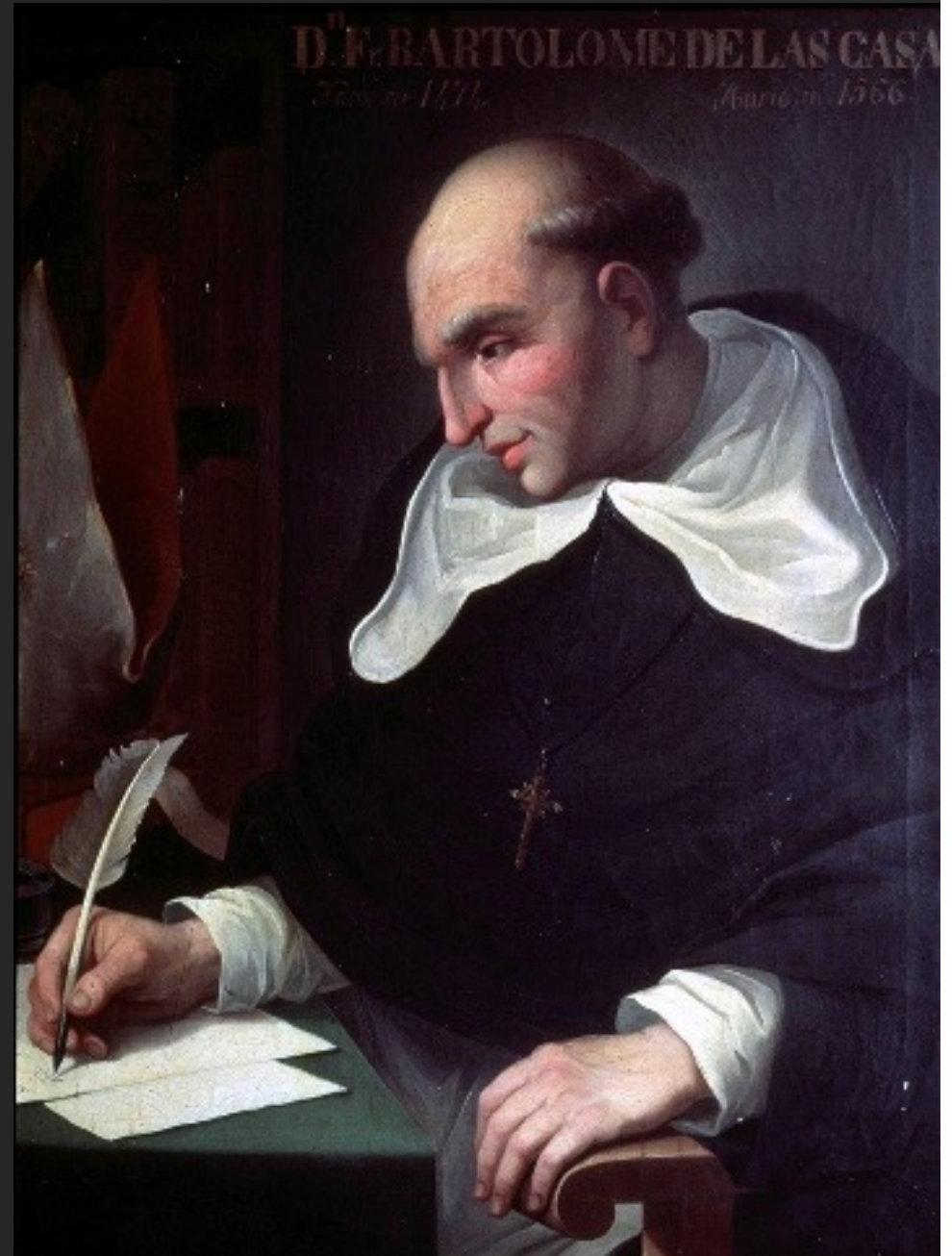
**What is a viceroyalty?**  
Spanish colonial territory governed by a viceroy, who reports to Spanish king.



## Spiritual Conquest

*Sublimis Deus* (1537)

What role did art and architecture play in the evangelization of the Americas?







*convento*: associated with particular religious order, facilitate evangelization





**posa chapel:** outdoor spaces to facilitate conversion process, like during Aztec times when they worshipped outdoors.



**crenellations:** a feature of defensive architecture



*Church of San Miguel, Huejotzingo, 1526-70, Mexico*

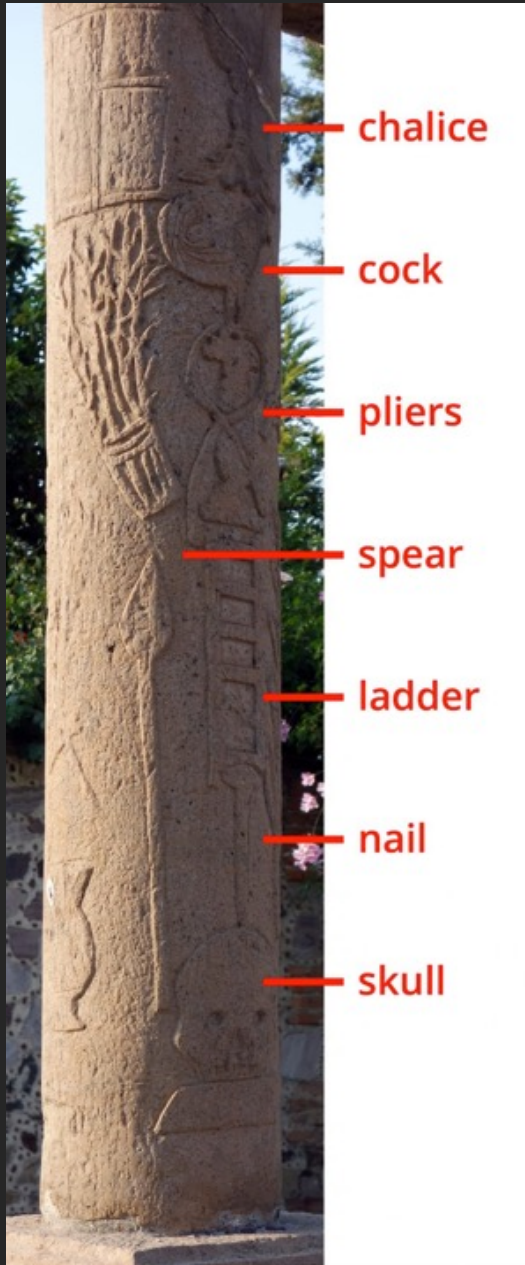




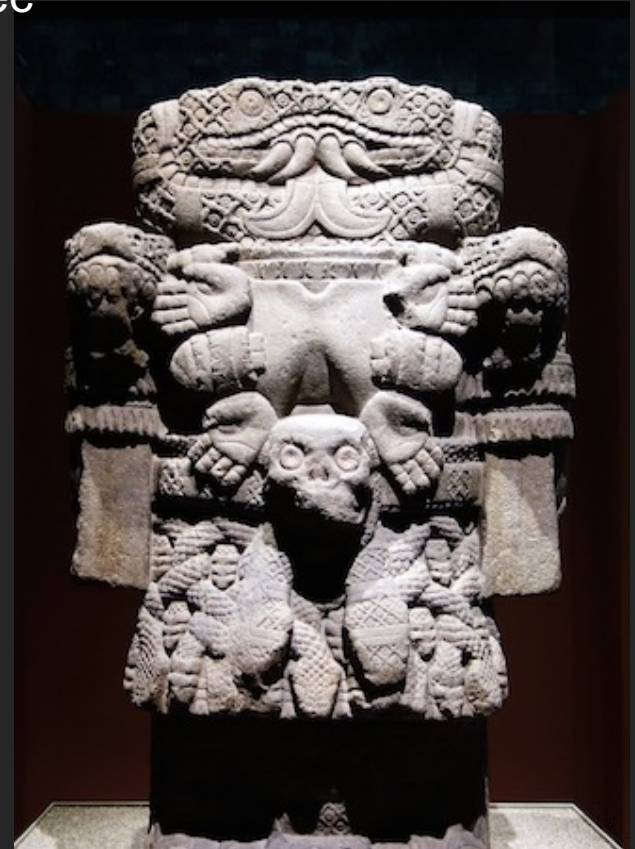


Atrial Cross, *Church of San Agustín de Acolman*, mid-16th century, Mexico





*Arma Christi* (symbols of the Passion of Christ) carved on the crucifixion to aid in evangelization, low relief carving recalls Aztec stonework.







Biblioteca Nacional de España



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Pedro de Gante  
Flemish Franciscan Monk





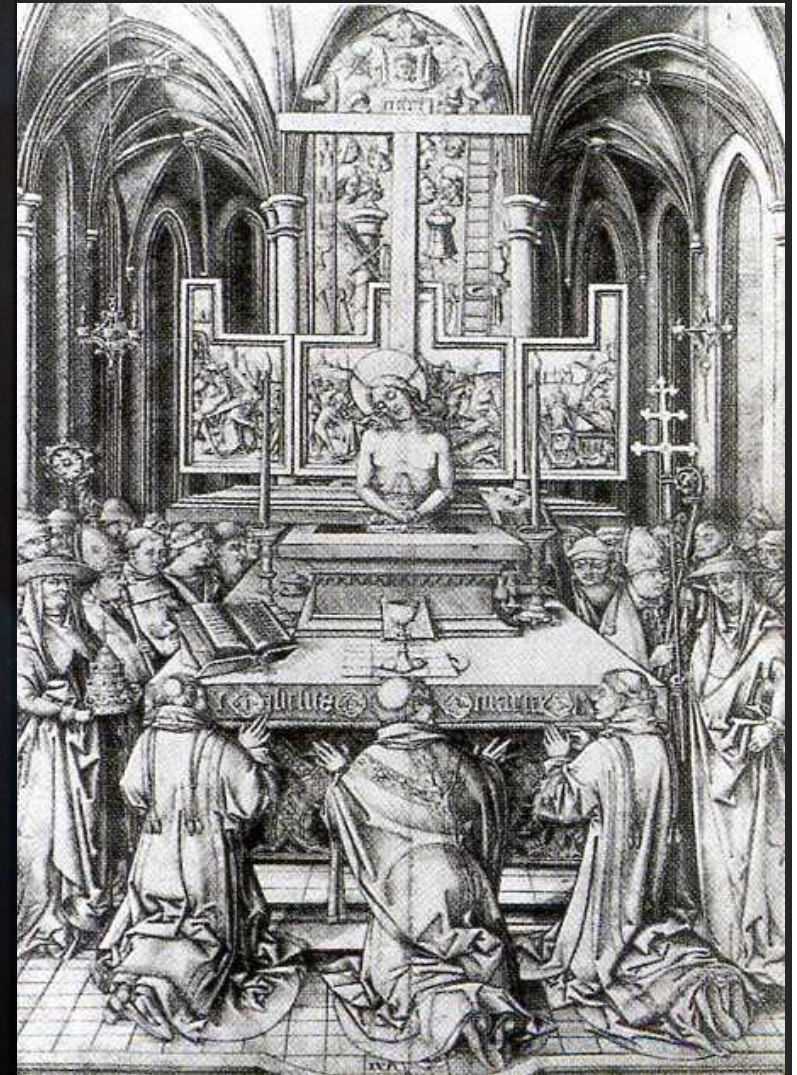
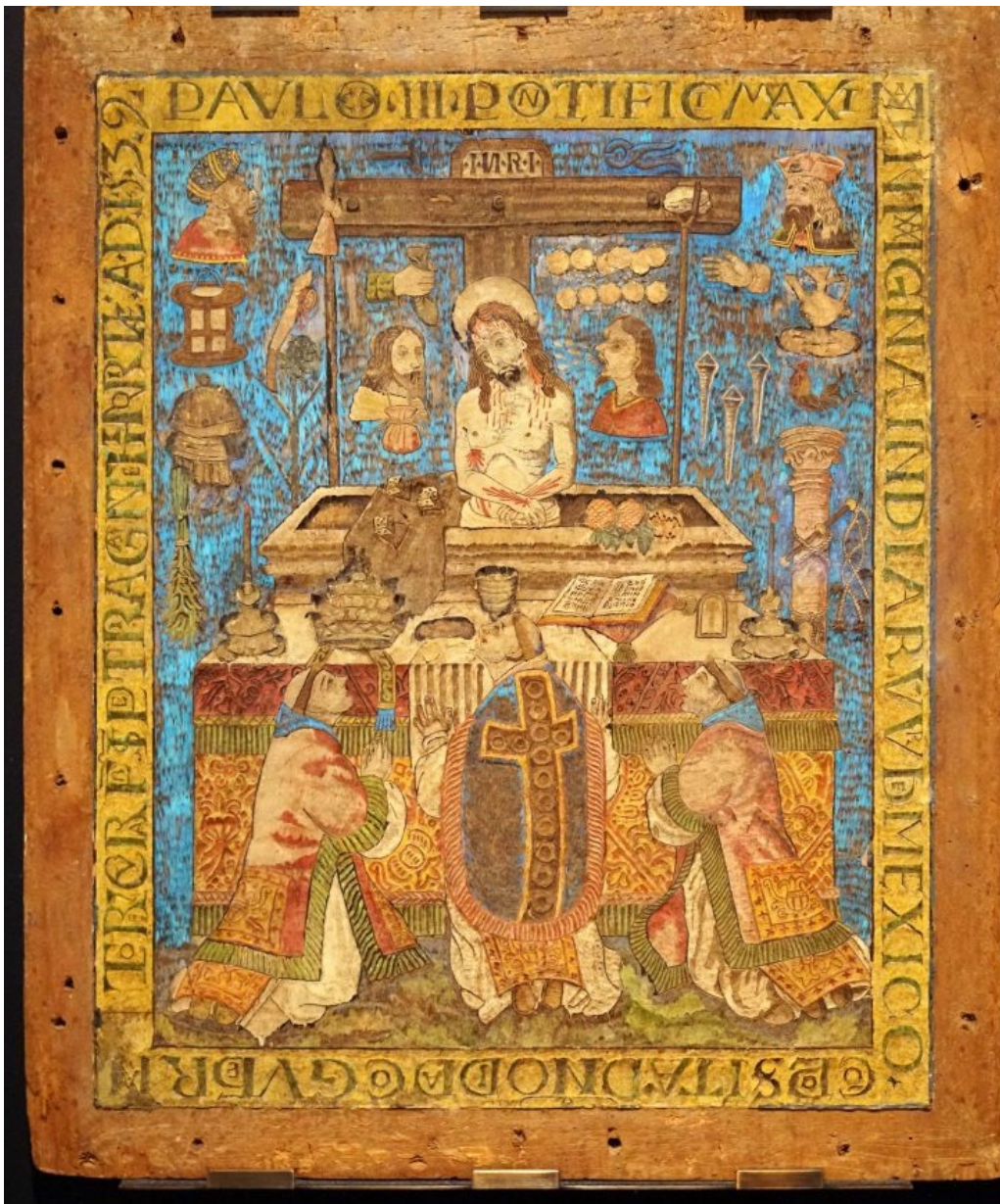


-Created under supervision of Pedro de Gante  
-Created for Pope Paul III

Anonymous Nahua Artist  
*The Miraculous Mass of St.  
Gregory*  
Feather and paint on Wood,  
1539





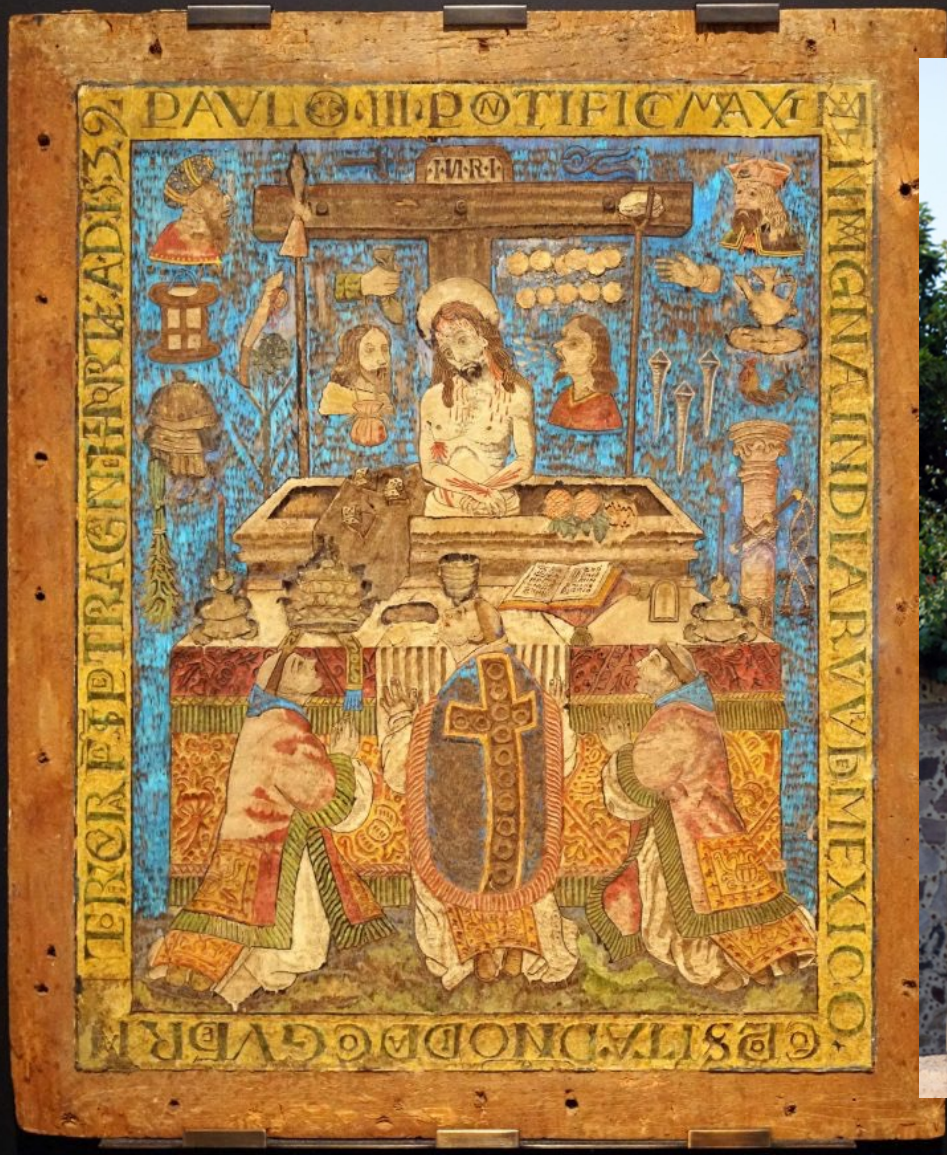


*The Miraculous Mass of St. Gregory*

Israhel van Meckenem  
*The Mass of St. Gregory*  
ca. 1490-1495







chalice

cock

pliers

spear

ladder

nail

skull



Aztec Glyphs

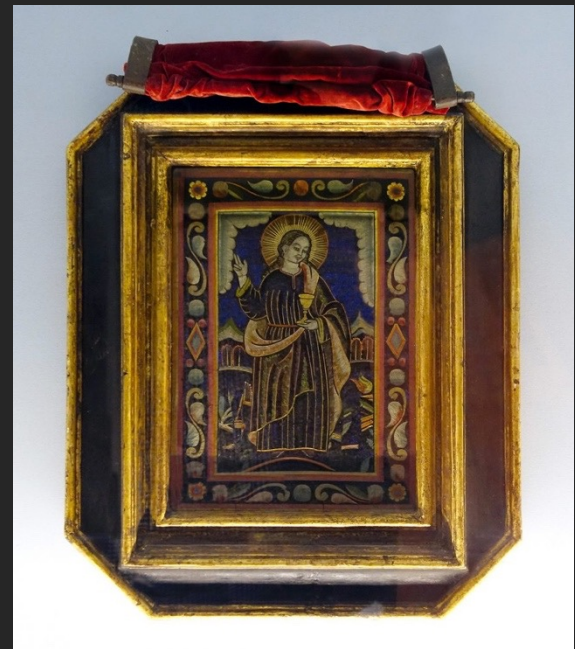


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Aztec Featherwork



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*Paradise Murals of Malinalco, Mexico, mid-16th century*





Mexico City Cathedral







Mexico City, founded 1521, built on top of Aztec capital city of Tenochtitlan , and in particular over the Templo Mayor (Sacred Center).





*Church of Santo Domingo*  
Cuzco, Peru  
Built over Inca temple Coricancha



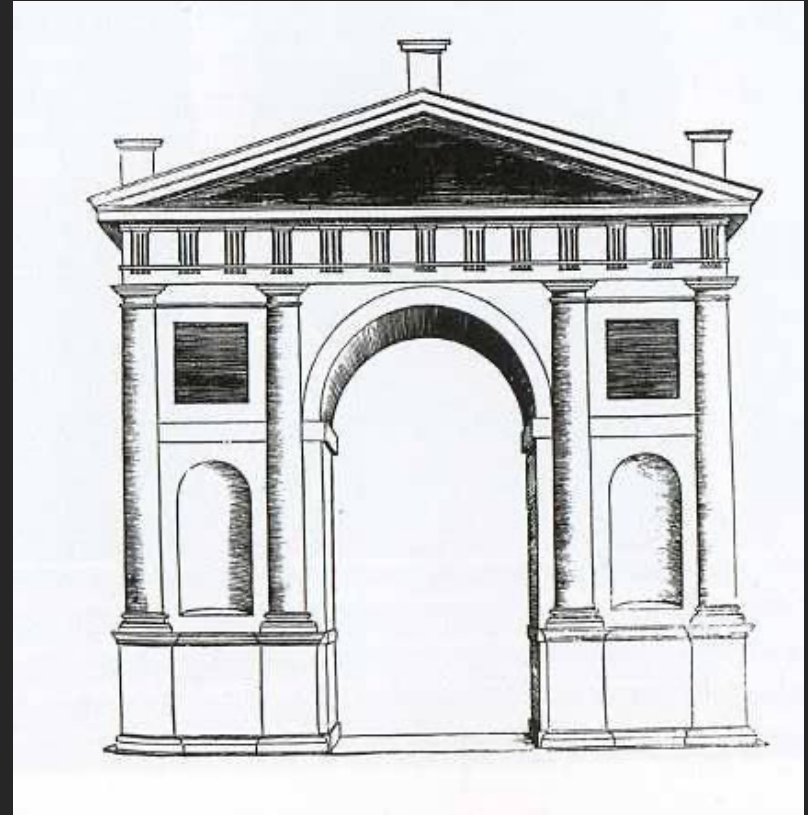
Claudio de Arciniega and others  
*Mexico City Cathedral*  
1573 -1817

Why were churches built over indigenous religious sites?





Entrance Portal to *Mexico City Cathedral*

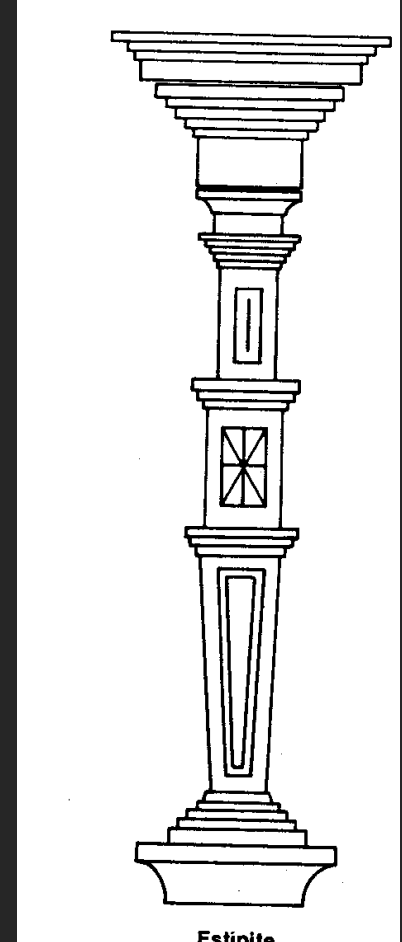


Renaissance Art (triumphal arch)









Jerónimo de Balbás (**peninsular**: Spanish born in Spain), *Altar of the Kings*, 1718-37, Mexico City Cathedral

(**estipite column**: inverted obelisk, makes altar seem dynamic and unstable, heavier at top, all Baroque elements)







*Church of San Francisco, Bogotá, Colombia, 1556*







*The Virgin of Guadalupe, 1531*

The Virgin of Guadalupe appeared to Juan Diego in Tepeyac speaking Nahuatl as a *mestiza* (Spanish-Indian).









Miguel González, *The Virgin of Guadalupe*, c. 1698  
*Enconchado*: inlaid mother of pearl





*Japanese Nanban*

*Enconchado*: inlaid mother of pearl







*Biombo with View of Mexico City, New Spain, late 17th century*

**biombo**: folding screen, from the Japanese *byobu*, which can be translated as “protection from wind,” these folding screens made their way from Asia to New Spain via the Manila Galleon trade network.







Luis Juárez  
*Saint Michael Slaying the Dragon*  
Mexico, 17<sup>th</sup> century





Saints as “soldiers of God,” a type of spiritual army during Spanish colonization



Ser Maria Ignacia  
de la Sangre de Chr-  
sto. Hija Leg<sup>ta</sup> del Sr.  
D<sup>o</sup> Man<sup>o</sup> de Uribe y de  
dona y de la Sr<sup>ta</sup> M<sup>ta</sup>  
Josefa Valcarlos y Ve-  
lasco. Profes<sup>o</sup> en el d<sup>o</sup>  
Mayo de 77 en el Reli-  
gioso Con<sup>o</sup> de S<sup>ta</sup>  
Cecilia de esta Ciud<sup>d</sup>  
de Mexico de  
Edad de 22 años  
y 5 Meses.



M<sup>ta</sup> Maria Ant<sup>ta</sup> d<sup>ta</sup> Purif<sup>ca</sup> Concep<sup>ta</sup> Hija legit<sup>ta</sup> de D<sup>o</sup> Man<sup>o</sup> Cul<sup>o</sup> de Estrada y de D<sup>o</sup>  
a de Arrillaga Nacio el dia 9 de Abril de 1755 y tomo el hab<sup>ito</sup> de 8 de diez de 77 y profes<sup>o</sup> en el d<sup>o</sup>  
de el R<sup>o</sup> y mas Antio<sup>o</sup> Convt<sup>o</sup> de la Purif<sup>ca</sup> Concep<sup>ta</sup> de esta N<sup>ra</sup> Ciudad de Mexi

### Crowned Nun Portraits



R<sup>ta</sup> de la R<sup>ta</sup> M<sup>ta</sup> Maria Guadalupe de las Cinco Señoras. Hija legit<sup>ta</sup> de D<sup>o</sup> Pedro Belasco de la  
Cebada y de D<sup>o</sup> Ana Maria Rodriguez de Hilo. Religiosa de Velo y Coro en el Sagrado  
Convento de la B<sup>is</sup>sim<sup>a</sup> Concepcion de la Ciudad de la Buena de las Animas.  
Profes<sup>o</sup> el dia 4 de Julio del año de 1806.



BY NC





Miguel Cabrera, *Casta Paintings* (14 shown of 16 total), 1763, oil on canvas







**Peninsular:**  
Spanish born  
in Spain

**Creole:**  
Spanish born  
in colonial  
America





“In America people are born in diverse colors, customs, temperaments and languages. From the Spaniard and the Indian is born the mestizo, usually humble, quiet and simple.” [1]



**Mestizo:** Spanish-Indian



*De Espanol y Negra, Mulato, 1760*



*Mulato*: Spanish-African