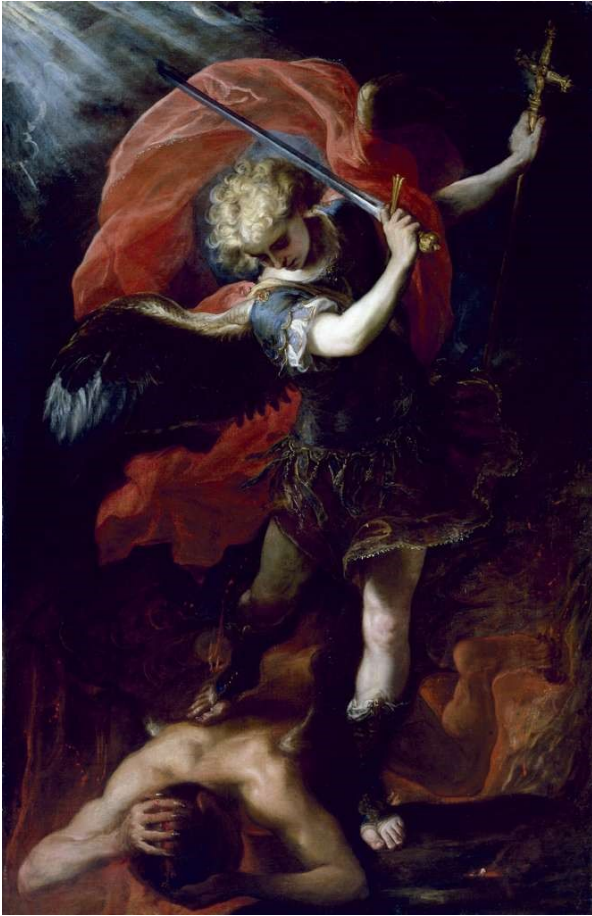


THE LIBRARIES OF
MFA  The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston
Hirsch Library Research Guide



Saint Michael the Archangel BF.1980.10

Artist/Culture: Claudio Coello, Spanish

Date/Period: 1665-1670

Place: Spain

Medium: Oil on Canvas

Dimensions: Canvas: 180.3 x 114.3 cm; Frame (Outer): 203.2 x 139.7 x 11.4 cm

“There was war in Heaven.” This biblical book of Revelation tells how Michael and his Angels cast the Devil out of heaven. The devil is described as a dragon but is usually depicted in a dark, angelic form. Saint Michael the Archangel was frequently portrayed in Spanish painting of the 17th century. He represented the Church’s victory over heresy, and the righteous role of Spanish Catholicism in its confrontation with the Protestant Reformation.

Online Resources:

[Hirsch Library Online Catalog](#)

[MET Museum of Art Heilbrunn Timeline of Art History](#)

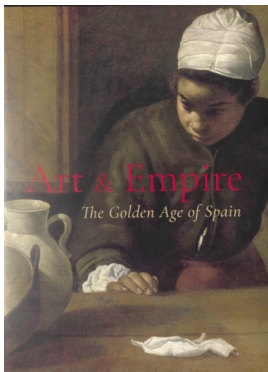
Articles: (full-text access available on-site; off-site access available through your school library or HPL System)

[The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. “Baroque Art and Architecture.” *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Encyclopaedia, Britannica, Inc. , 2019.](#)

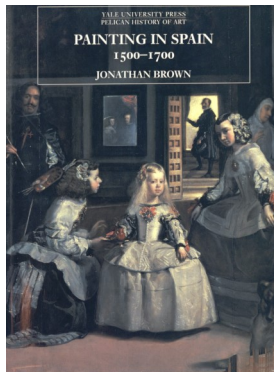
[The Editors of Encyclopaedia Britannica. “Claudio Coello.” *Encyclopaedia Britannica*, Encyclopaedia, Britannica, Inc. , 2019.](#)

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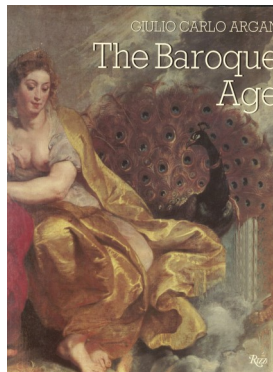
Print Resources:



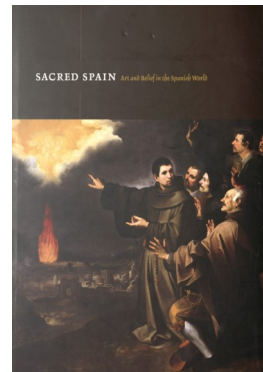
[Art and Empire:
The Spanish
Golden Age](#)



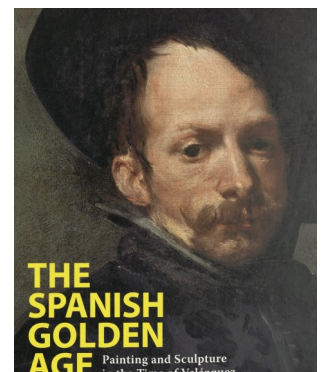
[Painting in Spain:
1500-1700](#)



[The Baroque Age](#)



[Sacred Spain: Art and
Belief in The Spanish
World](#)



[The Spanish Golden Age:
Painting and Sculpture in
the time of Velasquez](#)

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The Catholic Reformation (Counter Reformation)

[Hsia, R. Po-Chia. *The World of Catholic Renewal, 1540-1770*. Cambridge University Press, 1998.](#)

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[Stoichita, Victor I. *Visionary Experience in the Golden Age of Spanish Art*. London: Reaktion Books Ltd, 1995.](#)

ND 805 .S76 1995

This reference guide is just the tip of the iceberg on helpful resources in the library's holdings. Many of the suggested resources above have their own bibliographies. Each of these may lead you to another resource that would also be helpful in your research here in the museum or in another library. To find additional resources, use keywords such as "Baroque" and "Saints" in the online catalog and in periodical indexes. Once you find a few relevant titles, pay attention to the subject headings to identify similar materials. Examples of useful subject headings are:

Counter-Reformation in Art

Christian saints in art

Painting, Baroque Spain

Painting, Spanish 17th Century

For guidelines about writing it may be helpful to look at Sylvan Barnet's *A Short Guide to Writing about Art*, which includes tips for looking, reading, and writing about art. Ask for it at the reference desk. At every stage of your work, please allow the library staff to help you. Contact us at 713-639-7323 or Hirsch@mfa.org