



Madonna and Child with Saint Anne, 1340-45
Princeton University Art Museum

Artist Resources – Francesco Traini (Italian, 1321 – 1365)

Listen to an [audio guide stop](#) at the Camposanto Frescoes at the Piazza dei Miracoli in Pisa, which includes a fresco by Traini commissioned by Giovanni Coco.

Read about Traini's [Madonna and Child with Saint Anne](#), which is in the collection of the Princeton University Art Museum.

Louvre Abu Dhabi has Traini's [Virgin and Child](#) in the collection. Read more about the panel painting with their online collection.

In 2023, PhD student Michael Baird wrote a two-part series for UNC Chapel Hill's Ackland Art Museum featuring the work of Traini: [How Much Dirt? Or, What is Worth Conserving?](#) and [Towards a Spiritual Ecology of Conservation](#).



Francesco Traini (Italian, 1321-1365)
Saint Catherine of Alexandria, ca. 1330
Tempera and gold on panel

Private Collection; L2024:108.1

Active in Pisa and Bologna, Francesco Traini was a 14th-century Italian artist whose hand has been attributed to a number of altarpieces and frescoes. He is most well-known for his one signed artwork, a triptych depicting scenes from the life of Saint Dominic. Here, Traini depicts Saint Catherine of Alexandria, who was tortured upon a spiked wheel after refusing to renounce her faith. In one hand, she cradles the wheel in question; in the other, she holds a book, which is likely a reference to Catherine's status as patron saint of scholars, as well as her own learned background. While Traini was active during the Trecento, a period of Italian art that would eventually transition into the increasingly fluid and naturalistic style of the Renaissance, the gilded background indicates some lingering influence of Orthodox and Byzantine styles on 14th-century Italian art.

On view February 5 – June 1, 2025