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Visual Arts Assignment 2
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Fra Filippo Lippi:

The Painting that interests me the most is the Fra Filippo Lippi's rendition of the Annunciation. The painting describes the meaning of the annunciation. The Angel coming to tell Mary that she is with Child thereby announcing the coming of King Jesus. Lippi's painting is described as "more down to earth" due to the painting placing Mary and the angel in a more homely view. Although Lippi's painting is very simplistic in aesthetics, it really shows one of the greatest events to occur for humankind.

Symbolism is also used within the painting to further capture the encounter. The lily showing Mary's virginity and the book Mary is carrying as the Carrying of the Word which we know to be Jesus. The dove symbolizing the spirit of God and the light showing the opening of a heavenly realm on earth. The painting focuses on the incarnation of God becoming Flesh and dwelling among us as stated in John 1:1-2, 14 ***In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. 14. And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his Glory, the only glory as the glory as of the only begotten of the father) full of Grace and truth.*** Lippi's painting is said to have "skillfully combined pictorial and material elements of his painting" to give us as the viewers a good sense of the significance of Christ coming into the world.

AS I study this painting in more depth with the aid of the video I realized how small the room was actually made to feel in order to visualize not only the closeness but the intimacy of what is about to take place. Lippi's use of space really creates the illusion that this was a simple girl in her humble abode receiving a gift From a mighty God. The use of light around the portion of the room where the Angel kneels and shining in on Mary, give me the feeling that the glory of God is with the angel but blessing Mary. When you even look at where Mary is

sitting on the side of her there is a dark room that tells me something is being developed but hasn't been brought to light yet. It Also says that God was giving this gift to Mary to be a light within a dark world. When I look at how the light is made to look as though Gabriel came with the light casting a shadow in front of the angel but not of Mary. I really have come to appreciate this painting because the simplicity makes it more relatable to me as the viewer.