



“The sincere friends of this world are
as ship lights in the stormiest of nights.”

Giotto di Bondone

Giotto di Bondone (1266-1337) was an Italian painter and architect who is credited with initiating the Italian Renaissance. He showed astonishing talent at a very young age and is said to have been apprenticed to the great Florentine painter Cimabue. Legend has it that Cimabue asked permission from di Bondone's father to take young Giotto as an apprentice after seeing his startlingly life-like rock drawings of sheep. Bondone made a decisive break from the prevalent artistic style of the time and moved to a more contemporary style. He introduced the technique of drawing accurately from life with his devotion to physical and emotional portrayal of humans, which were almost always saints and other religious figures.