



Contents

6	Fairest daughter of heaven and waves: Sandro Botticelli <i>The Birth of Venus</i> , 1482-1485	50	Two cool beauties in the tub: School of Fontainebleau <i>Gabrielle d'Estrées and One of Her Sisters</i> , c. 1600
14	A message from the realm of alchemy: Piero di Cosimo <i>The Death of Procris</i> , c. 1495	58	A nude for the pious king: Diego Velázquez <i>Venus at Her Mirror (The Rokeby Venus)</i> , c. 1644-1648
22	Strange quartet: Hans Baldung Grien <i>The Three Stages of Life</i> , with <i>Death</i> , c. 1509/1510	66	A lecherous bull as sweet seducer: François Boucher <i>The Rape of Europa</i> , 1747
28	The goddess with the mercenary's hat: Niklaus Manuel Deutsch <i>The Judgement of Paris</i> , 1516/1528	74	A Romantic's Asiatic tour de force: Eugène Delacroix <i>The Death of Sardanapalus</i> , c. 1827
34	From the canopy of heaven to a four-poster bed: Titian <i>Venus of Urbino</i> , c. 1538	82	A fragrance of women and the Orient: Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres <i>The Turkish Bath</i> , 1852-1859, modified in 1862
42	The third voyeur stood before the canvas: Tintoretto <i>Susanna and the Elders</i> , c. 1555/1556	88	A naked woman amongst gentlemen: Édouard Manet <i>Le Déjeuner sur l'herbe</i> , 1863