

Raffaello Sanzio (1483–1520) “Deposizione Borghese”

E. Martino

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Raffaello Sanzio (Urbino 1483–Roma 1520) was one of the greatest artists of Italian Renaissance, and his works are located in the most famous museums of the entire world.

This picture titled “Deposizione Borghese” is an oil painted in a wood panel dated 1507, commissioned by Atalanta Baglioni of Perugia in memory of Grifonetto Baglioni and exposed in Galleria Borghese in Rome.

This work represents marvelously the “deposizione” of Christ and the Virgin’s pain. In the right part of the picture

is depicted a group of pious women “pie donne”, supporting the fainted Virgin; one of these shows a large nodular goiter (see detail). Probably the young model of Raffaello was coming from Umbria—central Italy, region with high prevalence of endemic goiter in XVI century.

Conflict of interest None.

E. Martino (✉)
University of Pisa, Pisa, Italy
e-mail: enio.martino@med.unipi.it