

Where Is Epicurus In The "School of Athens"?

Post by "Don" of May 20, 2021 at 10:57 PM

I am pretty firmly in the camp of multiple viable explanations on The School of Athens now. Personally, I think this is the only reasonable stance *at this time*. Just like Epicurus in the letter to Pythocles says: "The evidence we can observe does not contradict any of these different theories."

Without specific notes from Raphael or a contemporary, we can propose, theorize, etc. until our fingers bleed on the keyboard and we won't come any closer to confirmation.

For me, the fact that Raphael used living people as models for many if not most of his philosophers (e.g., Da Vinci = Plato, one of the two key figures we can specifically identify) or used the fanciful portraits in the Nuremberg Chronicle negates any *need* for him to have seen a bust, ring, sculpture, etc., of anyone. I'm not saying it's not possible because "The evidence we can observe does not contradict any of these different theories."

Elli brings up interesting theories.

Nate brings up interesting theories.

Cassius brings up interesting theories.

The authors I posted bring up interesting theories.

"The evidence we can observe does not contradict any of these different theories."