

The Wreathed Figure In Blue - Epicurus? Democritus? Someone Else?

Post by "Don" of May 24, 2021 at 11:34 PM

I don't know if he's supposed to portray Epicurus or not, but I'm pretty well convinced that this is a portrait of Tommaso Inghirami, the Pope's librarian, a friend of Raphael's, and one of the people that helped Raphael with his research. Tommaso was also named a poet laureate by Maximilian I which may explain the wreath: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tommaso_Inghirami

"art historians credit Inghirami with authorship of the program for Raphael's frescoes that decorate the Stanza della Segnatura, which establishes a relationship between ancient Roman and Renaissance culture.."

So, it makes too much sense to me that Raphael would paint him above the entrance to the room. Then Raphael bookended the fresco with himself in the opposite corner.

If we're looking for Epicureans in Raphael's work: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raphael_C...hens_\(1515\).jpg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Raphael_C...hens_(1515).jpg)

There's a whole crowd of Epicureans and Stoics to illustrate that Bible verse.