

## The landscape in the background of the Mona Lisa is being auctioned



**Spain, Madrid, Apr 11, 2021 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.issuewire.com))** - A multidisciplinary team of researchers and experts in new technologies has made an **extraordinary discovery** after more than five years of searching for the exact location where *the Mona Lisa* was painted.

The investigation began with a meticulous study of Da Vinci's works, particularly of the places that the artist visited and worked in throughout his career. After all of the documentary material was collected, the researchers employed a series of complex mathematical algorithms to identify the exact location that inspired the background of Da Vinci's most famous painting.

Maps dating back to old times, with their distinctive geographical references, such as bridges, bodies of water, and mountains, helped the researchers conclude that *the Mona Lisa* was painted in the famous and historic Lombard city of Mantua, which is located in the middle of a lake on the other side of the Po River.

During his stay at the Court of Mantua, Da Vinci painted Isabella d'Este. By analyzing the sketch that he drew, the researchers noted that the subject's physiognomy was very similar to that of the painting exhibited in the Louvre Museum in Paris. It became clear that Da Vinci, while passing through Mantua,

was already collecting references that he would later use to paint *the Mona Lisa*.

Once the location in question was identified, the researchers enlarged and reconstructed the entire *Mona Lisa* painting, using the new information as a reference. It took them over two years to create a new representation of the painting based on the historical, geographical, and artistic indications from the Nuremberg Chronicle drawing (1493) and the map of the city by Georg Braun (1575). The new sections of the created piece have followed the same technique and style that Da Vinci used in the original painting.

The final piece of art is now being auctioned as a Non-fungible Token (NTF) in the online auction house OpenSea.io under the name of "**Mona Lisa Landscape**". More info here: <https://bit.ly/2Q8d3mN>

### **About NTF**

Based on blockchain, NFT technology allows for the certification of digital art. By providing the owner of the work with a digital certificate of ownership that can be bought and sold, the acquisition is a unique and original digital work of art.

### **About the location used as the background of the painting**

Mantua is located in Italy and is situated in the middle of a lake, as can be seen in one of Georg Braun's works representing a bird's eye view of the city. In the background, flat terrain can be seen, with the Alps appearing in a horizontal. The city itself is connected with the mainland by bridges and dams. Mantua was founded by the Etruscans in the 6th century BC and is named after Mantus, the god of the underworld.

For more information, contact:

### **The Next Art Gallery**

[www.theaigallery.com](http://www.theaigallery.com)

### **Media Contact**

The Next Art Gallery

[info@theaigallery.com](mailto:info@theaigallery.com)

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