

The Oath of the Horatii

~ Jacques – Louis David

Oil on Canvas

Musée du Louvre, Paris

330 X 425 cm

Medium: Oil on canvas

Size: 330 x 425 cm

Location: Musée du Louvre, Paris

Time period:

1784 C.E

Neoclassical



Doric Arcade #1 – The Sons

Triplet brothers

2 take oath with left hand

1 swears with right hand – survivor

Doric Arcade #2 – The Father

FOCAL POINT: Swords

Horatius (father) about to give his sons swords

Doric Arcade #3 – The women

Slumped women

One betrothed to one of the brothers

Context:

Tells the story of the triplet sons of Publius Horatius

Content:

David splits up the three elements of the picture - the sons, the father (the masculine resolve) and the slumped resignation of the women. Each is framed by a section of a Doric arcade. The figures are located in a narrow stage-like space.

Context:

One survived son of the Horatii survive. He kills one of the sisters of the Horatii, Camilla, who is betrothed to one of the Horatii, because she wept for the death of her future husband

Work Cited

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=the%20oath%20of%20the%20horatii&&form=IDIVXX>

Class notes

http://www.wga.hu/frames-e.html?/html/d/david_j/2/201david.html