

Name _____

Caravaggio: The Baroque Rebel Art

Short Answer Key

1. Caravaggio's use of chiaroscuro, the dramatic contrast between light and shadow, added depth and realism to his paintings, creating a sense of drama and intensity. It made his subjects appear three-dimensional and added emotional depth to his scenes.
2. One of Caravaggio's famous paintings is "The Calling of Saint Matthew." It was groundbreaking because it depicted a biblical scene in a contemporary setting, making it relatable to the audience of his time. This approach challenged the traditional idealized depictions of religious subjects and introduced a new, more accessible style to religious art.
3. Controversy and trouble marked Caravaggio's life, as he was often involved in brawls and legal disputes. While this behavior contributed to his reputation as a rebellious and unpredictable artist, it also added to his notoriety, drawing attention to his work and making him a memorable figure in art history.
4. Caravaggio's art had a profound influence on subsequent generations of artists. His realistic style, use of chiaroscuro, and focus on depicting everyday people influenced Baroque and realist artists. His approach to religious subjects set a precedent for more relatable and humanized religious art, impacting the way future artists portrayed such scenes.
5. Caravaggio's mysterious disappearance and the unknown location of his burial site add to the intrigue and legend surrounding his life. It reinforces the idea that Caravaggio was an enigmatic figure, both in his art and his personal life. It also emphasizes the mystique and controversy that continue to surround his legacy.

