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FAU FRIEDRICH-ALEXANDER
UNIVERSITÄT
ERLANGEN-NÜRNBERG

Painting the Fate of Mankind

New Perspectives on
Hieronymus Bosch's Master Triptychs

Matthias Riedl, IKGf Fellow



The Garden of Earthly Delights (exterior panels)

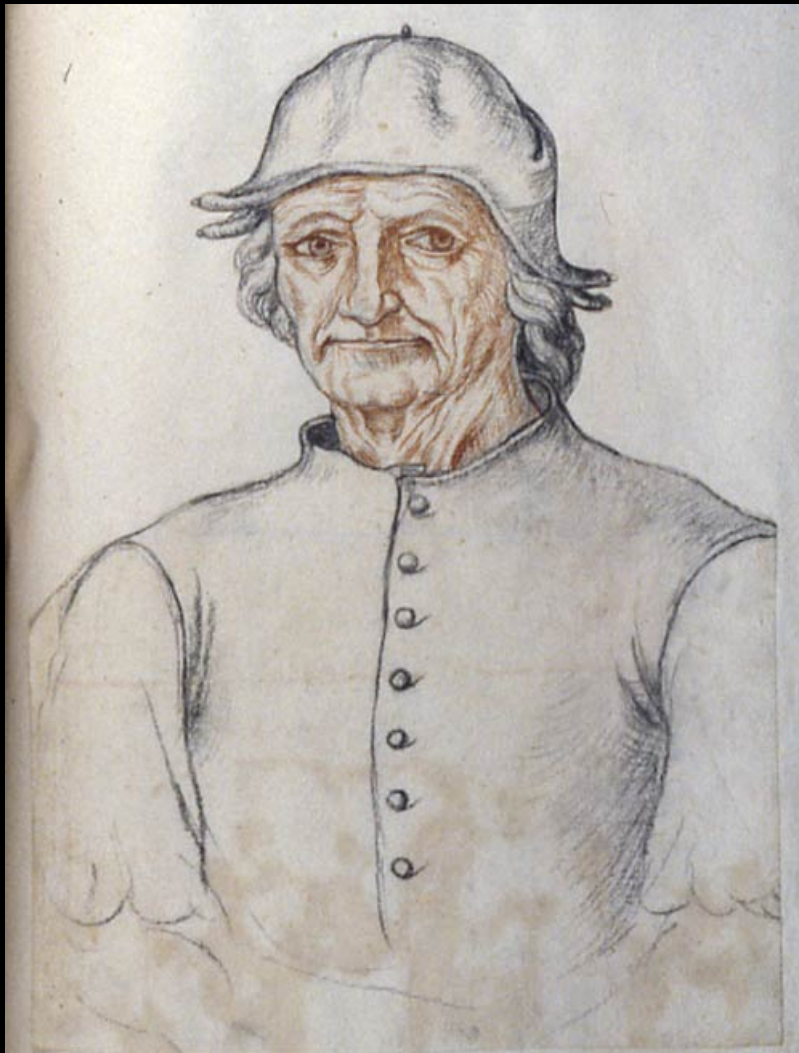




The Garden of Earthly Delights (exterior panels)



The Garden of Earthly Delights (Museo del Prado, Madrid)



Hieronymus Bosch
Hieronymus Bosch painter



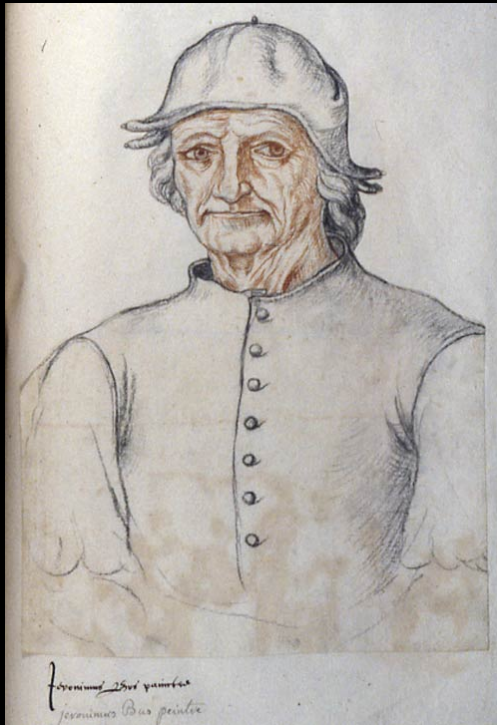
Helmen petzmetens vop mit gashy bay uerpuftel
Wylhelma aerts dorht' vand' bey
Joffon auae meest ja woupe dorht' des poje
Jou bay wyflet ualroft' volkand' bay wyflet
Alyt aerts dorht' bay roden
Joffon lyster flouf' heermans vop
Theoning muthomtsocy bay akey
Deatus bay ingelacis vop tot lubcech
m'ruet willeu artfoens dorht' bay berhel
Bouwey geur damoysoy bay lutt

lib

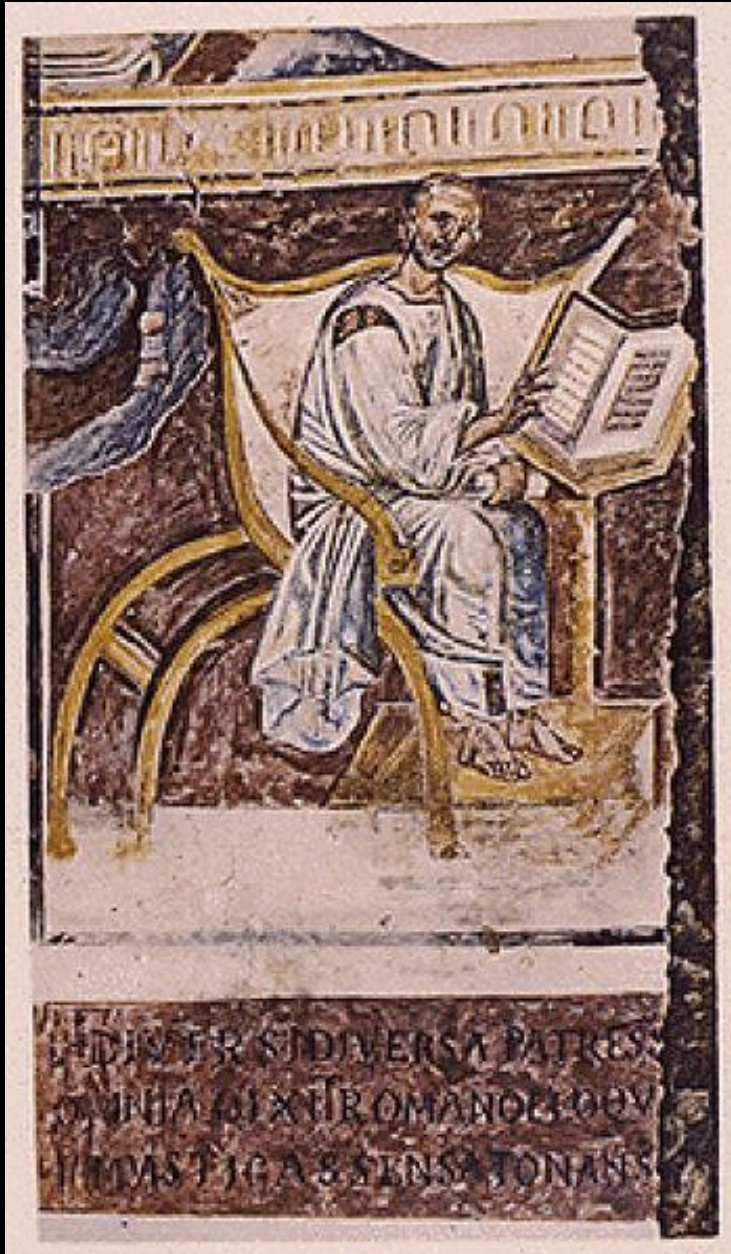
Hieronymus Bosch
(1450? – 1516)



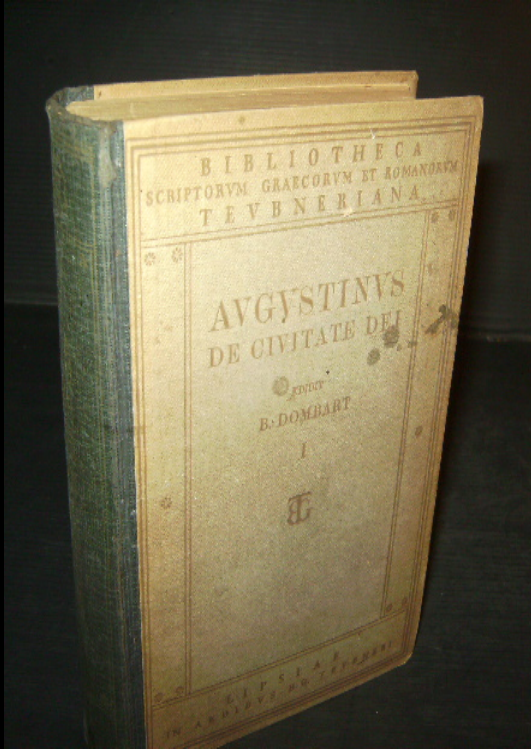
Ecce Homo (Museum of Fine Arts, Boston)



Central panel of the
Hermit Saints Triptych
(Palazzo Ducale, Venice)



Augustine portrait
Lateran church, 6th century



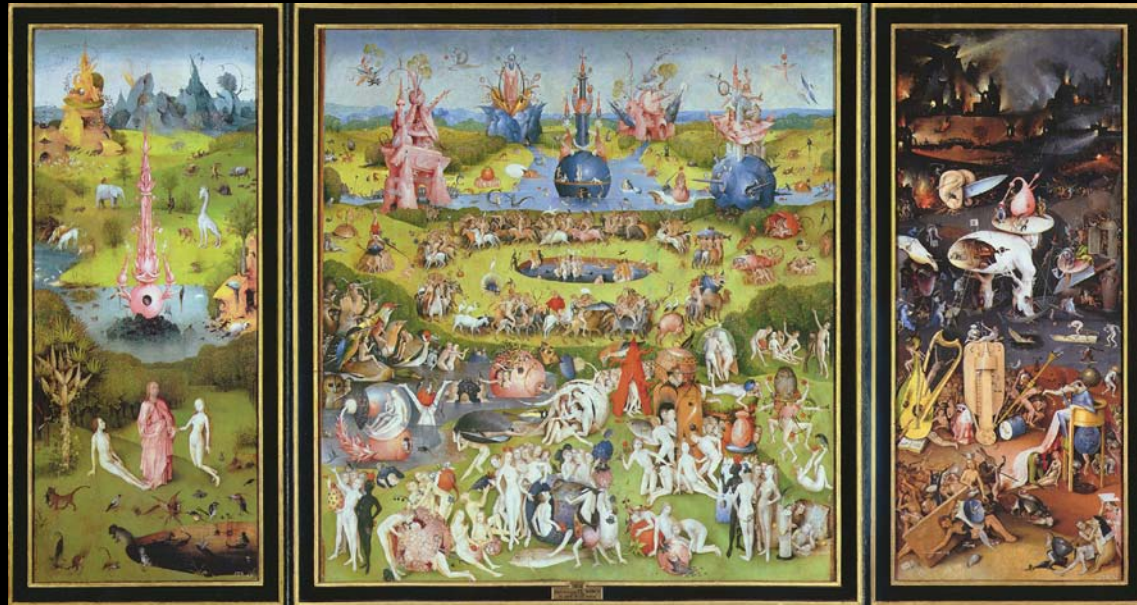
AUGUSTINE
The City Of God
Against the Pagans

EXORTUS

PROCURSUS

DEBITI FINES

Of these twelve succeeding books, the first four contain the origin (*exortus*) of the two cities; the second four, their course or progress (*procursus*); the third and last four, their appointed ends (*debiti fines*).



The three triptychs on the human fate





The Last Judgment (Academie der Bildenden Künste, Vienna)









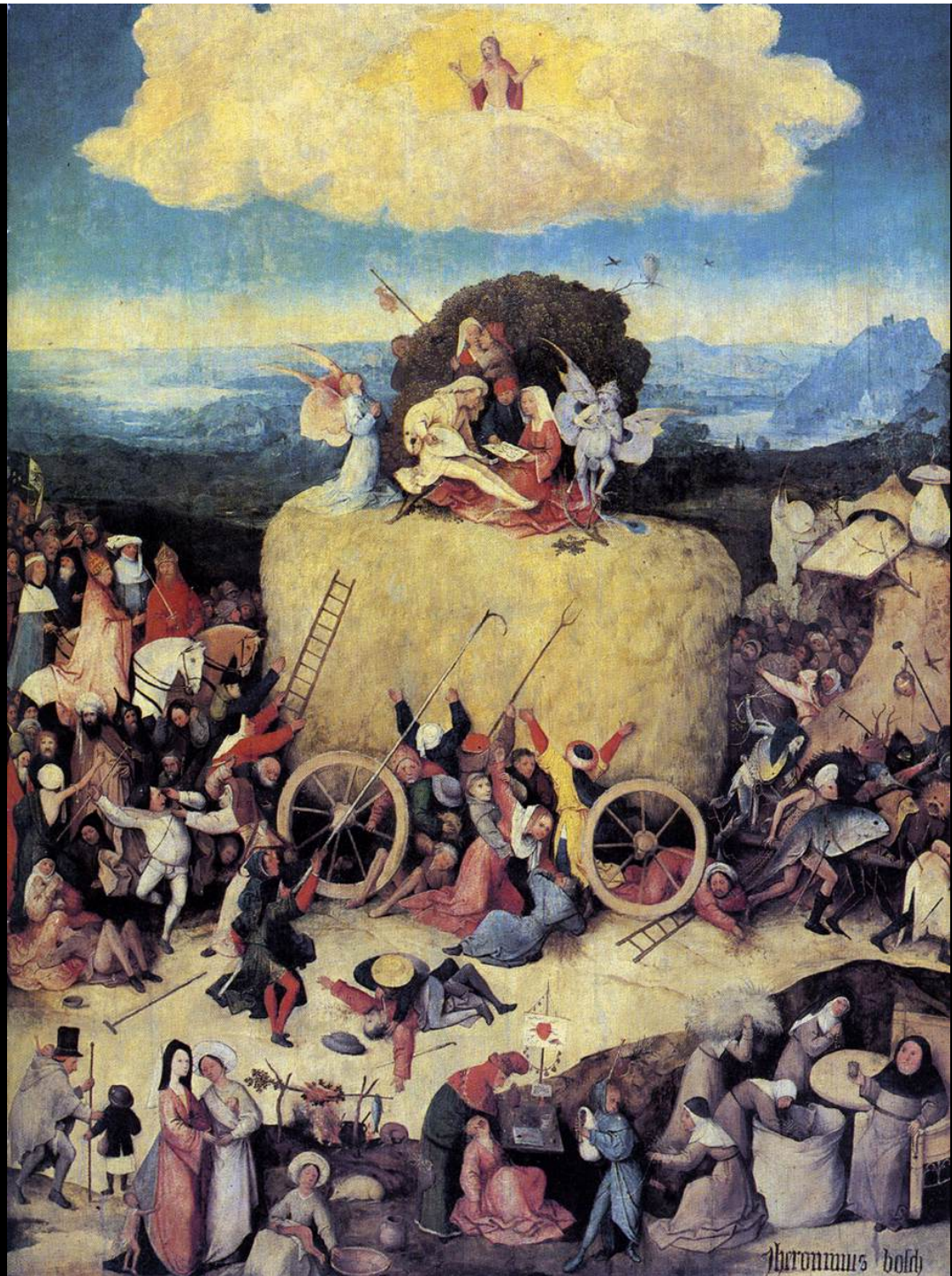


The Haywain (Museo del Prado, Madrid)

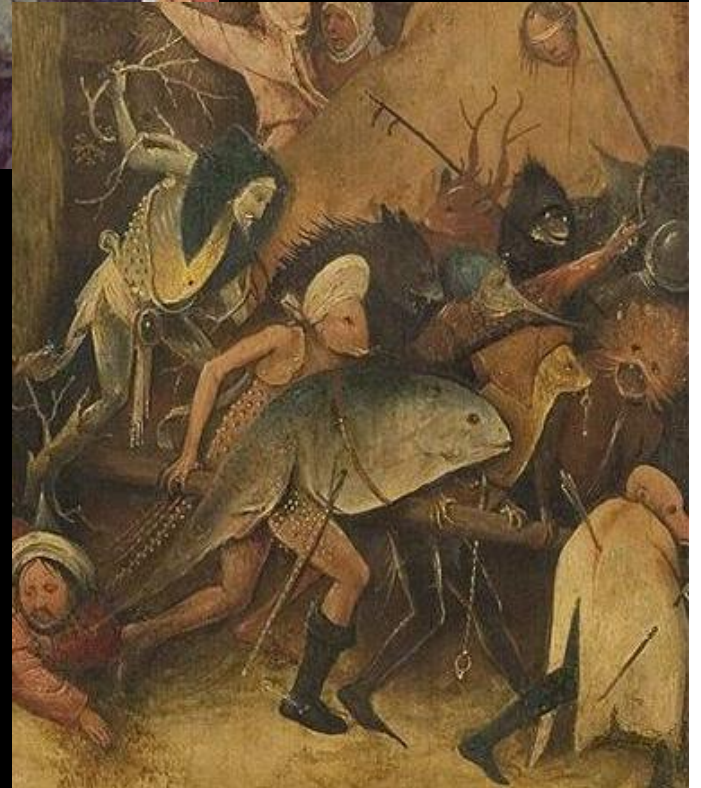




The Haywain (Museo del Prado, Madrid)









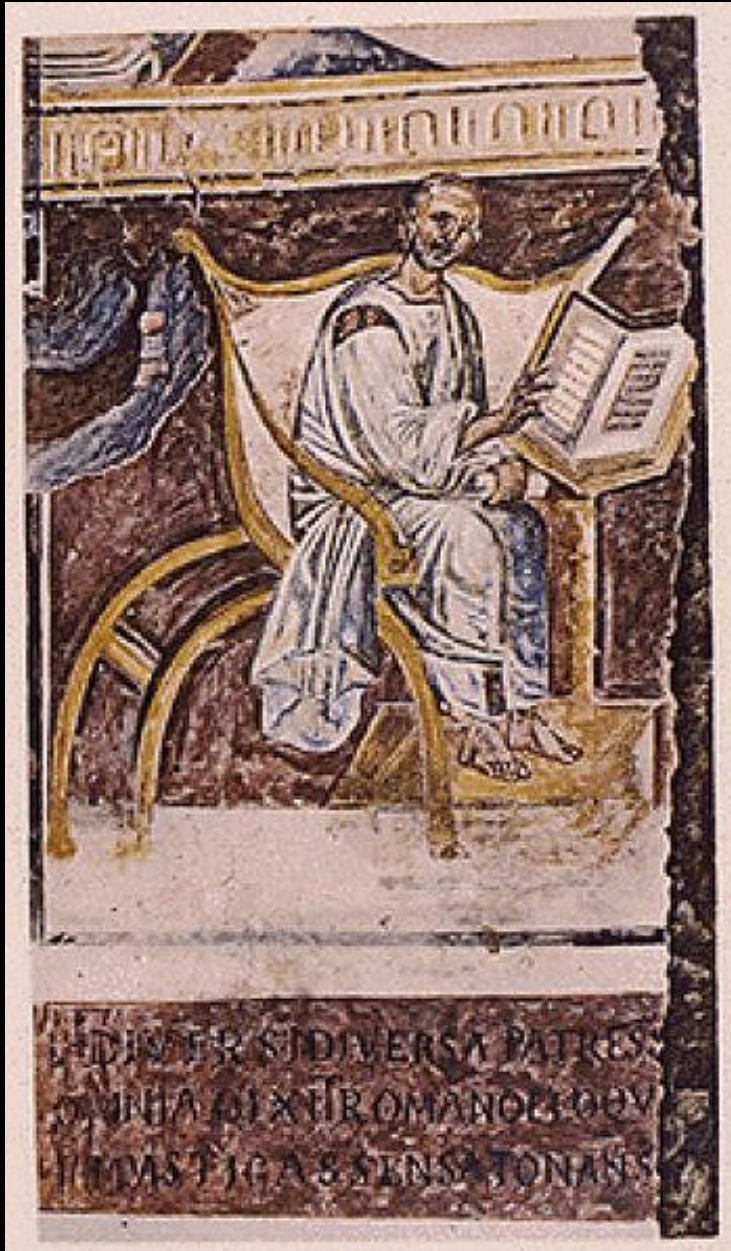






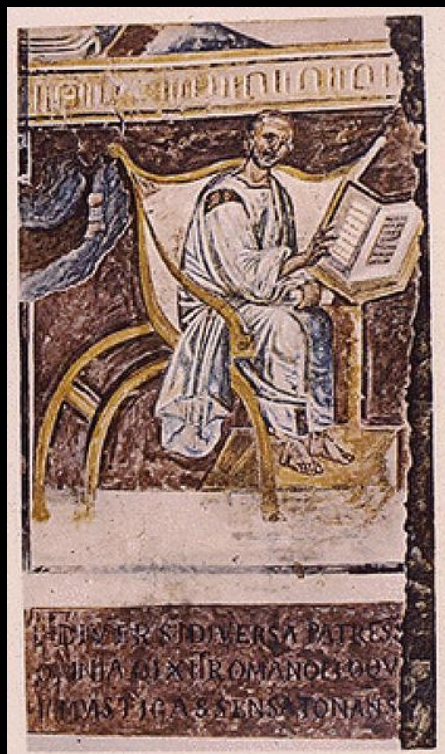
The Garden of Earthly Delights (Museo del Prado, Madrid)



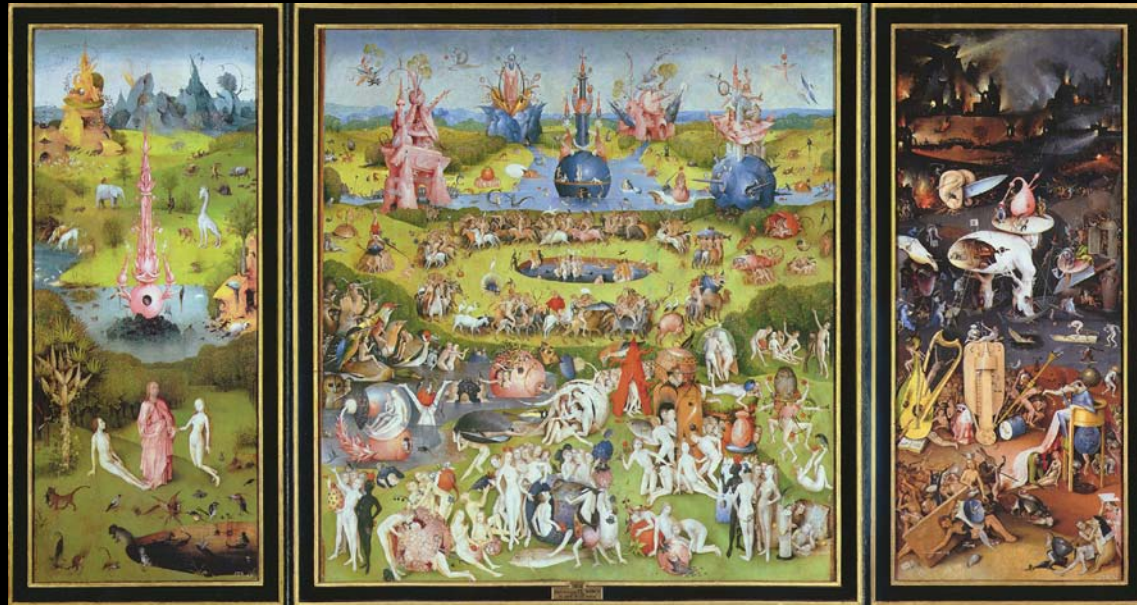


**“Summa in carne sanitas, in animo
tota tranquillitas.”**

De civitate Dei XIV:26



[...] marriage, worthy of the happiness of Paradise, should have had desirable fruit without the shame of lust, had there been no sin. But how that could be, there is now no example to teach us. Nevertheless, it ought not to seem incredible that one member might serve the will without lust then, since so many serve it now. Do we now move our feet and hands when we will to do the things we would by means of these members? [...] May we not similarly believe that those sexual organs could, like the others, have served mankind by obedience to the decision of the will for the generation of children even if there had been no lust inflicted as punishment for the sin of disobedience? [...]. Under those circumstances, the organ created for this work would have sown its seed upon the field of generation, as the hand does now upon the earth.



The three triptychs on the human predicament



LEFT PANELS

Garden of Earthly Delights

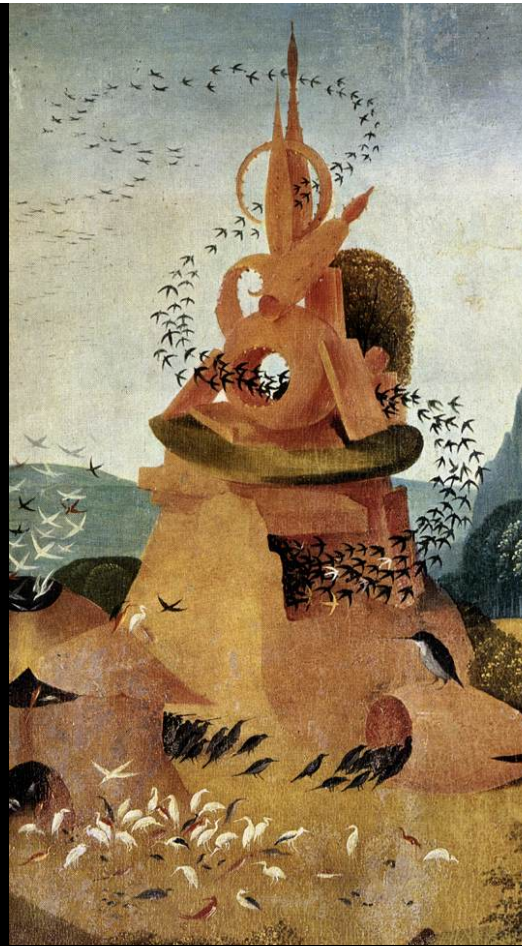


Haywain



Last Judgment



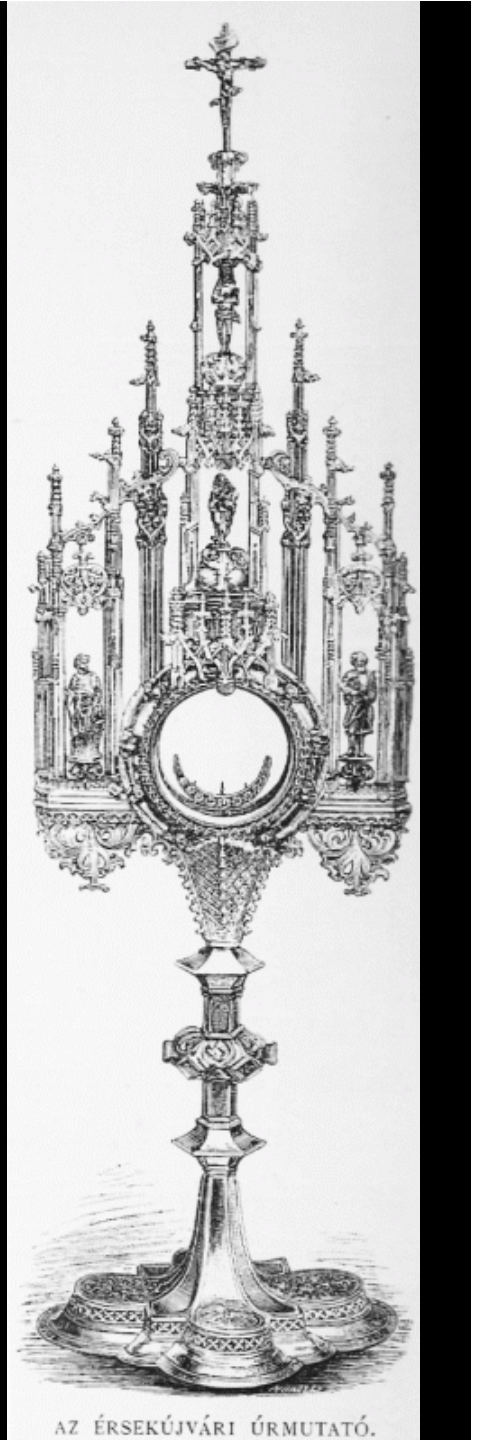
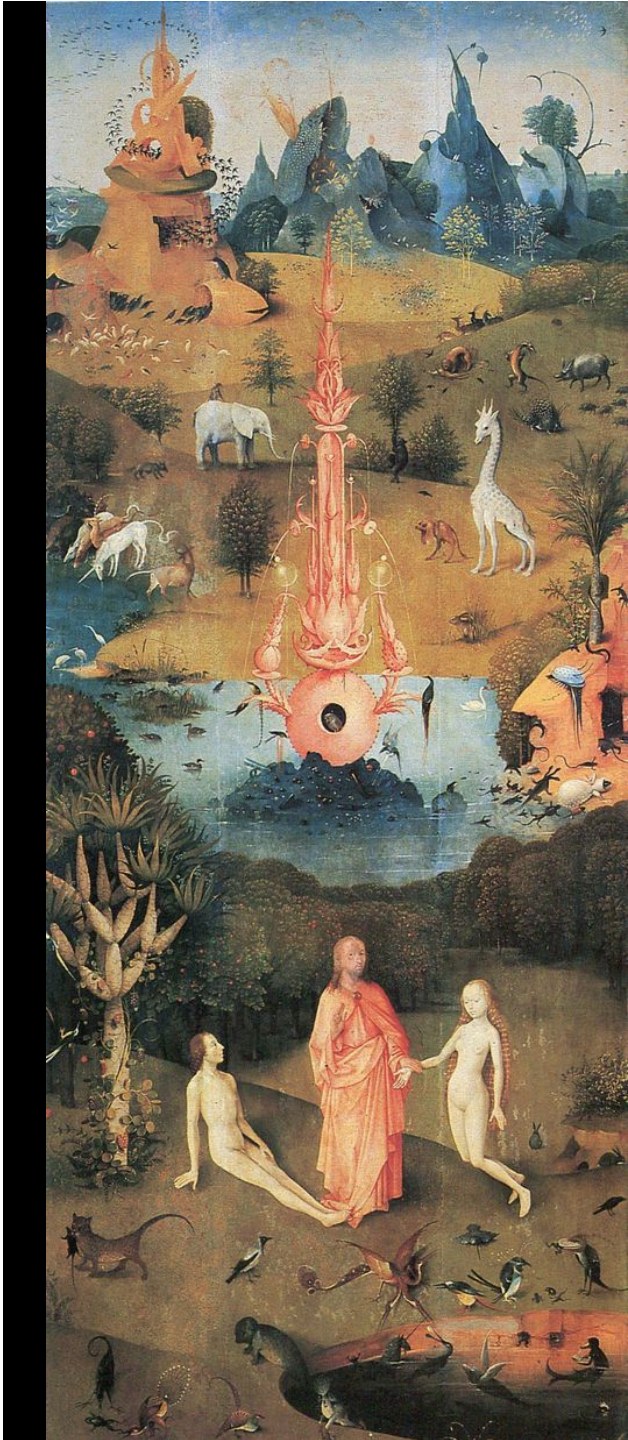


*The Garden of
Earthly
Delights*

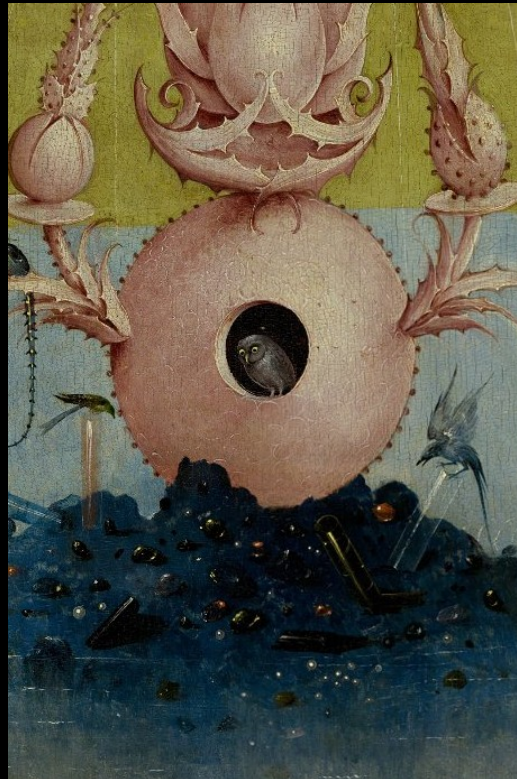
Left panel







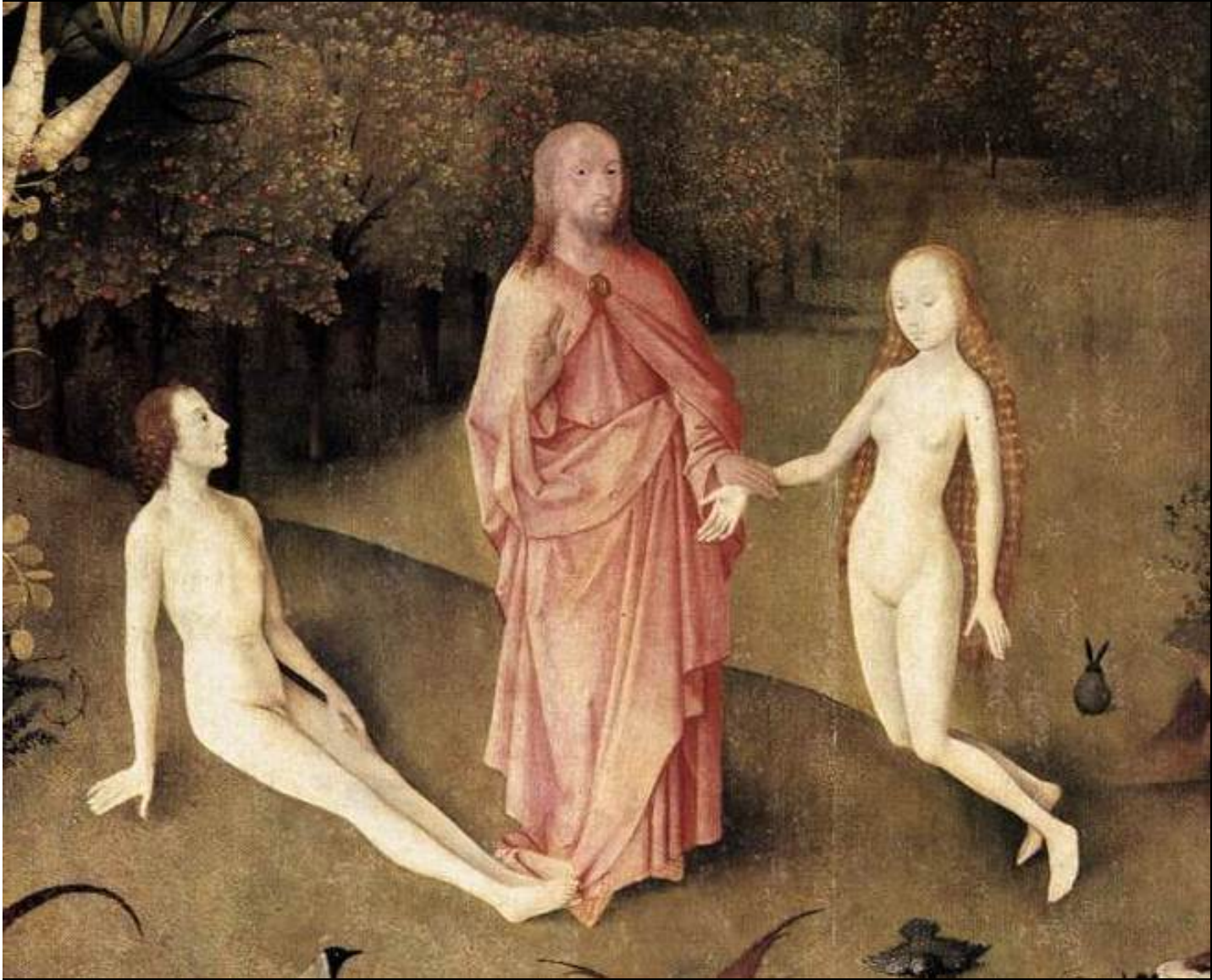
AZ ÉRSEKÚJVÁRI ÚR MUTATÓ.





“And God blessed them, and God said unto them, be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth ...”

Genesis 1:28





The Garden of Earthly Delights (Museo del Prado, Madrid)













