

## **Rooted in God's Earth**

**Trees and wood at St  
James's and St  
Pancras:**

**Grinling Gibbons,  
Reredos & Font**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Nov 2024**

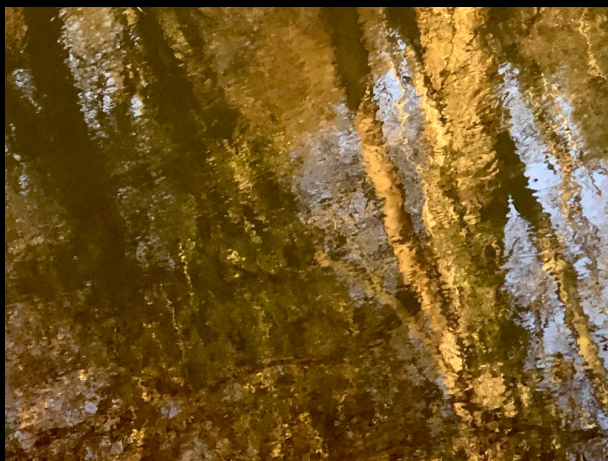


Photo: John Milbank, @johnmilbank3) / X

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God of creation,  
we thank you that we are  
rooted in your earth together.  
Help us to recognise and  
rejoice in the inter-  
connectedness of all that has  
lived and all that will live.  
In our encounters with  
scripture, help us to listen for  
what your Spirit is saying, and  
inspire us with your love.  
Amen.



2

**Grinling Gibbons  
(1648-1721)**

**Hampton Court  
Palace**



3

**William III apartments,  
Hampton Court Palace**



**Petworth House, West Sussex**



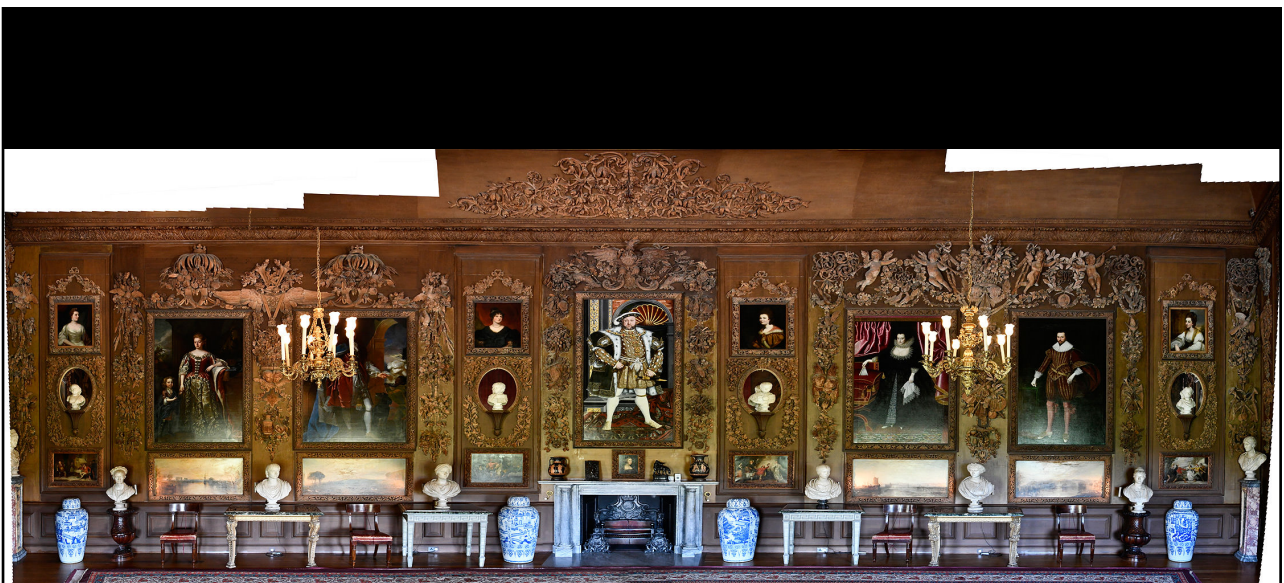
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**Petworth House, West Sussex. Carvings showing the music for The Fairy-Queen by Henry Purcell which was written to celebrate the wedding anniversary of William and Mary.**



5



**Petworth House, Grinling Gibbons' Carved Room.**

6





**Cosimo Panel, commissioned from Gibbons by Charles II as gift for Duke of Tuscany. Pitti Palace, Florence, Italy.**

7



**Detail of Cosimo Panel, Pitti Palace, Florence.**

8





9



**Reredos carving, Grinling Gibbons, St James's Piccadilly.**

10





**Reredos carving, Grinling Gibbons, St James's Piccadilly.**

11



Reredos carving, Grinling Gibbons, St James's Piccadilly.

12





Reredos carving, Grinling Gibbons, St James's Piccadilly.

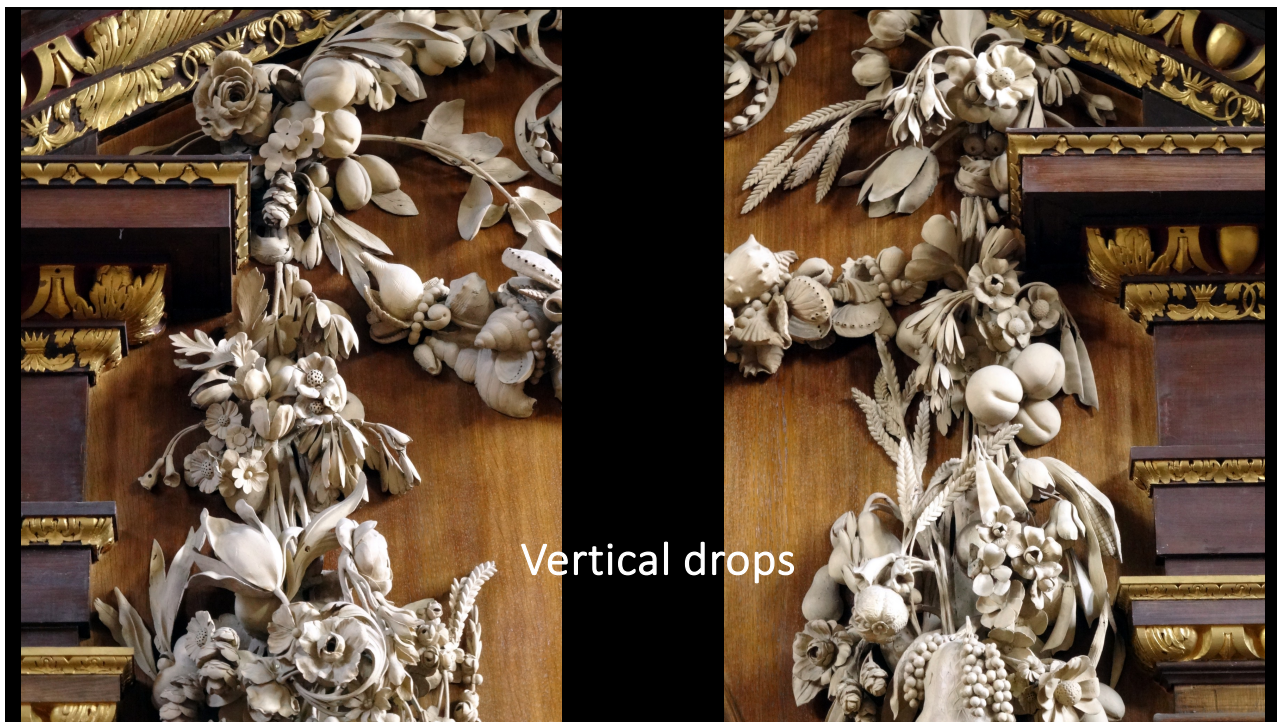
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Reredos carving, cresting detail, St James's Piccadilly.

14





15



16





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**Pelican feeding young from its own blood.**

18



19

### **Exodus 35.30-35 (abv.)**

**Then Moses said to the Israelites: See,  
the Lord has called by name Bezalel ... ;  
he has filled him with divine spirit,**

**with skill, intelligence, and knowledge in every  
kind of craft, to devise artistic designs, to work in  
gold, silver, and bronze, in cutting stones for  
setting, and in carving wood, in every kind of craft..**

**And he has inspired him to teach.... He has filled [his  
apprentices] with skill to do every kind of work done by  
an artisan or by a designer or by an embroiderer in  
blue, purple, and crimson yarns, and in fine linen, or by  
a weaver—by any sort of artisan or skilled designer.**

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**Baptismal  
font, St  
James's  
Piccadilly,  
attributed  
to Grinling  
Gibbons  
(1686).**



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**Drawing by  
Charles  
Woodfield from  
Grinling  
Gibbons' font  
carving. 1715  
(V&A)**



22



23



John  
baptising  
Jesus

24





25



26



27

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