## HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE I ARC 2313 - SPRING 2022

## LECTURE-30 13 APRIL 2022



Reminder: Test #3

### Wednesday, 27 April 2022

(Lectures 22-31)

### THE GOTHIC CATHEDRALS

(continued)

1920s 1930s 1950s







Carolingian

Romanesque

Gothic

It is sometimes useful to think of design as a series of spatial and formal refinements as well as improvements in technology and building techniques

#### GOING HIGHER IN GOTHIC CATHEDRALS

**The Content** (the idea behind the architecture)
Achieving the **heavenly light** also known **Lux Nova** 

The Form (how the idea is manifest)

Technology such as *innovative vaulting* to achieve lighter construction, which leads to *increased fenestration*, this fenestration is expressed as *stained glass*, and additional support in the form of *flying buttresses* 

Later stages of the *Gothic* aim higher and higher and get thinner and thinner in detail and masonry

The working metaphor is that these cathedrals are evoking heavenly light

Technological and design innovatives make this possible

Master Builders of Cathedrals transfer their building knowledge to other countries

Gothic began as the *National Style of France* — now becomes an *International Style* 



### Completed 1260

A national preservation movement arose in the 1840s due to deep interest in Notre Dame sparked by Hugo's book

NOTRE DAME OF PARIS



#### Notre Dame of Paris

Viollet le Duc's restoration drawing (1840s)

We will discuss Viollet le Duc in great detail next semester!



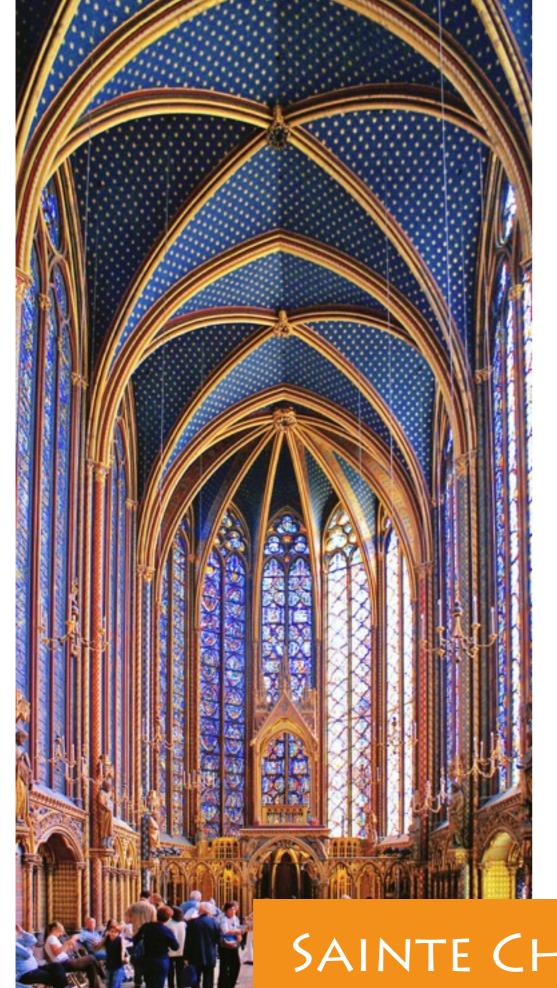
Chartres Cathedral near Paris

Completed 1220

The westworks

mismatched towers due to different time periods

CHARTRES CATHEDRAL



# Sainte Chapelle (1248)

Sainte Chapelle is on the same island in the middle of Paris as is *Notre Dame* 

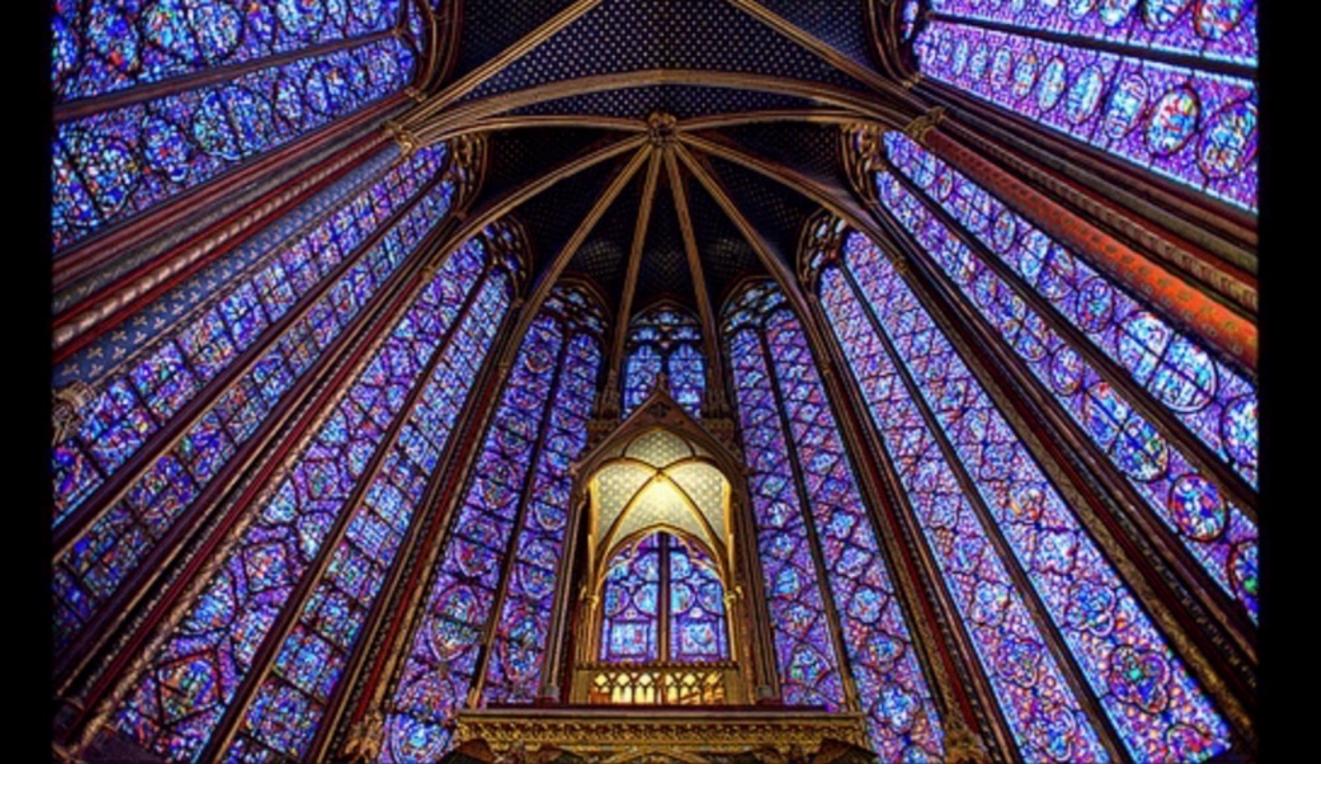
The two churches are only a few hundred yards apart

SAINTE CHAPELLE IN PARIS

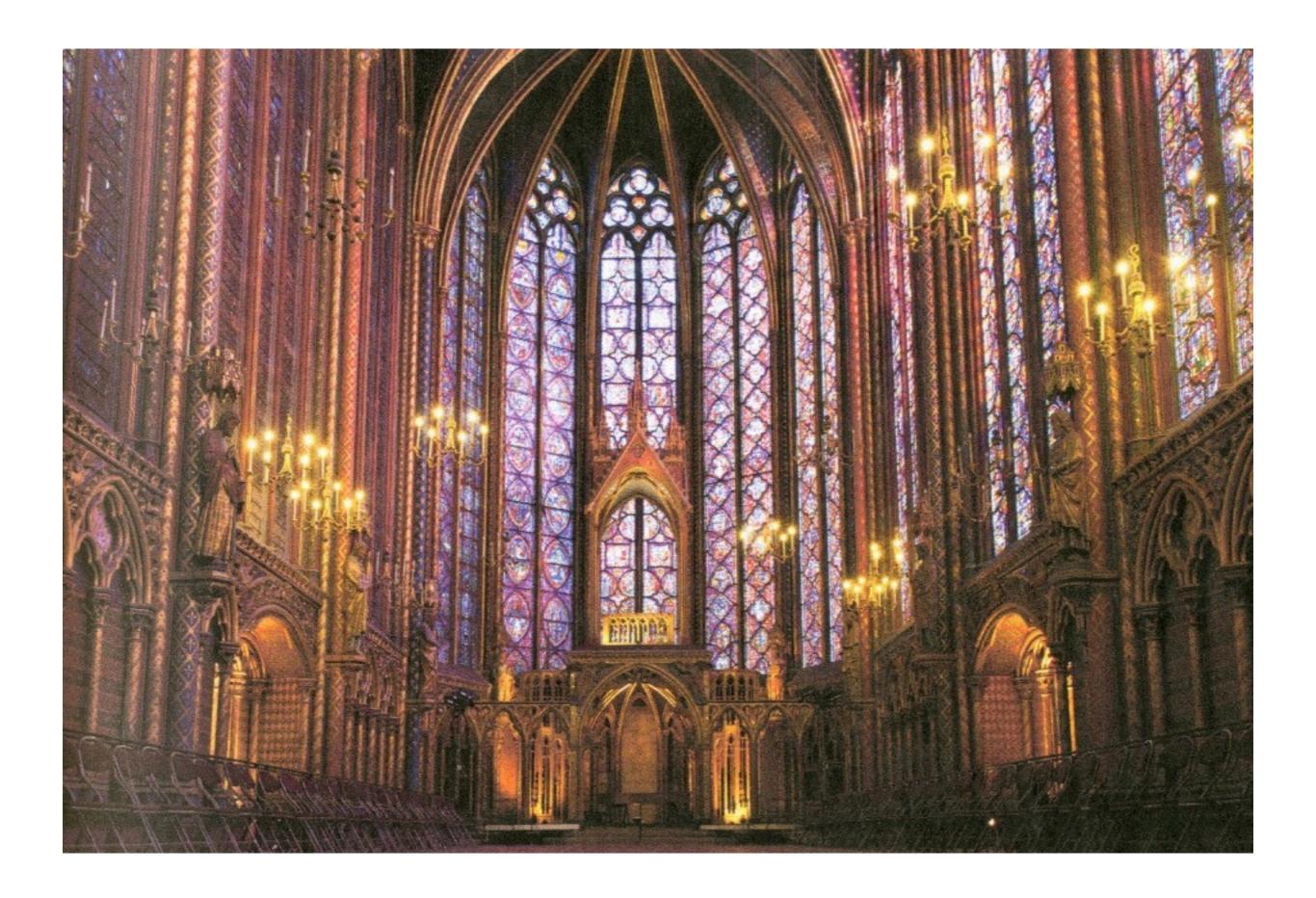


# Louis IX Saint Louis

Sainte Chapelle (**1248**) was built by Louis IX to house his special collection of relics from the Holy Land



Sainte Chapelle in Paris (1248) exhibits the ~ rayonnant ~ style



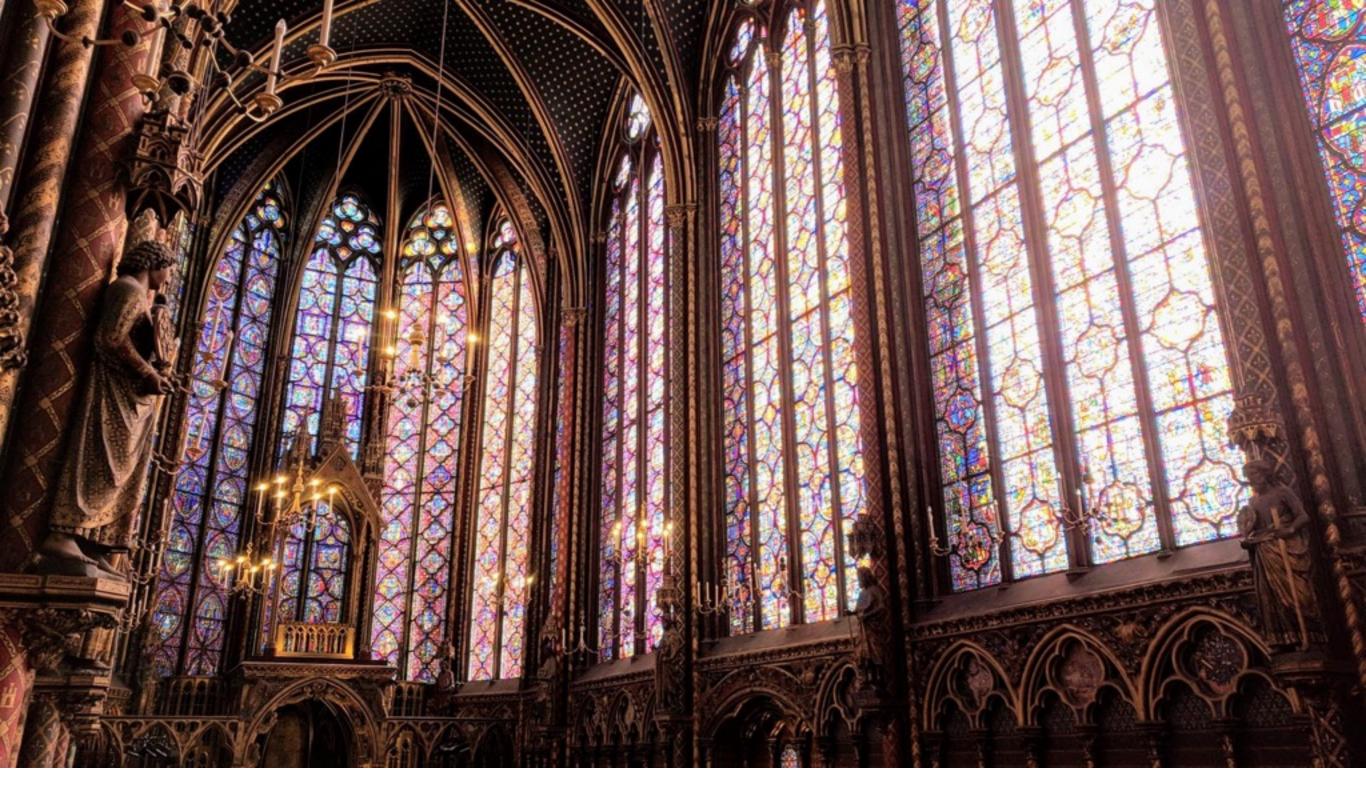
## What is *rayonnant?*

A late Gothic style (sub-style) which has several definitions or meanings such as:

literally it means :: radiating

it's much more *two-dimensional* and *vertical* creating more lightness and openess

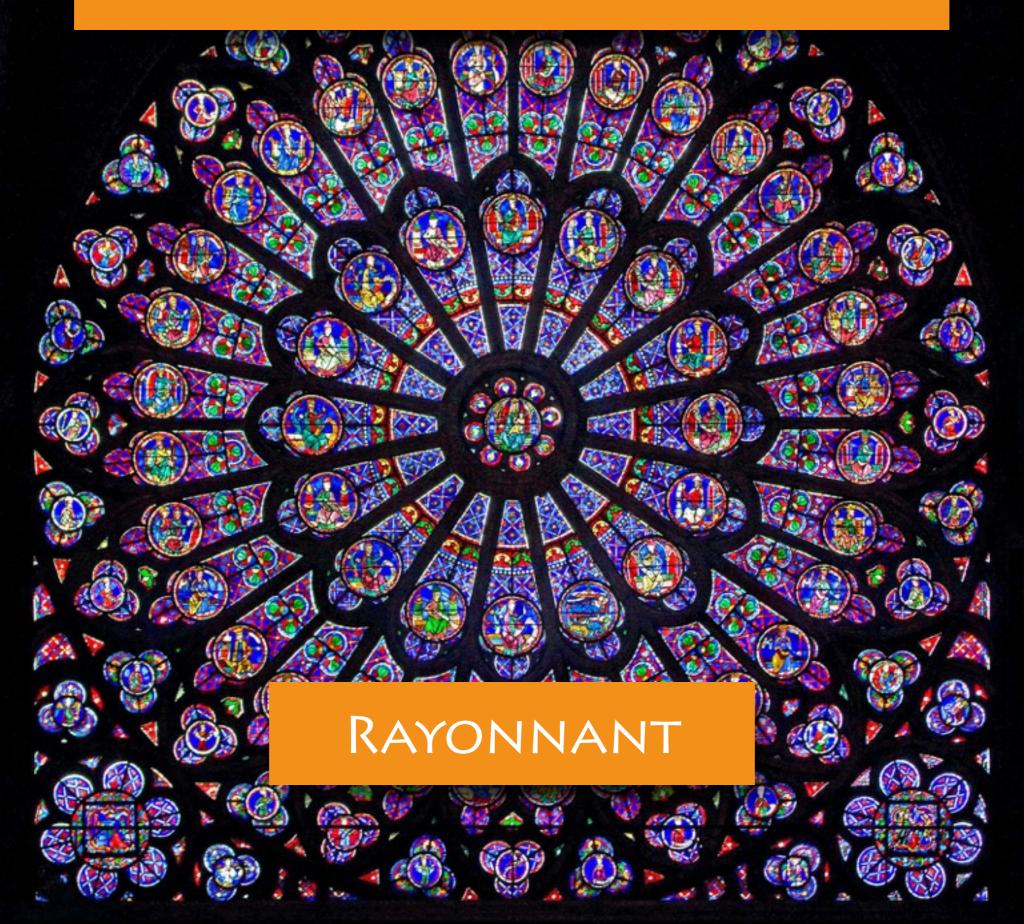
thinner radiating *tracery bars* of the wheel window help to achieve this effect

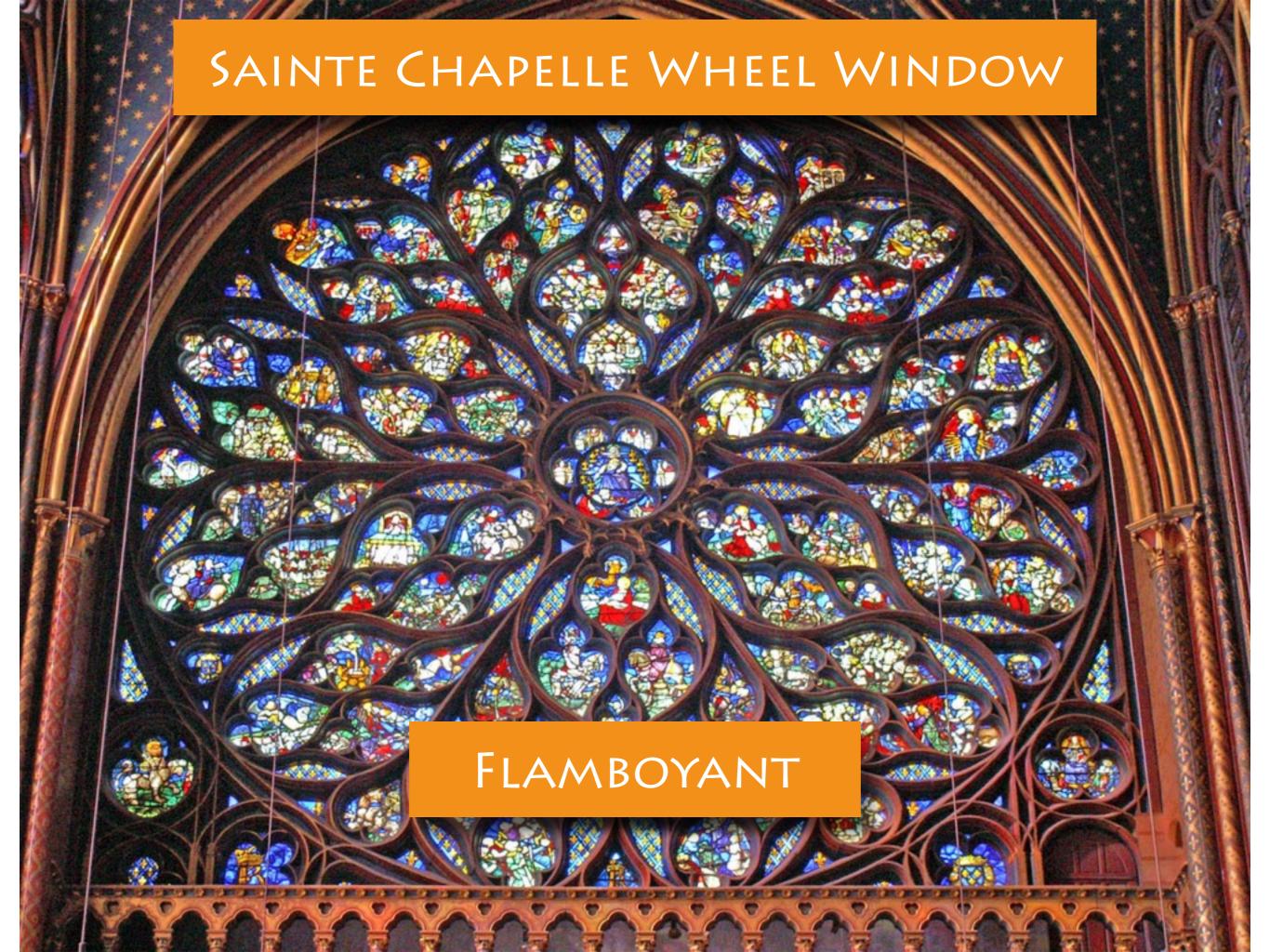


# Sainte Chapelle rayonnant

verticality - lightness - subdivided bar tracery

#### NOTRE DAME WHEEL WINDOW





### Gothic becomes an international style



## Cologne Cathedral

Begun 1248 work stopped 1473

Began again 1840s completed 1880

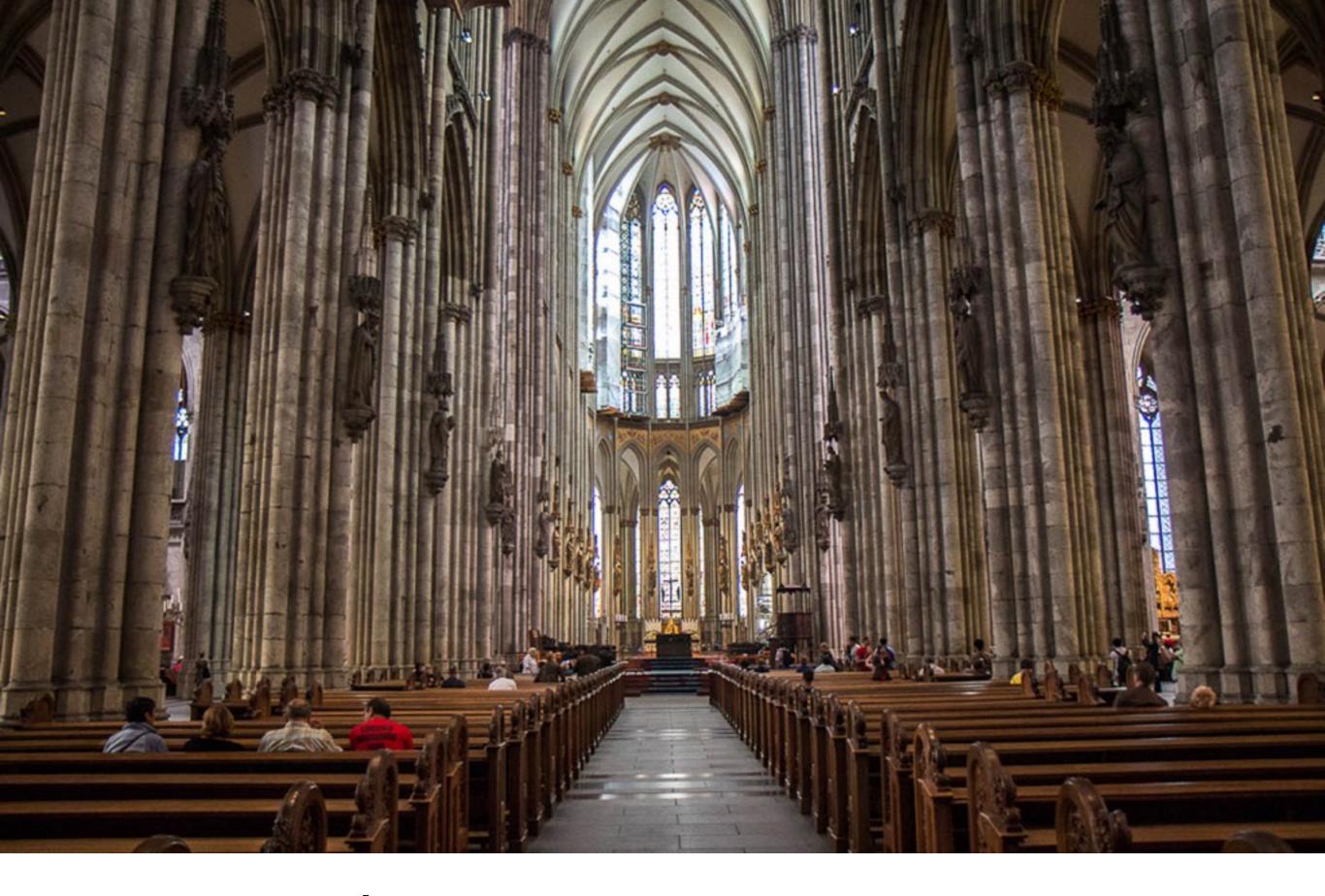
COLOGNE CATHEDRAL



COLOGNE CATHEDRAL



Cologne along the Rhine



Cologne interior - *rayonnant* 

## Lincoln Cathedral (England)1185-1311



"I have always held... that the cathedral of Lincoln is out and out the most precious piece of architecture in the British Isles and roughly speaking worth any two other cathedrals we have."

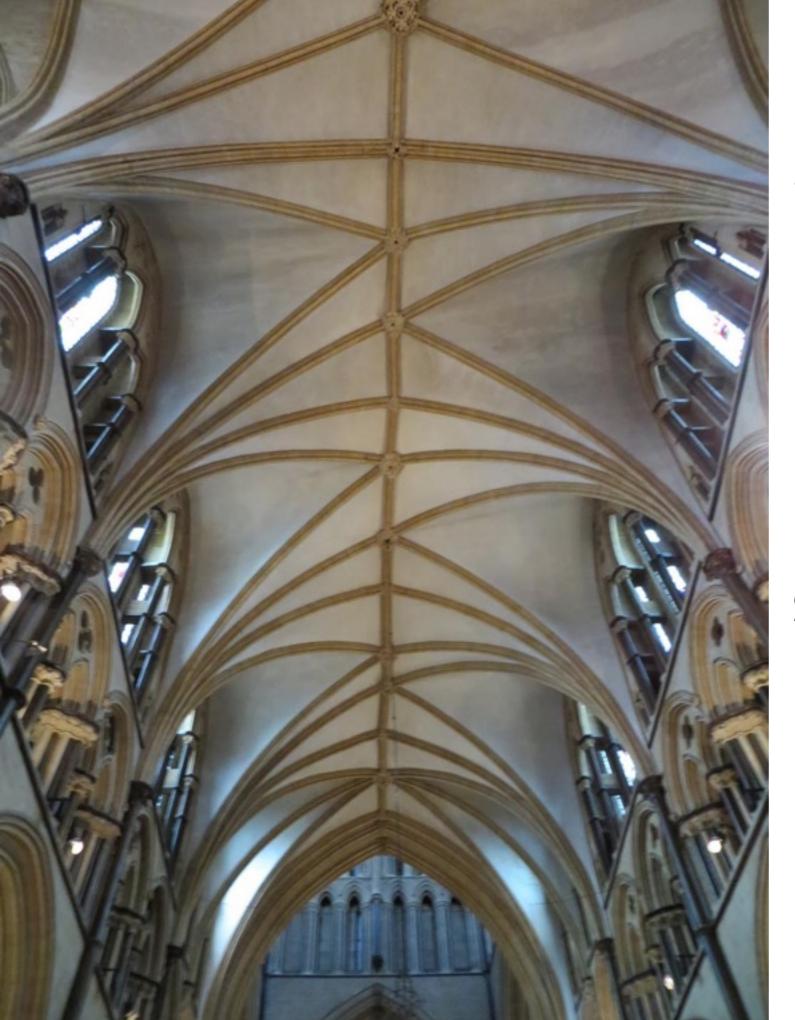
John Ruskin





## Flying butresses at Lincoln

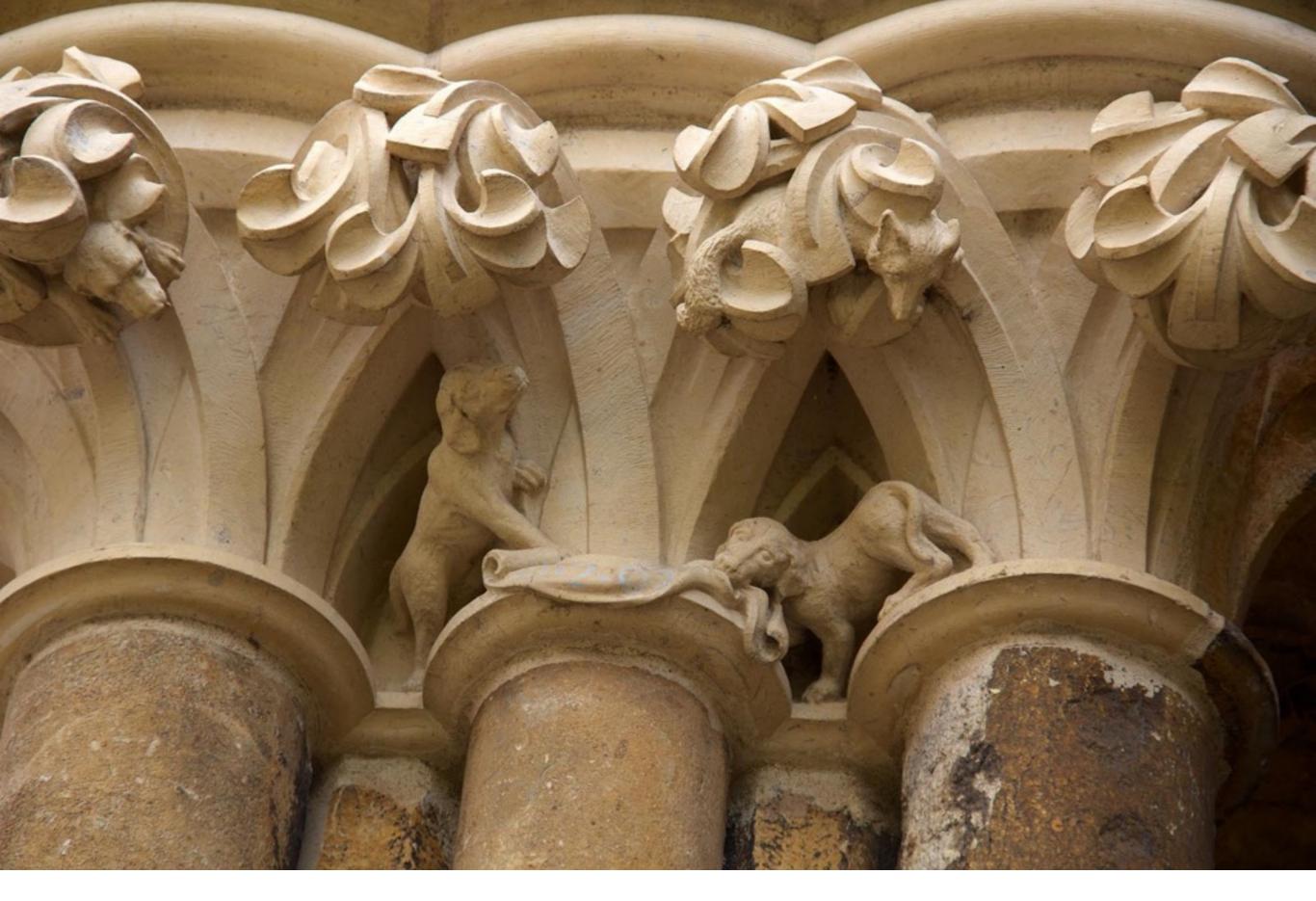




### Lincoln Cathedral

**Tierceron** vaulting inventive Y-shaped

helped to distribute structural forces more broadly



Lincoln Cathedral carving detail



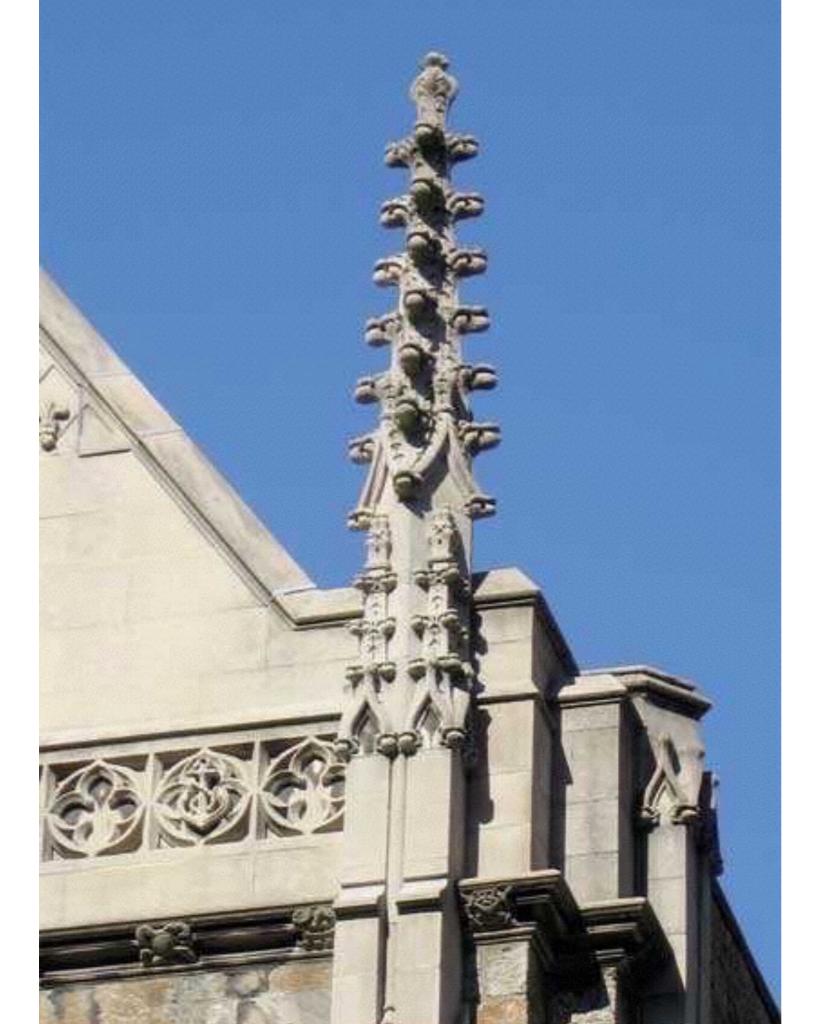
note lack of westworks towers — it has a *campanile* instead

vocabulary

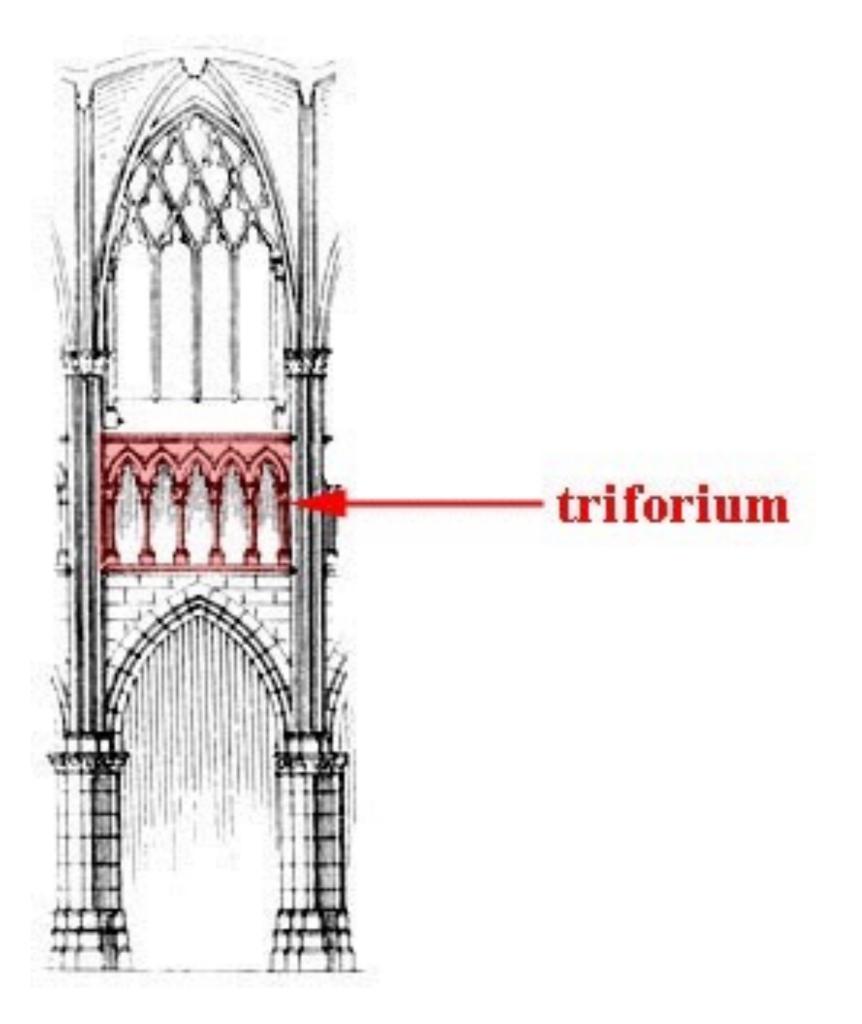
rayonnant flamboyant triforium tribune tracery *flyers* flying buttresses ribbed groin vault crockets gargoyle chimera



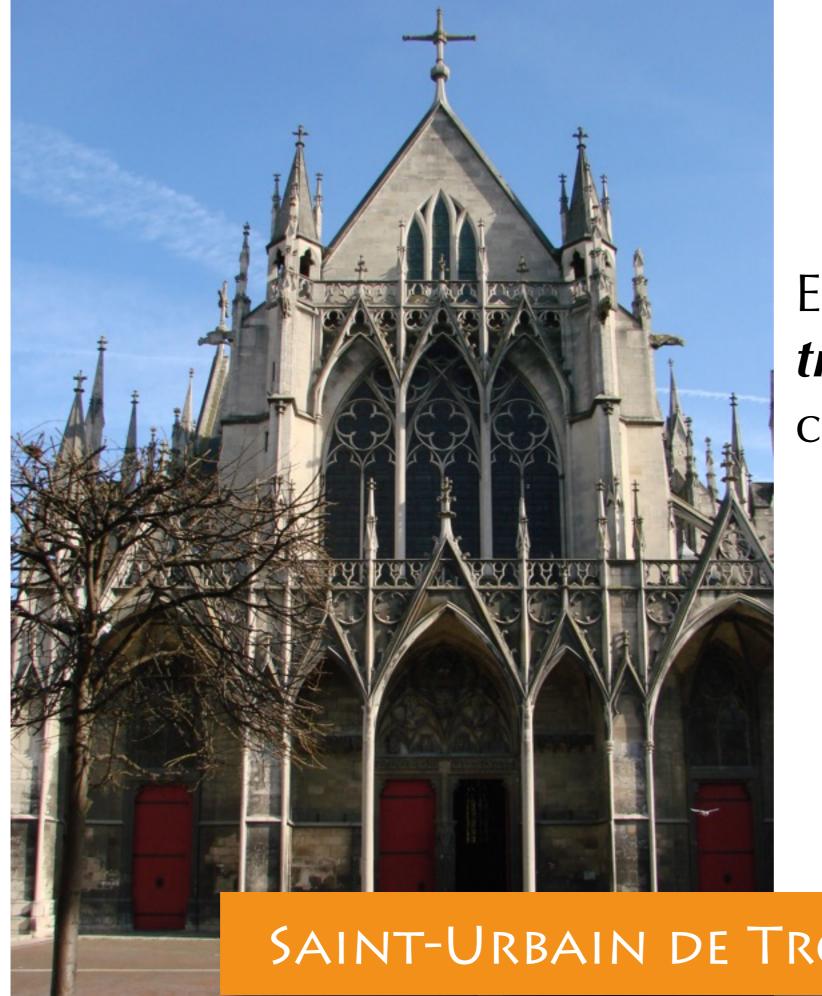
crockets



### crockets







Exemplary for it's tracery and delicate carving

SAINT-URBAIN DE TROYES





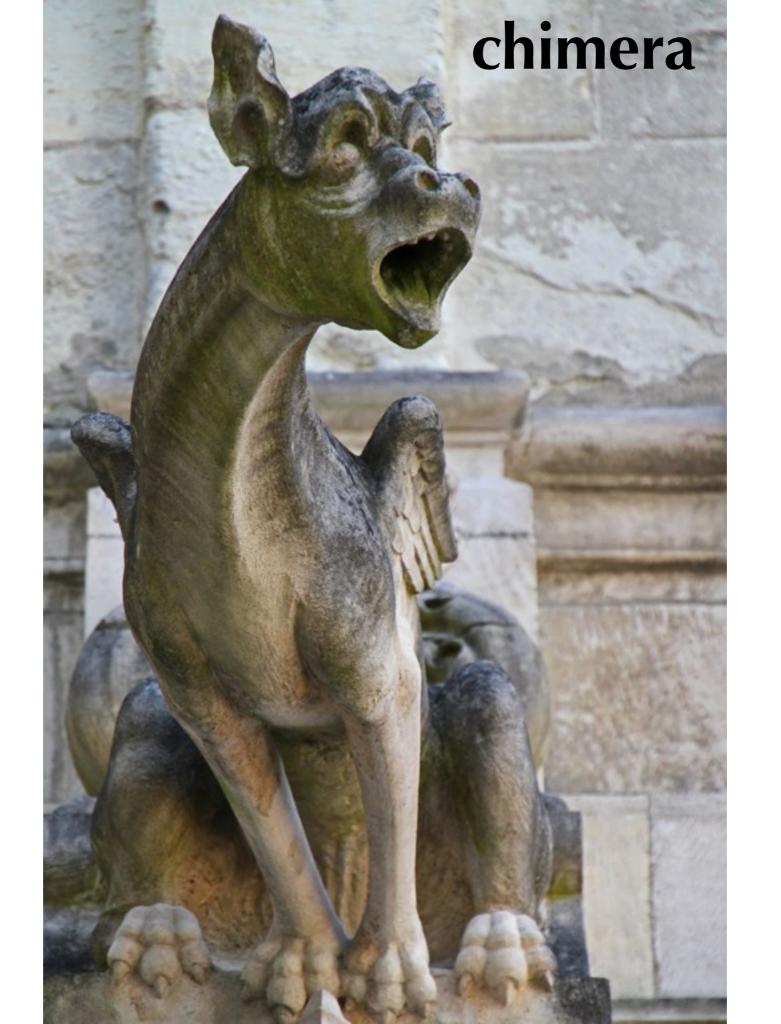


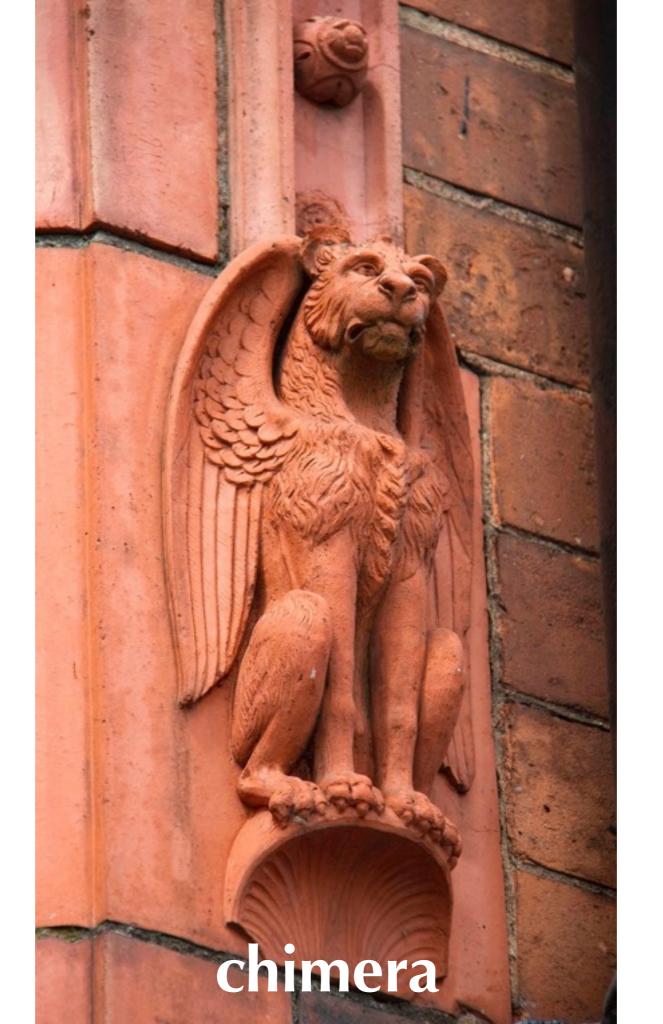














## MASTER BUILDERS

Who were the great geniuses who built the Gothic Cathedrals?

- ~ Architect
- ~ Master Mason
- ~ Structural Engineer
- ~ Building Contractor

Villard de Honnecourt 1220



Honnecourt's sketchbooks



## Master Builder William of Sens

## Master Builders

were seen as *heroes* — bringing order and substance to the chaotic universe of the middle ages — Christianity was a response to that reality and cathedrals were the manifestation of that profound idea.

end