



Vincent and Louise in St. Peter's Basilica

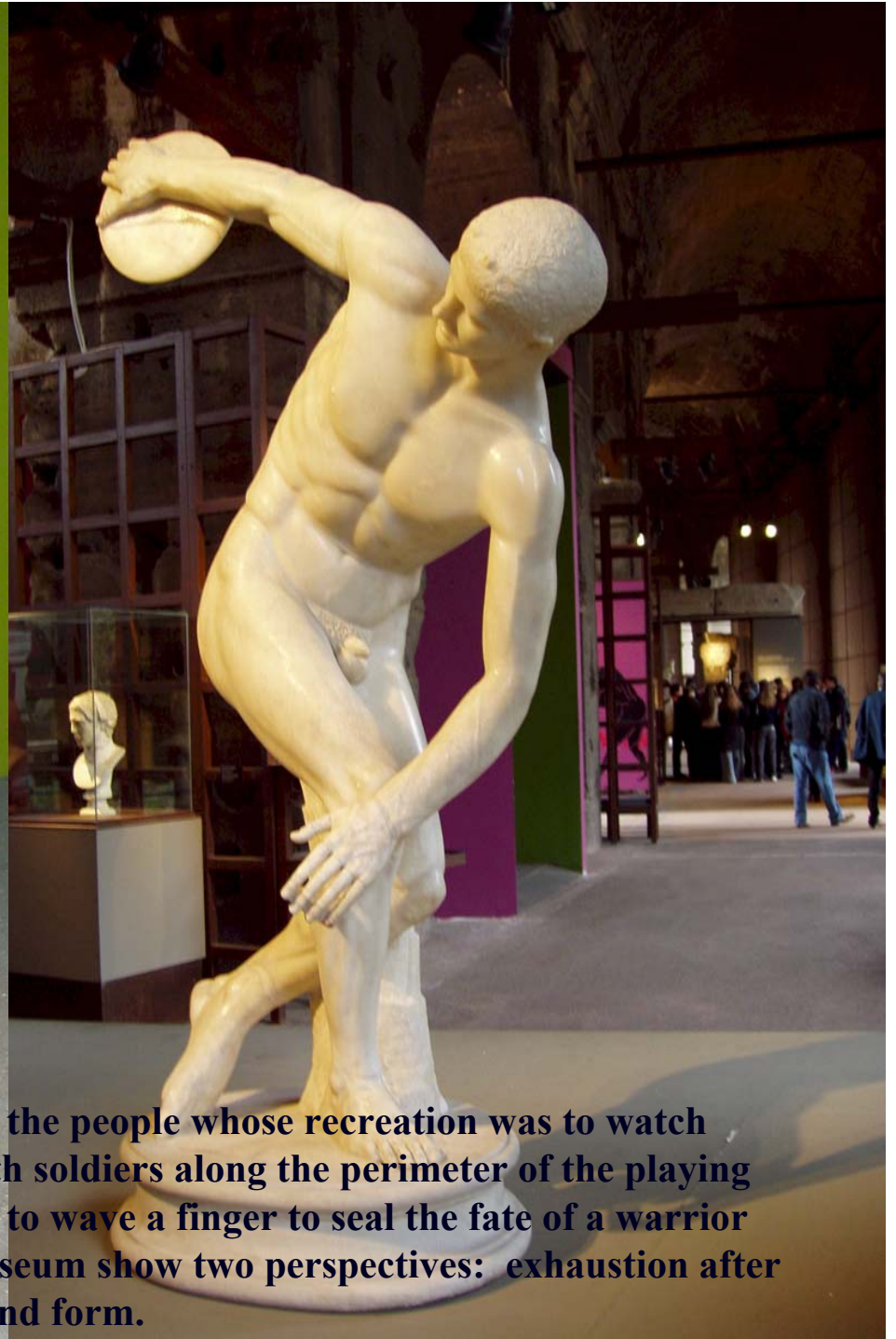


**This mural on the side of an ancient arch portrays Roman soldiers bringing back the spoils of war from Jerusalem.**



Photos: Rome old and new

**Unlike the United States, which is a mere 227-years-old, Rome's history is described in terms of 10 and 20 centuries! As we passed through the heart of ancient Rome" the remnants of architectural structures provided a glimpse of a civilization that valued power, wealth, and beauty.**



**We toured the Coliseum which depicted the sport of the people whose recreation was to watch fights to the death of man and wild animal. Nets with soldiers along the perimeter of the playing field protected spectators. The emperor merely had to wave a finger to seal the fate of a warrior who lost a joust. These classic sculptures at the Coliseum show two perspectives: exhaustion after a fight for survival and the value placed on beauty and form.**



Church built on old Roman prison site.



Parliament of ancient Rome

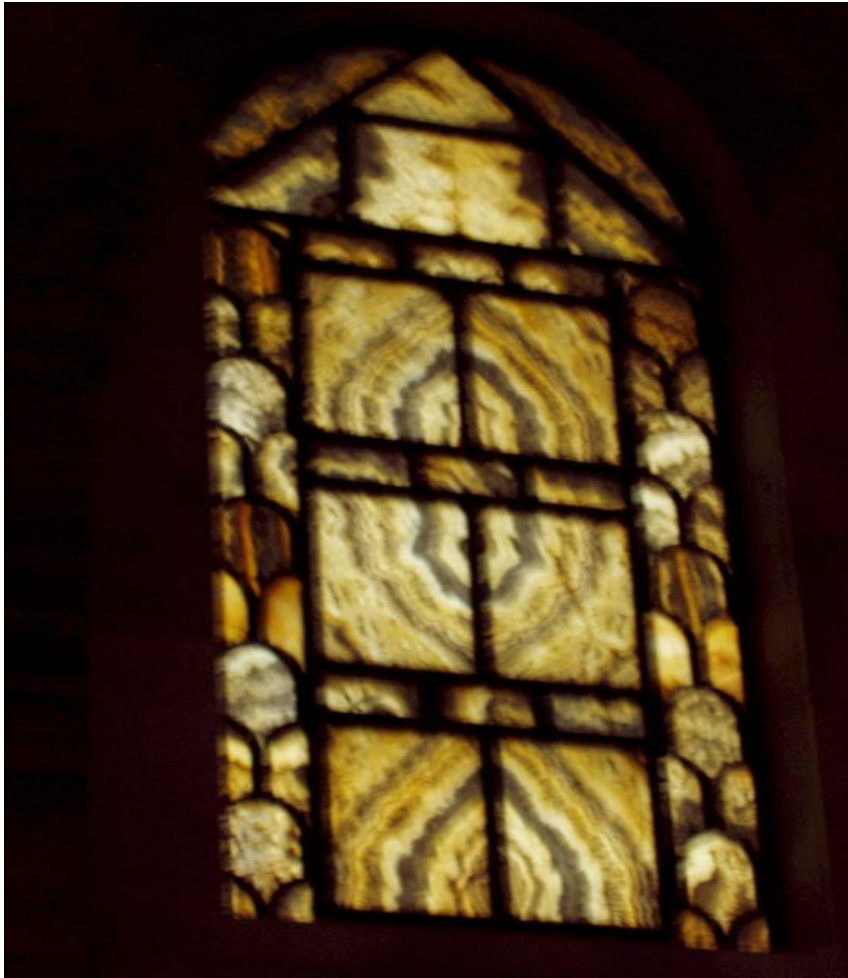


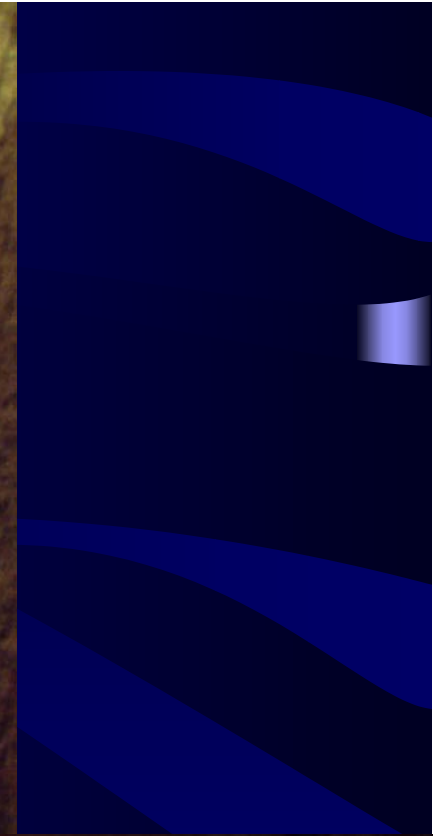


Door at St. John's Basilica



Door panels at St. John's Basilica. Top panel shows John baptising and bottom panel shows Peter being led into Rome in chains.





**Mass was celebrated in the catacombs where 150,000 crypts are found. At one time we were told that there were 500,000 buried here. Two Roman soldiers, who converted to Christianity were martyred here.**

