Some definitions

**Romanesque** – architectural style in vogue between 1050 and 1200, consisting of semi-circular arches, relatively massive walls supported by buttresses, and consequently smaller openings for natural light. The Romanesque style evolved as rapidly as the Gothic which replaced it, and despite the Romanesque interior’s reputation for gloominess, great sanctuaries such as Vezelay and Autun achieve a lightness and a luminosity which rival those of the first Gothic edifices.

Term coined around 1825. 900-1200. In architecture the Romanesque is typified by the use of the round arch and conspicuously heavy construction. In painting and sculpture forms are often expressively distorted to convey religious emotion.

[Textbook] the medieval artistic style of c. 900-1200, in architecture characterized by the use of rounded arches, tunnel vaults, and other features of Roman architecture (hence the name “Romanesque”)

Note that Roman realism is not part of the Romanesque style.
St. Sernin

Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

interior, Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

Some influences from the Islamic world . . .

Great Mosque of Cordoba, interior
Spain
c. 736

San Zeno Maggiore
Verona, 1120-38

not in text
Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

The Romanesque approach to the human form
Tympanum, Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

Proportions?

Tympanum, left detail, Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

Tympanum, right detail, Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

Mystic Mill, Moses & St Paul Grinding Corn, capitellum, Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

Hair "flows" into drapery of clothing

Another art history text interprets this as a wine press

textbook, p 149

Demon & Woman, capitellum, Church of La Madeleine, Vezelay, France, c.1120-32

Serpent

Not in textbook

Gislebertus, Last Judgment, tympanum detail, Autun, France, c.1120-35

detail, p. 147 – 5th general view, p 130
EARLY MEDIEVAL SUMMARY 800-1150

- POLITICS – Charlemagne, Ottonian (German) emperors
- ARCHITECTURE – Romanesque Style, c. 900
- ART – relief sculpture and a fantastic approach to human form
- IDEAS – The Culture of the Book; monasteries
- MUSIC – consolidation of chant; early notation neumes & staff (staff c.1000)

Name: St. Sernin
style: Romanesque
elements:
- round arches
- a few narrow windows
- heavy

Hard to find parking

San Zeno Maggiore
Verona, 1120-38

No in-the-round human forms – all relief sculpture

Visitation
11-12th c. Spain fresco

p. 144
### New Anchor Dates

**1000**
- Musical STAFF used for
- CHANT in the
- EARLY MEDIEVAL PERIOD in
- MONASTERIES

**1066**
- BATTLE OF HASTINGS depicted in the
- BAYEUX TAPESTRY
  which we associate with
- FEUDALISM

### Up to dates?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>480 BC</td>
<td>Start of CLASSICAL GREEK PERIOD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
<td>Just after the start of the ROMAN EMPIRE; Caesar Augustus reigns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>547</td>
<td>SAN VITALE; sort of end of Early Christian period</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.1000</td>
<td>Guido describes the musical staff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>