Lecture summary:
Cardinal Scipione Borghese (1577-1633) was nephew to Pope Paul V. As such, he was responsible for papal art policy, in particular the restoration of the early Christian churches. He was also the conduit for accruing family patrimony, which included a vast collection of paintings and ancient and modern sculpture. His crowning glory as patron was a series of epoch-making statues he commissioned from Gian Lorenzo Bernini in the 1620s. Shortly before Scipione’s death, Bernini returned to the Cardinal’s household to carve his finest portrait.

Slide list:
1. Caravaggio, Pope Paul V, 1605
2. Ottavio Leoni, Cardinal Scipione Borghese, 1606
3. Antonio Laffery, Le sette chiese di Roma, 1575
4. San Sebastiano fuori le mura, 4th century, restored 1608-14, Flaminio Ponzio
5. Caravaggio, St Jerome, Galleria Borghese, 1606
6. Raphael, Deposition, Galleria Borghese, 1508
7. Cavalier D'Arpino, Copy of Raphael’s Deposition, Gall Naz Perugia, 1608
8. Villa Borghese, 1607-13, Flaminio Ponzio
9. San Crisogone, 1123, restored 1618-1626, Giovanni Battista Soria
10. Santa Maria della Vittoria, 1608-20, façade 1625, Giovanni Battista Soria
11. Bernini, Hermaphrodite’s mattress, Louvre, 1620
12. Bernini, Pluto and Persephone, Galleria Borghese, 1621
13. Bernini, David, Galleria Borghese, 1623
14. Bernini, Apollo and Daphne, Galleria Borghese, 1623
15. Bernini, Cardinal Scipione Borghese, Galleria Borghese, 1632

Reference:
Research for this lecture is embodied in two articles, replete with further citations: available at: https://nassydney.academia.edu/MichaelHill