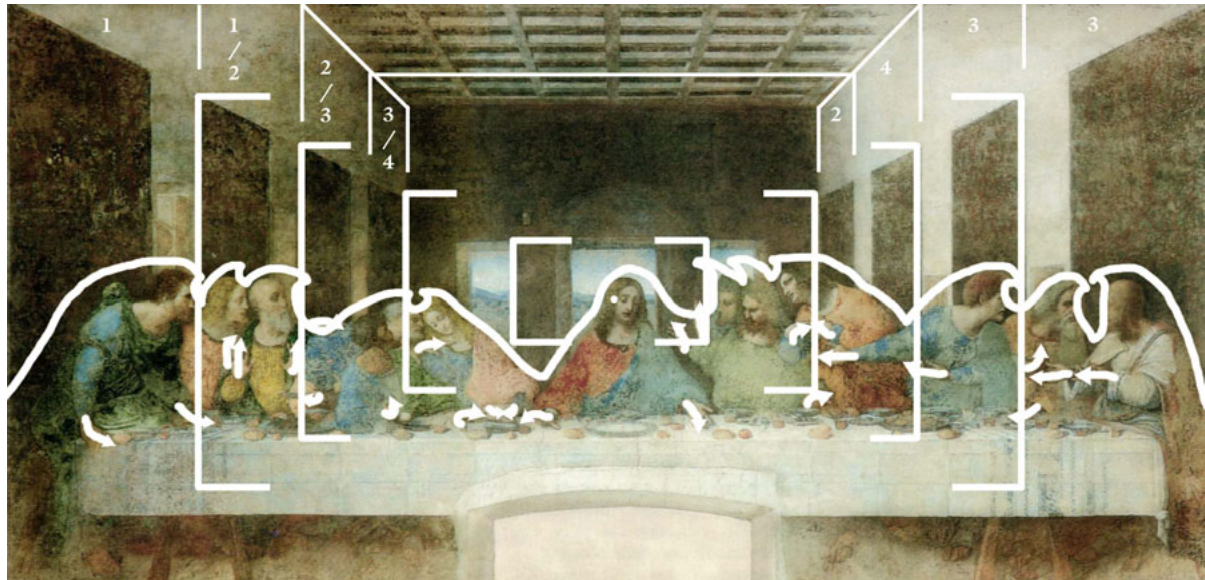


# *The Leonardo da Vinci Society*

## ANNUAL LECTURE 2012

Friday 27 April 2012 at 6.00 pm



Leonardo da Vinci, *The Last Supper*, 1496-98, Santa Maria delle Grazie, Milan, with superimposed white lines and numbers

### **Dr Matthew Landrus**

(Rhode Island School of Design and University of Oxford)

## *New Evidence of Leonardo da Vinci's Last Supper as a Humanist Contribution*

At the Kenneth Clark Lecture Theatre  
Courtauld Institute of Art  
Somerset House, Strand, London  
Admission is free - all are welcome

Following an extensive period of research on the recently restored *Last Supper*, there is new evidence of Leonardo's intentions for it as a Humanist contribution to the Sforza Court. Detailed assessments of the painting's preparatory marks, measurements, designs, and associated texts offer proof of its role within the socio-political activities of the Court, and more specifically within a Humanist debate developing in Florence and Milan. It was for Leonardo an opportunity to argue in a visual manner the role of Painting as the ultimate artifice of Nature, reason and experience. His *Last Supper* is in this case a more complex, holistic contribution than previously determined, an early form of manifesto on Painting as a systematic, Humanist discourse within the Liberal Arts.