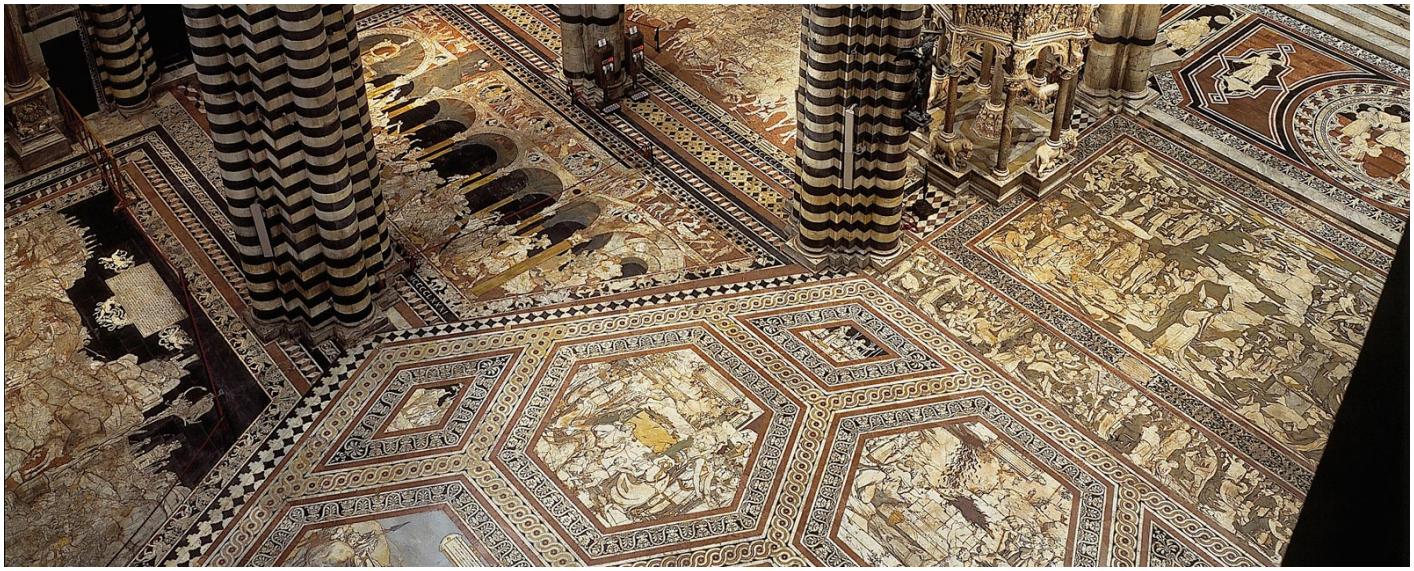
THE MARBLE MOSAIC FLOOR OF SIENA CATHEDRAL

Italy's Siena Cathedral, built from 1215 to 1263 is one of the great masterpieces of medieval architecture. It contains works of art by Renaissance greats from Donatello, Bernini, and Michelangelo. Most stunning of all, however, is the cathedral floor, entirely covered with marble mosaics depicting scenes from the Old Testament, Greek and Roman myths and history. No one photo does it justice, it's so immense. Here you see Crates of Thebes (265-285 BC) atop the Mount of Wisdom casting riches into the sea for a life of tranquil simplicity.

The floor is covered over for most of the year and is only unveiled during (plus a few days before and after) September. So plan to be there then to witness a truly magnificent artistic creation of Western Civilization. *(Glimpses of Our Breathtaking World #282 photo ©Jack Wheeler)*

Okay, one more photo, this of a small portion of the floor to help grasp the staggering immensity and artistry – from the Siena Cathedral website: