

A marble statue of David by Michelangelo, showing the figure from the waist up. David is looking slightly to his right with a contemplative expression, his right hand resting on his shoulder. The statue is set against a background of a museum interior with classical architectural details.

Today in History

September 8, 1504

▲ Michelangelo's statue of David was unveiled in Florence. The 5.15m (17ft) marble figure is one of the great masterpieces of Italian Renaissance sculpture

1831: Russian forces defeated Polish troops in the battle for Warsaw in the second Polish rising. Over 9,000 Poles died in the three-day battle

1886: The city of Johannesburg was founded in South Africa

1926: The League of Nations Assembly voted unanimously to admit Germany

1966: The first series of Star Trek premiered on NBC, to mixed reviews. It would become one of the most successful shows in history