



Xu Zhen - produced by Madein Company
Eternity — Herakles, Tang Dynasty Standing Bodhisattva

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2013

288*75*60cm (113"*30"*24")

Edition of 3

Sculpture |

Sandstone, artificial stone, fiberglass, stainless steel structure

Herakles, 163*75*45cm

Sitting Bodhisattva 125*75*60cm



Detail

Eternity by XU Zhen, consists in sculptural compositions created from Western and Asian headless statues displayed in museums throughout the world. These originally beheaded works are grazed and assembled together.

This timeless art of eternal gods and Buddhas, represents the highest level of civilization in human history. These masterpieces also reflect colonization history, violence, cultural conflicts and relations. XU Zhen combined these art history's major Western and Asian sculptures, and created a shocking visual effect out of these "mutilated sculptures classic aesthetics". It doesn't only refer to art history it also symbolizes irreconcilable differences within humanity's Babel tower and shows a certain oriental conciliatory wisdom.



Detail of top

Herakles

Herakles is the Greek divine hero and god, when Heracles died, he shed his mortal skin, which went down to the underworld, and he then went up to join the gods for being the greatest hero ever known.



The original statue could be found in **Agora Museum Athens**, Greece. The museum is housed in the Stoa of Attalos, and its exhibits are connected with the Athenian democracy.



Tang Dynasty Standing Bodhisattva

The original statue could be found in the **Rietberg Museum**, which is a museum in Zürich, Switzerland, displaying Asian, African, American and Oceanian art. It is the only art museum of non-European cultures in Switzerland, the third-largest museum in Zürich.

The original name in Rietberg museum of the statue was in German – “Tang Stehender Bodhisattva”. It was a Buddha statue found in cave 14 of Tianlong Mountain in Shanxin Province, China.



Reference photo



Detail of Bodhisattva



Exhibition view in HK Basel 2014



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