

Excerpts from: "Illustrowenia Polska Zachodina" Marshall Pilsudski (Stone)

"The monumental head of Marshall Pilsudski by Nicolaus Koni is an inspiring masterpiece — the essence of power and grandeur."

Loaned under the auspices of the Pilsudski Institute of America.

Formerly exhibited at the Brooklyn Museum of Fine Arts, New York.

Present on loan in Washington County Museum of Fine Arts,

Hagerstown, Maryland



HOMO NASCENDUS—Carving, Crystal Alabaster. Size: 13" x 9" on revolving base.

Excerpts from the Review of the New York Times by Mr. Howard Devree on Mr. Koni's One-Man Show at Milch Galleries, New York, N. Y.:

"Koni concentrating on his amazing technical mastery . . . "



CRUCIFIXION-Carving in Walnut, approximate size 11 feet

You have skillfully combined physical suffering and torture, as shown so powerfully in the contracted hands, swollen feet, and taut muscles, while at the same time preserving the majesty and dignity of the agonized face. The whole concept has a beauty and simplicity which really is exceptional. You seem to have grasped the supernatural side of Christ's suffering.

Gustave Dumas, S.J.

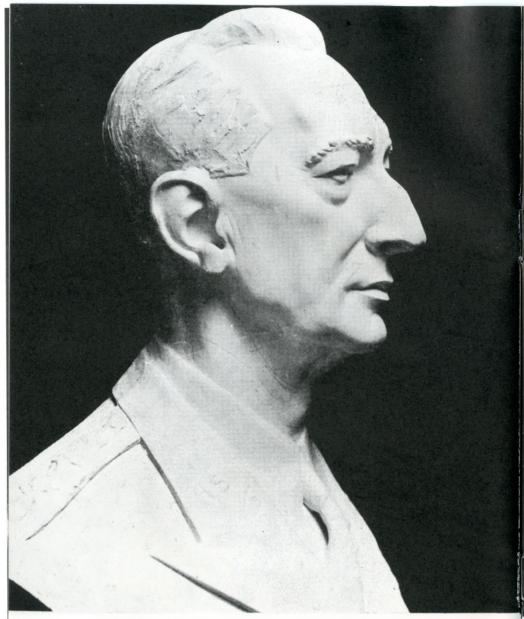
Dean of Graduate School of Arts and Sciences
Fordham University



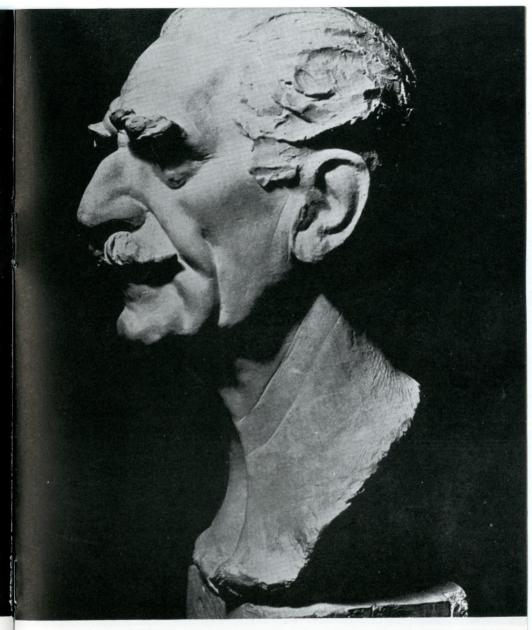
THE BIRTH OF EVE—Asiatic Jade, Carving. Size 16" x $6\frac{1}{2}$ "



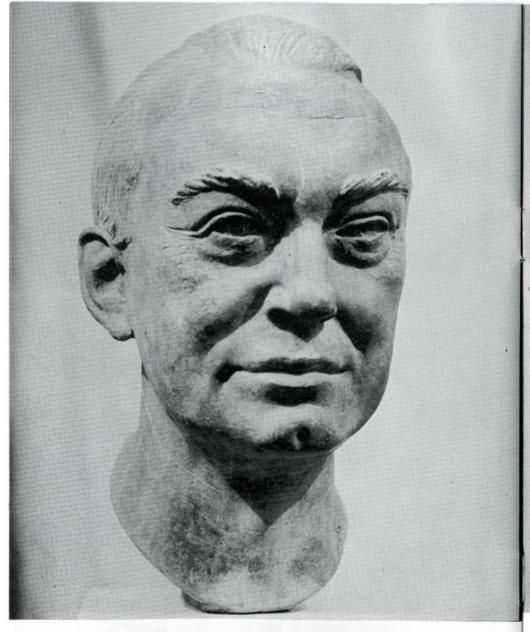
LA FEMME-Stone Coral, Carving. Size: 25" x 12".



PORTRAIT BUST GENERAL MARK W. CLARK Citadel, Charlestown, South Carolina



PORTRAIT BUST OF SIR C. AUBREY SMITH—Bronze Private Collection, London, England.

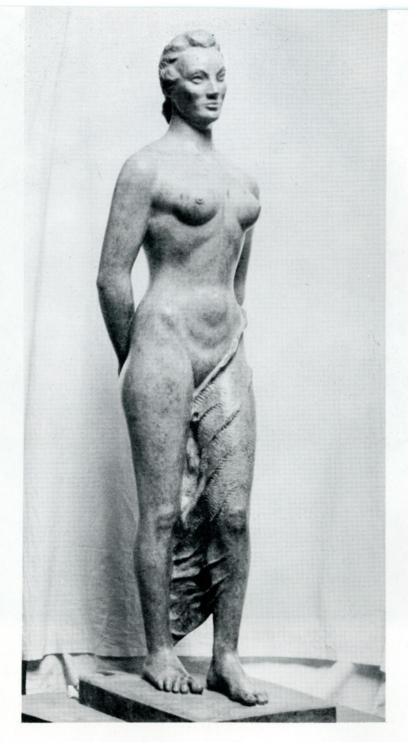


PORTRAIT BUST OF RICHARD J. REYNOLDS - Bronze Reynolds Private Collection, Sapelo Island, Ga.

The original Marble Bust at Wake Forest College, Winston-Salem, N.C.



PORTRAIT BUST OF DAVID BEN GURION, Prime Minister of the State of Israel.



THE AMERICAN WOMAN - Bronze, 6'.



THE AMERICAN WOMAN - Bronze, 6'.



MARIAN ANDERSON-Bronze

In the permanent collection, Washington County Museum of Fine Arts, Hagerstown, Maryland.

STUDIO

NICOLAUS KONI — 41 East 60th St. New York 22, N. Y. — Templeton 8-6118

SCULPTURES and DRAWINGS

BY

Nicolaus Koni

g

BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM OF ART October 7 — November 1, 1956 Birmingham, Alabama

ATLANTA ART ASSOCIATION GALLERIES

High Museum of Art

November 11 — November 25, 1956

Atlanta, Georgia

COLUMBUS MUSEUM OF ARTS & CRAFTS
December 2 — December 28, 1956
Columbus, Georgia

HUNTER GALLERY OF ART January 15 — February 15, 1957 Chattanooga, Tennessee

The Washington County Museum of Fine Arts

42

Nicolaus Koni

ARDLY a decade ago, Nicolaus Koni came with his European background and international reputation, to establish himself in New York with a few fragments of his sculptures, salvaged from the London "blitz".

Imperturbed by war anxiety, Koni had an impressive one-man show, which won him immediate recognition for his superb technique. Here was a proficient worker, undaunted by adversity, displaying an equal genius as a monumental sculptor, painter, portraitist; and a complete familiarity with bronze, granite, stone or marble. This effort came to an abrupt conclusion; Koni was absorbed in the vortex of war, and became a member of the armed forces of the U.S.A.

In time, returned to civilian life, Koni picked up the chisel again and went to work with renewed energy; woodcarvings, portrait busts, monuments came out of an inexhaustible creativeness. History repeating itself, Koni is having another show, and is confronted with a similar situation. While most people around us are concerned with the possibility of atomic desrtuction, Koni is quietly communing with beauty, specifically delving into new media, new ideas, "seeing"—in the words of Rimbaud—, "what man thought he had seen," then making this vision concrete.

The plastic approach to marble differs not only from the approach which is in clay or in bronze, but to be fair to the material, the sculptor should consider the particular piece. The cutting, the form itself, the inspiration, must be born from the block, from its features, from its color, from its crystallization. Every one of Koni's new sculptures emphasize this concept, bringing out the "Spirit asleep in matter". Choosing an example, the stunning group "The Birth of Eve", is perfect. It sways with the dynamic twinning of the solid. It moves with the pigmentation of the jade. Every one of its planes is a logical consequence of a structural condition. Every curve is thought with a lapidary's mind, trying to extract the gem's inner fire. One cannot look at this piece without coming to the conclusion that Koni's interpretation of this block of jade is the only possible one.

Is the artist then but the interpreter of his medium? No. The stone would not have unveiled its secret form to one that would not have been able to see it, to conceive it first. That particular marble was passed by, by countless men until one saw its soul image and brought it to life. Just ask yourself how you would depict Eve born from Adam's rib, and you will realize how far from plastic quality the mind alone can wander. As things stand, the subject has never been interpreted more successfully before.

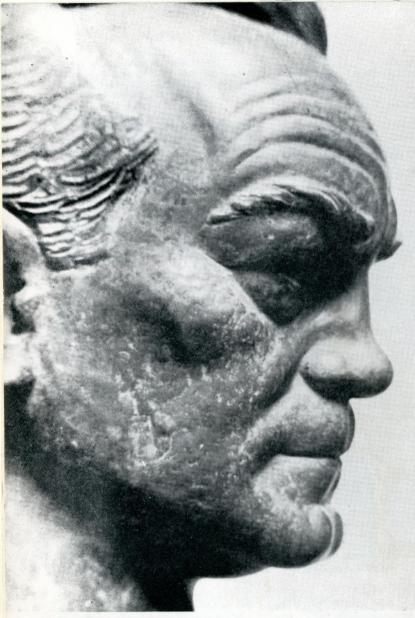
This is the show of a creator.

SCULPTURES

1.	Crucifizion	Walnut Carving
2.	Crucifixion	Bronze; Permanent Collec-
		tion of Annapolis Naval
		Academy Museum, Md.
3.	Marion Anderson	
		in Washington County Mu- seum of Fine Arts
4.	Piete	Walnut Carving
5.	Pieta	
•	Palev	Bronze
6.	Marshall Pilsudsky of Poland	Stone Carving loan in Wash-
		ington County Museum of Fine Arts
7.	Portrait Bust of Sir C. Aubrey Smith	Bronze
8.	Portrait Bust of Madame DeSales	Plaster
9.	Portrait Bust of Madame DeSales Portrait Bust of Mrs. Selma Derfner	Bronze (Private Collection)
10.	Lot's Wife Weening Willow	Carving
11.	Enchantment, Weeping Willow Homo Nascendus	Carving
12. 13.	La Femme	Stone
14.	The Two Figural Studies	Stone
15.	The Great Expectation	Rosewood carving
16.	The Birth of Eve	Asiatic Jade
17.	The Little Fish	
18. 19.	Three Fish	Coral - stone
20.	Kneeling Figure	Coral - stone
21.	Icarus	African Ebony stone
22.	The Torso	Coral
23.	The Bird	. Jade
24. 25.	Portrait of John Derfner	Rronge (Private Collection)
26.	Rosamonde Portrait of John Derfner Portrait of Miss Ann Derfner	Bronze (Private Collection)
27.	Portrait Bust of General Mark W.	
	Clark	Plaster Paris
28. 29.	Adagio St. Sebastian	Walnut
30.	Model of Colonel Bradley for the Four	n-
50.	tain for the City of Palm Beach	Plaster Paris
31.	Model of the Portrait of a Horse	Plaster Paris
32.	Portrait Bust of Mr. Lou Cohen	Bronze (Private Collection)
33. 34.	Portrait Bust of A. M. Sonnabend Portrait Bust of S. D. Gottesman	Bronze (Private Collection)
35.	Portrait plaque of Mr. R. F.	Plaster Model (Private Col.)
36.	Portrait plaque of Mr. R. F. Portrait plaque of Mr. R. F.	Wax (Private Collection)
37.	Portrait plaque of Mr. R. F. Portrait plaque of Mr. R. F.	Silver (Private Col.)
38.	Portrait plaque of Mr. R. F.	Gold and Bronze (Pri. Col.)
39.	St. Sebastian	Oak Wood
KONIX		
Hammered Copper and Brass		
49.	Submission Brass 46.	Icarus Copper
41.	Siesta Brass 47. Invocation Copper 48. The Archers Copper 49. La Pause Brass 50.	American Bison Brass
42.	Invocation Copper 48.	Musician Copper
43.	The Archers Copper 49.	The Warriors Brass
44. 45.	Prelude Silver 51.	Pernetu Mobile Brass
40.	Trefude Silver 31.	respect mobile Brass

DRAWINGS

Group of thirty studies to the Sculpture Compositions — in pastel, tempera, water-colors and crayons.



Details of the Portrait Bust of Secretary of Defense, James V. Forrestal, Bronze

Permanent Collection in the Annapolis Naval Academy Museum, Annapolis, Md., through Courtesy of the Annapolis Naval Academy Museum.

