

Sculpture “Portrait of a Roman woman”



- Author unknown
- Date of production 3rd quarter of the 3rd century
- Dimensions height: 32 cm
- ID no. MNK-XI-A-888
- Museum [The National Museum in Kraków](#)
- Oddział The Princes Czartoryski Museum
- Subjects [sculpted](#)
- Technique [sculpture](#), [forging](#)
- Material [marble](#)
- Acquired date 1909, donated by Edward Goldstein
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- Digitalisation RDW MIC, Małopolska's Virtual Museums project
- Tags [rzeźba](#), [portret](#), [Rzym](#), [popiersie](#), [3D](#), [3D plus](#), [domena publiczna](#)

The portrait of a head comes from a bust of a Roman woman who lived in the mid-3rd century. With a

realistic expression of facial features, it depicts a middle-aged woman. The big eyes looking straight and thin, slightly tight lips suggest a firm character. The cheeks are fleshy but with visible zygomatic bones; the jaw is massive, with a clearly marked full chin. The hairdo expresses the fashion at the time, referring to a hairstyle introduced by Julia Domna, the wife of Emperor Septimius Severus. The hairdo is smooth, with strands made with linearly shallow notches, parted in the middle and swept-back, showing the ears. The thinly braided strands, pinned up on the back of the head create “a net” of a rectangular shape, reaching 2/3 of the height of the head. The origin of the sculpture is not known; however, the good quality of the portrait suggests Italy.

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