

What you didn't know about the most famous statue, Michelangelo's David.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEbIwsV77-s>

Transcript: <https://dontveter.com/ec/david.pdf>

Michelangelo's David is an astonishing work during the Renaissance that symbolizes youthful beauty and strength.

Did you know that Michelangelo was the third one to work on David's statue?

Have you ever heard that Michelangelo used EXO deviation, a misalignment of eyes, as a tool on David?

Welcome to Art and Beyond and today we are going to unveil what you didn't know about the famous statue, Michelangelo's David.

25 year old Michelangelo Buonarroti, an Italian Renaissance sculptor, painter, poet, and architect started his work, David, which was one of the famous themes during the Renaissance on the 13th of September, 1501, and completed it in 1504.

The statue is 17 feet tall and weighs 60 tons which is equivalent to 90 healthy adults.

The amazing thing about David's statue is that it's carved on a single marble block without adding other marble pieces to it.

When scientists went to ~~know about~~ [find] the origin of this marble they were not able to find out the ~~accurate~~ [exact] spot.

They also found that the marble [was] of low quality, with microscopic holes and may degrade faster compared to other marbles.

As mentioned earlier, Michelangelo was not the first person commissioned to work on David because in 1464 Agostino de Duccio was first commissioned to carve the statue.

~~It is said that the next year he traveled to Carrara in Tuscany, which was famous for white or blue-gray marble, and brought the marble [block] which we may now admire in 1466.~~

[It is said that in 1466 he traveled to Carrara in Tuscany, which was famous for white and blue-gray marble and brought back the marble block that became the David that we admire today.]

In 1466, the work was stopped ~~due to~~ [for] unknown reasons.

~~Antonio Rosalino then took on the rest of the work after 10 years but he was also terminated soon after.~~

[Ten years later, Antonio Rosalino started work on the statue but he was terminated soon after.]

On the 16th of August, 1501, it reached the hands of its man, Michelangelo.

Do you know why David is famous and who he is?

According to the Bible, Goliath, the villain, was the Philistine who challenged the Israelites every day to fight with him.

Everyone [was] frightened [of] him because he was a giant, taller and bigger than everyone [else].

David, the hero, was a young boy who had faith in God and was a shepherd.

One day, David heard Goliath challenging everyone.

He visited King Saul and said that he was not afraid to fight with Goliath.

The king gave him armor, unfortunately, it didn't fit that little boy, so David collected five stones and went to Goliath.

He ran towards Goliath, and using the sling, he threw a stone at the man's forehead and he fell to the ground.

Without any armor, David killed Goliath and the Israelites won the battle against the Philistines.

In Florence, David is the symbol of strength.

~~If Florence is David and Goliath is the Medici family and neighboring powerful states that threatened Florence once.~~

[You can think of David as Florence, and Goliath as the Medici family and neighboring powerful states that once threatened Florence].

The eyes of David's statue faced Rome where the Medici family lived as a warning. [???

There was a fig leaf made of marble to cover the genitals of David's statue in the early 16th century which was not removed until 1912.

Doesn't that sound crazy? What's your opinion about it?

Do you want it to be covered or just take it as an art that shows the talent of the artist?

Just let me know your opinions in the comment section below and don't forget to subscribe to the channel.

Have you noticed that there is an extraordinary detailing of human anatomy in David?

Michelangelo studied human anatomy by dissecting cadavers, which was prohibited by law at the time.

He was not the only one who did this, however, the world famous Leonardo da Vinci also did anatomical studies like this one.

In David's statue, he used a misalignment of eyes as a tool to express his idea.

He calculated each angle as a viewer before carving its eyes, when looking from the left or right side so only one eye can be seen at a time.

When viewed from the left, one feels that the statue is staring at him, as David stared at Goliath.

When viewed from the same angle, one cannot fully see the right eye because the sling hides it and the view from the left eye disappears from the right side.

~~He tried something on David's expression as David could be made confident and happy after defeating the giant Goliath.~~

[Instead of portraying David as happy and confident after defeating Goliath, he sculpted him with a look of tension and ready to fight.]

With [David's] eyes ~~aiming at~~ [focusing on] something, he ~~reflected this~~ [showed David's] tension with forward brows, taut tendons and muscles of his neck, nose, and lips strained.

Along with the facial expressions and posture, ~~he~~ [the pose] indicated a short duration between the decision to fight with stones in hand and a sling on his shoulder.

The standing position of the statue is known as contrapposto, which means set against a three-dimensional pose in which there is twisting of some parts over the other.

Mainly during the Renaissance, this pose was used in ancient sculpture to describe certain situations.

It's mainly used in sculptures, ~~to make~~ paintings, drawings, and engravings [to make the subject] look natural and alive.

In David's statue, contrapposto is ~~well~~ [greatly] exaggerated.

To maintain balance, the shoulder hips and spine are tilted to one side when putting weight on one leg.

This statue was first placed in The Piazza de la Signoria where everyone could admire it.

It took four days and 40 strong men to transport this giant statue from Michelangelo's workshop to Piazza de la Signoria, later it was moved to the Academia Gallery.

It's estimated that every year 1.25 million people visit David ,which is 3.3 times the population of Florence.

Even though it's placed inside the museum with security, the statue faced an attack in 1991.

Pierre Kanata, who tried to smash the left foot was caught by police.

Now the statue is protected from hands and hammers by plexi glass but it still faces challenges of even slight tremors as Florence is exposed to seismic activities.

"I saw the angel in the marble and carved until I set it free." These words of Michelangelo are true, aren't they?

Let us know what interesting thing that you liked about Michelangelo's David in the comment section below.

If you're planning to see David then don't wait, plan it fast and for more information do subscribe, like, and click the bell icon to get notified of the next video.

Thank you for tuning in, watching this video and staying till the end.

I hope you have a lovely rest of the day and I'll see you in the next video.