

Leonardo da Vinci - Relief

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Since December 2006 I have been studying the great personality of Leonardo da Vinci. Within this framework I have researched, sculpted and explored the various facets of this theme. I came to the conclusion that the authentic image which depicts the face of the great master da Vinci is the one located in the Royal Library in Windsor, England. This portrait is credited to Franscesco Melzi (ca. *1491/92 in Milan; died ca. 1470 in Vaprio D'Adda). Melzi was Leonardo's favorite pupil and main heir. It is this drawing ascribed to Melzi which my sculptures of Leonardo are based upon.

In Amboise on Leonardo's gravestone is a sculptural relief of Leonardo's face, whose artist, it seems, has also oriented himself to the Melzi drawing. I specify the Melzi drawing because there is another „self portrait“ of the great Leonardo da Vinci as an old man, this portrait is located in Turin, Italy. According to some specialists in Art History it is a drawing of Leonardo's father Ser Piero da Vinci or his favorite uncle Franscesco da Vinci. In 1980 Professor Hans Ost, one of the most renowned Renaissance researchers, identified the so called „self portrait“ of Leonardo as the work of Giuseppe Domenico Bossi (1765-1853) drawn in 1810. (Prof. Dr. Hans Ost „Das Leonardo-Portrait in der königlichen Bibliothek Turin, und andere Fälschungen des Giuseppe Bossi, Broschiert: 128 Seiten, ISBN-10 3786112991, ISBN-13: 978-37866112990)

As I immersed myself into the studies of the two drawings, the one in Windsor and the one in Turin, I became convinced that this „self portrait“ in Turin is neither the old Leonardo's face nor created by his hand. The reasons for this lie in the morphological differences of the two faces as well as the style (such as line drawing), in which these portraits were created.

If you wish to order one of my reliefs of Leonardo da Vinci or you simply may have questions regarding my work, please contact me!