

	Object: Bildnis eines Soldaten (vermutlich Ludovico III. Gonzaga) / Portrait of a Soldier (Presumed Portrait of Ludovico III Gonzaga) Museum: Skulpturensammlung und Museum für Byzantinische Kunst Am Kupfergraben 10117 Berlin 030 / 266 42 54 01 sbm@smb.spk-berlin.de Collection: Skulpturensammlung Inventory number: 52
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Description

English catalogue entry

Attributed to Nicolò Baroncelli and Domenico di Paris
Nicolò di Giovanni Baroncelli, called Nicolò del Cavallo
Active in Padua, 1434-Ferrara, 1453

Domenico di Paris
Active in Ferrara during the second half of the 15th century

Portrait of a Soldier
(Presumed Portrait of Ludovico III Gonzaga)
ca. 1450-1453?

Bronze
Height: 56 cm

Berlin, Staatliche Museen, Skulpturensammlung, Inv. SKS 52.
Bode-Museum, on view.

Provenance
Paris, Frédéric Spitzer (1876); Berlin, Skulpturensammlung/Altes Museum (1876-1896);
Berlin, Skulpturensammlung/Neues Museum (1896-1904); Berlin, Skulpturensammlung/
Kaiser-Friedrich-Museum (1904-1939); Berlin, storage (1939-1945); Merkers, storage (1945);

Wiesbaden, Central Collecting Point (1945-1956); West Berlin, Skulpturensammlung/Museum Dahlem (1956-1997); Berlin, storage (1997-2006); Berlin, Skulpturensammlung/Bode-Museum (since 2006).

Acquisition

Bought for 3,000 Marks in 1876 in Paris from the Spitzer collection (inventory book in the Bode-Museum).

Other versions

- Paris, Musée Jacquemart-André, Inv. 1937. Bronze, height: 36 cm. Bought on 11 November 1888 from Stefano Bardini in Florence for 35,000 lire.
- Formerly Berlin, Königliche Museen, Skulpturensammlung, Inv. SKS 172. Bronze, height: 27.5 cm. Lost since May 1945.
- Formerly St Petersburg, Stroganoff collection. Bronze.

Exhibitions

Splendours of the Gonzaga, London, Victoria and Albert Museum, 4 November 1981-31 January 1982, cat. 28.

Giulio Romano, Mantua, Palazzo Te and Palazzo Ducale, 1 September-12 November 1989.

Bibliography

Wilhelm Bode, *Italienische Portraitskulpturen des XV. Jahrhunderts in den Königlichen Museen zu Berlin*, n. pl. ≡ Berlin ≡, n. d. ≡ 1883 ≡, p. 8 (reproduced): Donatello; portrait of an unknown man; three other portraits in bronze are listed as by Donatello: this one, another in Berlin (see Inv. SKS 172), the equestrian monument of the Gattamelata in Padua and the ≡so-called ≡ bust of the latter's son in the Museo Nazionale del Bargello, Florence. Hermann Grimm, "Italienische Porträtbüste des Quattrocento", *Preussische Jahrbücher*, 51, 1883, p. 407: identifies the bust with Ludovico III Gonzaga through a comparison with medals by Pisanello and Pietro da Fano. (reference to be checked)

Wilhelm Bode, "Die italienischen Skulpturen der Renaissance in den Königlichen Museen zu Berlin. III", *Jahrbuch der Königlich preußischen Kunstsammlungen*, V, 1884, pp. 29-30: style of Donatello, portrait of a commander.

August Schmarsow, *Donatello. Eine Studie über den Entwicklungsgang des Künstlers und die Reihenfolge seiner Werke*, Breslau, Vereins für Geschichte der bildenden Künste, 1886, p. 42: Donatello; portrait of the King of Naples Alfonso V of Aragon; made in 1448 before the stay in Padua ≡which began earlier ≡; the second bust in Berlin (Inv. SKS 172) is by Bertoldo di Giovanni.

Wilhelm Bode, *Italienische Bildhauer der Renaissance. Studien zur Geschichte der italienischen Plastik und Malerei auf Grund der Bildwerke und Gemälde in den Königl. Museen zu Berlin*, Berlin, W. Speemann, 1887, pp. 14, 31-32, 222-223, 252, 260.

Esposizione Donatelliana nel R. Museo Nazionale in Firenze, exh. cat. (Florence, Museo nazionale del Bargello, 1887), Florence, Tipografia dei Fratelli Bencini, 1887, p. 8 n° 51: Donatello, portrait of a warrior, plaster cast in the exhibition made after the bronze in the

Berlin Museums.

Hans Semper, *Donatello's Leben und Werke*, Innsbruck, Wagnerischen Universitäts-Buchhandlung, 1887, p. 82: both portraits in Berlin (Inv. SKS 52; Inv. SKS 172) are unfinished portraits for the equestrian monument ordered by Alfonso of Aragon in Naples, and left uncompleted because of technical problems.

Hugo von Tschudi, *Donatello e la critica moderna*, Turin et al., Fratelli Bocca, 1887 (1st ed.: *Rivista storica Italiana*, IV, n° 2, 1887), pp. 24-25: Donatello, but not a portrait of Alfonso V of Aragon; close to the

Basic data

Material/Technique:	Bronze
Measurements:	Höhe: 37 cm; Höhe: 55,5 cm (mit Marmorsockel); Breite: 29 cm; Tiefe: 28 cm

Events

Created	When	1450-1453
	Who	Niccolò Baroncelli (-1453)
	Where	
Created	When	1450-1453
	Who	Domenico di Paris
	Where	

Keywords

- Bronze