



ARCHIPENKO, Alexander

Kiev, Ukraine 1887 - New York, United States 1964

Torse plat

Flat Torso

1914, cast 1921-1922

polished bronze

torso

15 x 3 ³/₈ x 1 ³/₁₆; base: H. 4 ⁵/₈ in.

Acc. No.: 2003.3

Credit Line: Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Purchase,
The National Endowment for the Arts Fund for
American Art

Photo credit: Image courtesy of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

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Richmond, Virginia, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts

www.vmfa.state.va.us

Provenance

- 2003, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts Purchase, The National Endowment for the Arts Fund for American Art

Bibliography

- Museum's website (accessed August 17, 2018)

2007 Barriault

Anne B. Barriault with Kay M. Davidson, Selections from the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 2007, p. 298-299, reprod.

Comment

Museum's website (accessed August 17, 2018):

Archipenko came to Paris from the Ukraine in 1908, during the formative stage of Cubism, and was one of the first artists to translate the fractured masses and shifting planes of Pablo Picasso's and Georges Braque's paintings into three-dimensional form. Flat Torso incorporates several of Archipenko's innovations: the use of highly polished bronze to diminish the sense of material density and weight and give the appearance that reflected light is traveling at a rippling speed; the compression of the figure from front to back into a wafer-thin form, which produces severe two-sided frontality; and the intensified awareness of the figure's extremities by selectively eliminating some of their elements. The result is an elegant form, both curvaceously feminine and decisively geometric.
