

PRESS RELEASE

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Sculpting Harriet Tubman. The creative Process.

Sculpting Harriet Tubman – The creative process is a short documentary following the creative process of Harriet Tubman' sculpture, a symbol of freedom that comes to life into the hands of Canadian artist Frank Rekrut.

In 2014 Canadian artist, based in Florence, Frank Rekrut was commissioned by the District School Board of Niagara to sculpt a life-sized statue of Harriet Tubman for the new Harriet Tubman Public School. The Harriet Tubman Public School is born from the unity of three public schools in St. Catherine, one of which Frank attended as a child.

Intrigued by Harriet's story, filmmaker Dorin Vasilescu, followed the creative process of the sculpture, documenting Frank's every move while recreating history, telling her story from an outside perspective and developing a relationship with the piece. The images set the story in the artist's studio, placed in the heart of Florence, showing the sculpture coming to life, from the chair Harriet is sat on to the book placed in her hands.

"I think the best part about being an artist is to develop a relationship with your piece. Whether it was positioning her hand, the title of the book, or the tilt of the head, it felt like she was talking to me." states Frank Rekrut.

"It was fascinating to watch Frank interacting with Harriet as she came to life in his hands. The soft details of her face, the shape of her eyes, the buttons on her blouse and even her shoes were carefully planned to match the piece's personality." recounts Dorin Vasilescu.

Filmmaker and artist take you on a journey to discover the creation of the sculpture from the very first moments in November 2014, to the foundry and finally to the unveiling at the Harriet Tubman Public School on February 9th, 2016.

The short documentary is a piece of history meant to inspire and give a better insight into the process of creating a sculpture from the very beginning.

Sculpting Harriet Tubman – The creative process can be watched online at sculptingharriettubman.timmistudio.com starting March 16th, 2016.

ABOUT FRANK REKRUT

Frank Rekrut is a sculptor based in Florence, Italy. He moved to Florence in 2010 where together with his wife, painter Laura Thompson, he owns an art studio in the historic center, a place they use to create and teach. Frank Rekrut is an alumnus of The Florence Academy of Art. Most interested in exploring the human figure, Frank combines his own aesthetic with his strong academic training. His works may be found in the permanent collection of the European Museum of Modern Art in Barcelona, Spain –MEAM, but also in both public and private collections throughout Canada, USA, Italy, Holland, Germany and Spain.

ABOUT DORIN VASILESCU

Dorin Vasilescu is a portrait and editorial photographer based in Florence, Italy. He dedicated a piece of his soul to photography ever since he was a child and is the owner of Timmi Studio since 2006. His work has been published in various magazines and newspapers. Recently he finished the short documentary *Sculpting Harriet Tubman – The creative process*, as well as started a series of video interviews with artisans in collaboration with Lungarno Magazine.

ABOUT FLORENCE STUDIO

The Florence Studio is a fine art studio located in the heart of historic Florence, Italy. It is here that classically trained artists Frank Rekrut (sculptor) and Laura Thompson (painter) enjoy creating their own original work. The Florence Studio also offers short and long holiday workshops in both painting and sculpture to students of all ages from around the world. www.theflorencestudio.com

ABOUT TIMMI STUDIO

Timmi Studio is a fine art custom photography studio located in Florence, Italy. The studio was born in 2006 and specializes in Portraits, Editorial, Wedding Photography, and Family Photography. Recently the studio also began the production of short documentary videos and video interviews. www.timmistudio.com