

Artist Resources – Antonio Canova (Italian, 1757 – 1822)

[Canova at the Met](#)

[Canova at the National Gallery of Art](#)

[Canova at the V&A](#)

[Canova at the National Portrait Gallery](#)

In 2014, [Antonio Canova: The Seven Last Works](#) was on view at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, featuring six reliefs from the Gallerie dell'Accademia in Venice and one from the Gipsoteca in Possagno that were newly restored and traveling to the United States for the first time.

[Canova and the Dance](#) was on view at the Staatliche Museen zu Berlin in 2016, connecting Canova's work with his lifelong passion for dance. The exhibition featured sketches, paintings, and marble sculptures featuring the theme of dance.

The Frick Collection installed [Canova's George Washington](#) in 2018. The exhibition was centered on the full-length statue of George Washington commissioned for the State House in Raleigh, North Carolina, which was tragically destroyed in a fire one decade after its creation.

In 2023, [Canova: Innocence and Sin](#) was installed at Mart Royereto, exploring the sculptor's influence on modern mediums including photography and contemporary sculpture.

The Vatican Museums launched [Museums at Work: Antonio Canova in the Vatican Museums](#) on the occasion of the bicentenary of the artist's death.

[Canova: Sketching in Clay](#) was co-organized by the [Art Institute of Chicago](#) and the [National Gallery of Art](#) in 2023. The exhibition focused on Canova's work in clay. Read a review of the exhibition catalogue in [The Art Newspaper](#) and a review of the exhibition in [The Washington Post](#). Also read an in-depth article by Brigid von Preussen in [Apollo Magazine](#). Watch a video produced by the Art Institute of Chicago, where modern-day sculptor Fred X Brownstein [recreated](#) Canova's 18th century sculpture, *Venus*.



Antonio Canova engraving
by William Henry
Worthington, 1824



Antonio Canova
Self Portrait, 1792



Antonio Canova (Italian, 1757-1822)

La Riconoscenza (L'Amicizia) [Gratitude (Friendship)], 1816-1817
Marble

Private Collection; L2023:103.5

Antonio Canova was one of the most influential Neoclassical sculptors in 19th century Europe. Raised by his grandfather, who was a stonemason and quarry owner, Canova began carving marble at the young age of nine. **La Riconoscenza (L'Amicizia)** personifies the classical Greek and Roman ideals of gratitude and friendship in a graceful, female form. The sculpture was completed shortly after Canova returned to Italy from France, where he had negotiated the return of Roman antiquities stolen by Napoleon.

On view February 28 – June 2, 2024