

## Li Hongbo: Tools of Study

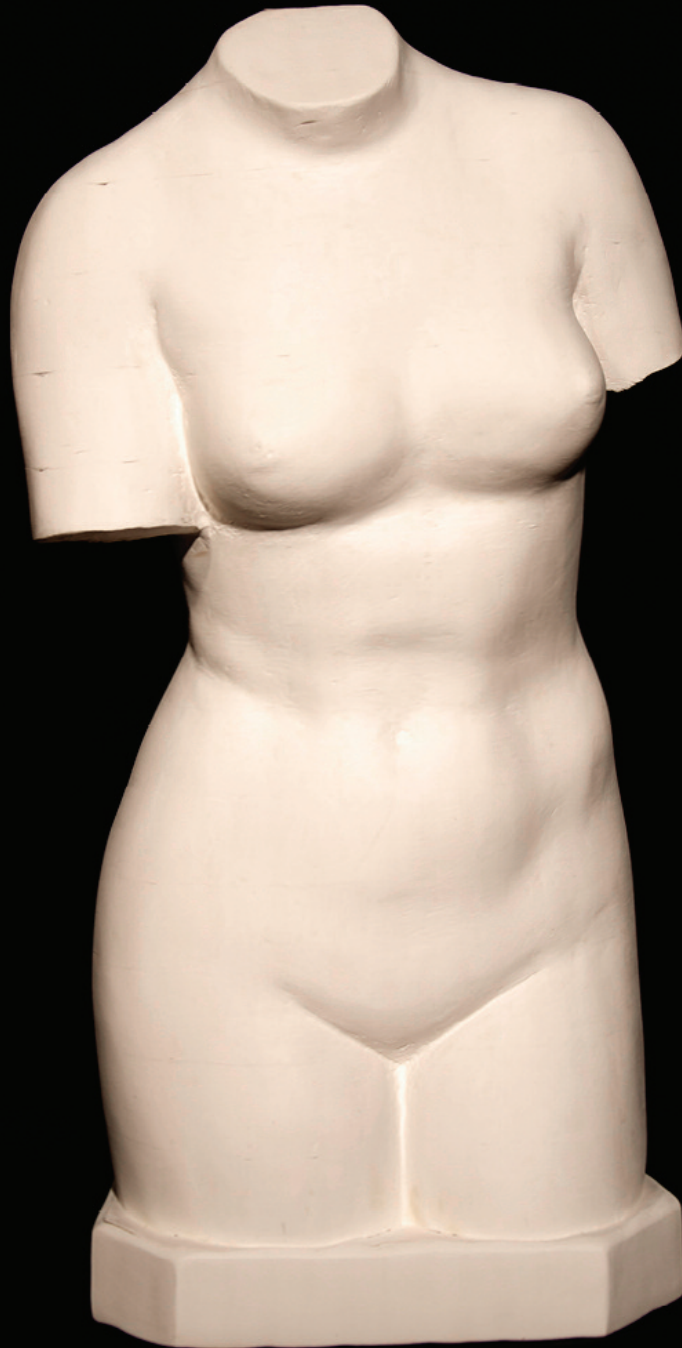
Klein Sun Gallery, New York

**January 9 - March 2, 2014**

525 West 22nd Street, New York, NY 10011

T. +1 212 255 4388

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Chinese artist Li Hongbo's first solo exhibition in the United States appears to consist of impeccable recreations of carved porcelain masterpieces but the sculptures are in fact entirely comprised of thousands of layers of paper. Li Hongbo's stunning, stretchable, paper sculptures, inspired by both traditional folk art and his time as a student learning to sculpt, challenge our perceptions. With a technique influenced by his fascination with traditional Chinese decorations known as paper gourds—made from glued layers of paper—Li Hongbo applies a honeycomb-like structure to form remarkably flexible sculptures.

While studying sculpture as a student, Li Hongbo often found himself instructed to recreate classical masterpieces. To him these works became "Tools of Study." Over time, he realized that the pieces were such familiar objects not only to himself, but also the general populous, and viewers immediately assumed anything mimicking the form was bound to be a porcelain-like replica of the original. Utilizing this assumption, Li Hongbo redefines these world-renowned masterpieces and forms his own unique style.

Li Hongbo was born in Jilin, China in 1974 and earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Jilin Normal University in 1996. He earned a Master of Fine Arts from the Folk Art Department of the Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing in 2002, as well as a Master of Fine Arts from the Experimental Art Department of Central Academy of Fine Arts in Beijing in 2010.

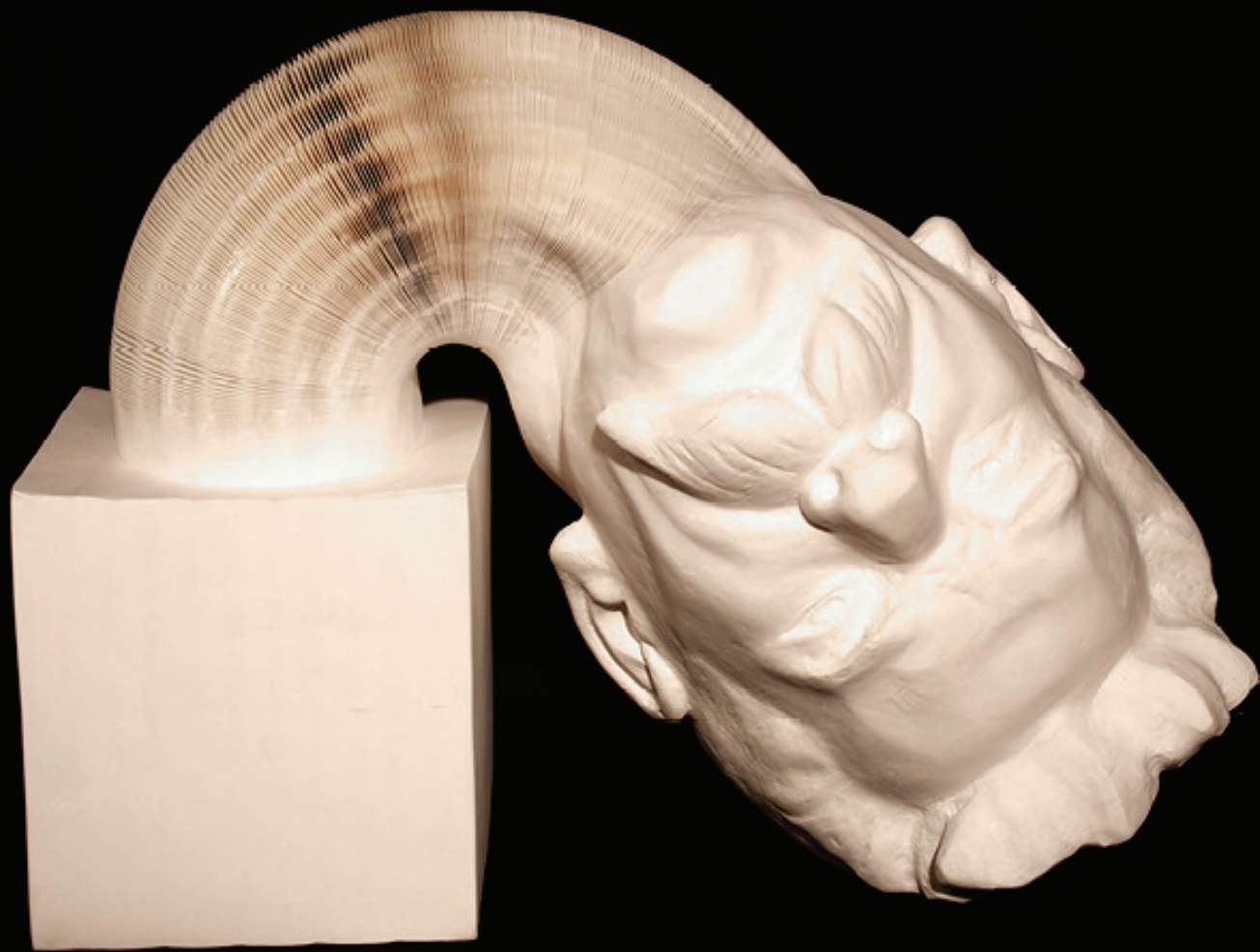
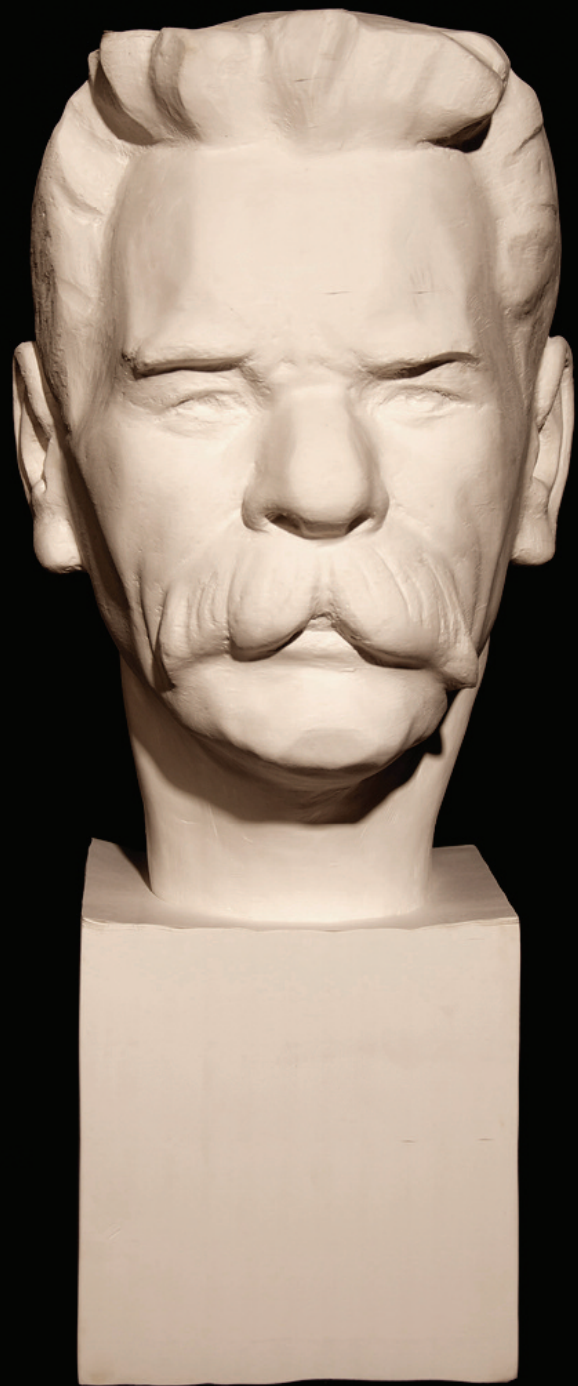
**TORSO OF A YOUNG WOMAN**



TORSO OF A YOUNG WOMAN





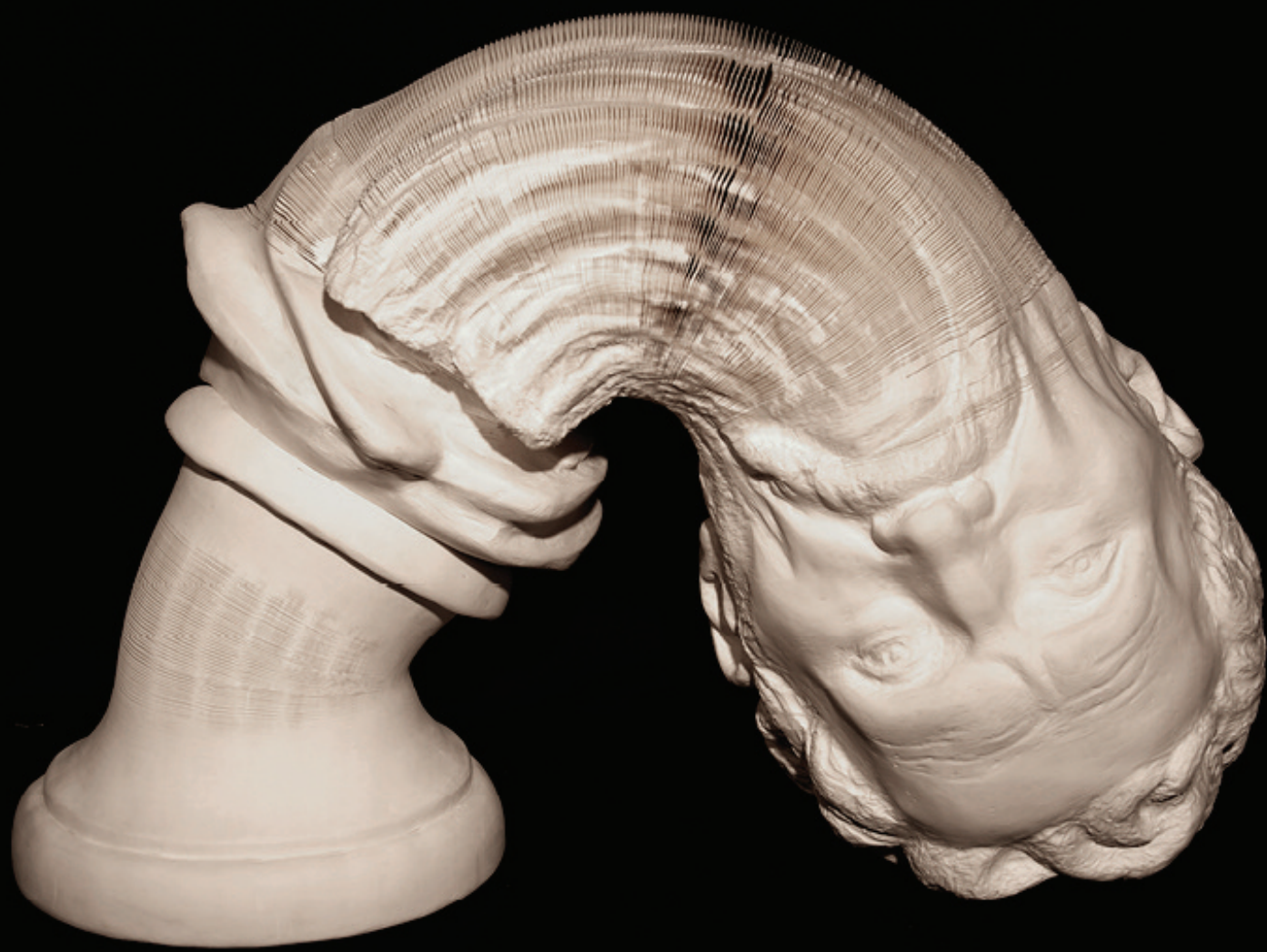
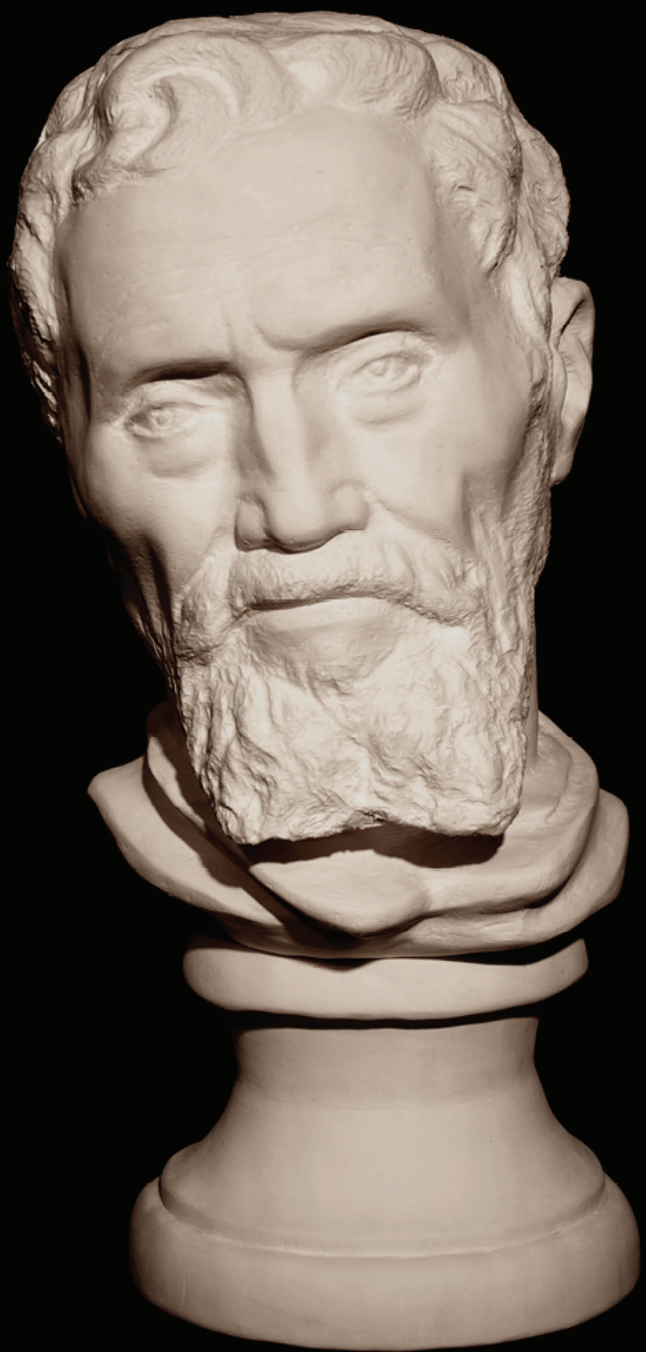


BUST OF GORKY





BUST OF LION HAT







GODDESS OF THE PARTHENON