



Among all the architectural and sculptural models held in the collections of the Goetheanum and the "Nachlassverwaltung" in Dornach, the sixth 2.5 m high compositional model for the Sculptural Group is unique, in that it is signed directly on the plaster cast by both Edith Maryon and Rudolf Steiner ("R. Steiner 1915 E. Maryon").

In order to prepare for the full-size elm carving, they made seven compositional models and several detail models. The fifth (some 47 cm high in plasticine) was worked out in all aspects and used by Edith Maryon to complete the 2.5 m model as the next stage in the enlarge-

ment process. She built it in plasticine in the new 12m high studio starting in May/June 1915. Finally it was cast in plaster using the waste mould process which means that the original was lost.

This plaster was necessary in order to provide a permanent record available for the final enlargement process. The full size 9.5 m high model was to be prepared by Edith Maryon during 1916 and worked over in detail by Rudolf Steiner at the end of that year. Finally the 2.5 m model was moved to Rudolf Steiner's adjacent studio in 1919 where he continued to work on the central Christ figure in wood.

Mirela Faldey

## Rudolf Steiner's Sculpture

needs our Attention

Appeal  
from the Anthroposophical Society in Switzerland


Dear Friends,

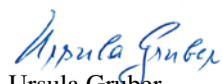
during recent years interest in Rudolf Steiner's Wooden Sculpture has grown. Eighty years ago this unique work of art was given a permanent home in the so-called Group Room in the Goetheanum where the sculpture is accessible to the many visitors who come each year. Despite continuing efforts to maintain it over the years, the room is naturally showing considerable signs of wear and tear:

- The sculptured walls, now mottled and darkened, are in urgent need of attention. The renovation of the lazured wall surfaces will need considerably more work than the application of the usual lazure technique.
- The heating system is unable to meet the standards of air and moisture control necessary for the optimal care and preservation of the wood. The existing heating appliances must be replaced with new radiators.
- The present lighting system causes problematic shadows to fall over the face of the middle figure and over other parts of the sculpture. A new system needs to be devised with a softer more dispersed light effect which can show the carved forms at their very best.
- Access to the sculpture needs to be improved for more efficient care and maintenance.
- Finally there is also the need to provide a further cast of the 2.5 m model.

The great importance of the Wooden Sculpture, the Representative of Humanity, demands urgent improvement of the conditions under which it is presently kept, even if in the future it were to be moved. The Swiss Anthroposophical Society wishes to appeal to the generosity of all friends round the world who feel connected to this major central artistic statement within the Goetheanum. This Appeal and the project following from it, is carried out under the auspices of the Council at the Goetheanum, in collaboration with the documentation processes within the Goetheanum and the Art Section as well as the Ita Wegman Institute in Arlesheim. In consideration of the various possibilities within the project an estimate of 80.000 to 100.000 Swiss Francs has been suggested.

With many thanks in anticipation of your contributions, sincerely

  
Sergej O. Prokofieff  
Council at the Goetheanum

  
Ursula Gruber  
Art Section

  
Uwe Werner  
Goetheanum Archives

  
Clara Steinemann  
Anthroposophical Society in Switzerland

  
Peter Selg  
Ita Wegman Institute

### The Representative of Humanity and the Goetheanum

*"In Ephesus die Götterstatue; hier im Goetheanum die Menschenstatue, die Statue des Menschheitsrepräsentanten, des Christus Jesus, in dem wir gedachten, uns mit ihm identifizierend, in aller Demut so in der Erkenntnis aufzugehen, wie einstmal in ihrer Art, auf eine heute der Menschheit nicht mehr völlig verständliche Weise, die Schüler von Ephesus in der Diana von Ephesus aufgingen."*

Rudolf Steiner, Dornach, 31.12.1923

The statue of the Representative of Mankind, the Christ Jesus standing between the adversary powers, was created by Rudolf Steiner despite his many other responsibilities, during a period of ten years together with Edith Maryon and a number of artist colleagues. "It was my task in Dornach to place this important Sculptural Group in the Building for the School of Spiritual Science" he said, indicating its dominant central position on the stage at the eastern end. This was to be understood as the crowning feature of the First Goetheanum and indeed from the beginning, also the School of Spiritual Science. The Sculpture escaped the terrible fire which destroyed the double cupola building during the Sylvester night of 1922/23. Rudolf Steiner however continued to carve on the main figure after the death of Edith Maryon until he withdrew to his own sickbed. The Statue of the Representative of Mankind belonged to what was most dear to Rudolf Steiner and is inseparable from the founding of the new Christian Mysteries bound to the future tasks of the Goetheanum.

The efforts of the Swiss Society to generate funds for the refurbishment of the present exhibition space for the statue and its preparatory models, as well as a further copy of the original 2.5 m cast, in order to guarantee its safety, requires the total support of the International Anthroposophical Movement. This Statue and its accompanying models represent the Christological kernel of the Dornach School of Spiritual Science.

Peter Selg

Translation John Wilkes

Please mark your donation "Holzplastik" and send it to the Anthroposophical Society in Switzerland, Dornach, PC-Konto: 40-33731-9, IBAN: CH52 0900 0000 4003 3731 9, BIC: POFICHBEXXX

