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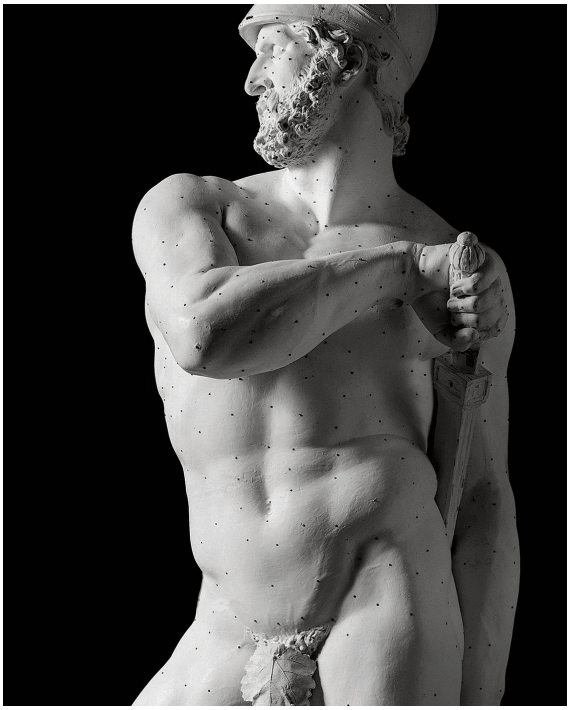

Canova. Four Tempos: Volume IV

Sculptures from the Gypsotheca of Possagno

Vittorio Sgarbi

Photographs by Luigi Spina

ISBN	9791254600566
Publisher	5 Continents Editions
Binding	Hardback
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- A collection of sublime black and white photographs of plaster models created by Italian Neoclassical sculptor Antonio Canova (1757-1822) - the fourth and final in the series
- Photographed by Luigi Spina with text by art historian Vittorio Sgarbi

The fourth and final volume of the photographic and editorial project *Canova. Four Tempos*, dedicated to the plaster casts by Antonio Canova at the Gypsotheca in Possagno (Italy), continues the investigation into the imperfect form: works that, with their small nails that allowed plaster to be reproduced in marble, are an expression of genius in his making.
Luigi Spina approaches the works in a completely new way, from mythological subjects to the faces of the commissioners, from Daedalus and Icarus, a masterpiece of youth, to Adonis crowned by Venus, unfinished and never translated into marble. From the eternal comparison between the sculpture of Hector in a dynamic pose and Ajax about to draw his sword. The sensuality of Venus while revealing herself as she emerges from her bath.
Finally, the volume takes a look at the commissioners: the sculpture of the little prince Heryk Lubominski dressed as Cupid with bow and quiver and the sculpture of Princess Leopoldina Esterhàzy Liechtenstein. In the sculptor's mind dominates the classical model, a symbol of harmony and perfection.

Luigi Spina, a photographer, has published several volumes with 5 Continents Editions, including *The Buchner Boxes* (2014), *Hemba* (2017), and *Mythical Diary* (2017), dedicated to the Farnese Collection. With the same publisher, he created the series *"Hidden Treasures"*: *The Farnese Cup, The Alexander Mosaic, San Domenico by Niccolò dell'Arca, The Riace Bronzes* (2022), and the large-scale photographic project *Inside Pompeij* (2023).
Vittorio Sgarbi is an art critic, curator, and refined collector, as well as the author of many books dedicated to great artists and the central role of art. Among his recent publications: *Ecce Caravaggio. Da Roberto Longhi a oggi* (La Nave di Teseo, 2021). He is also a politician and a free thinker.







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