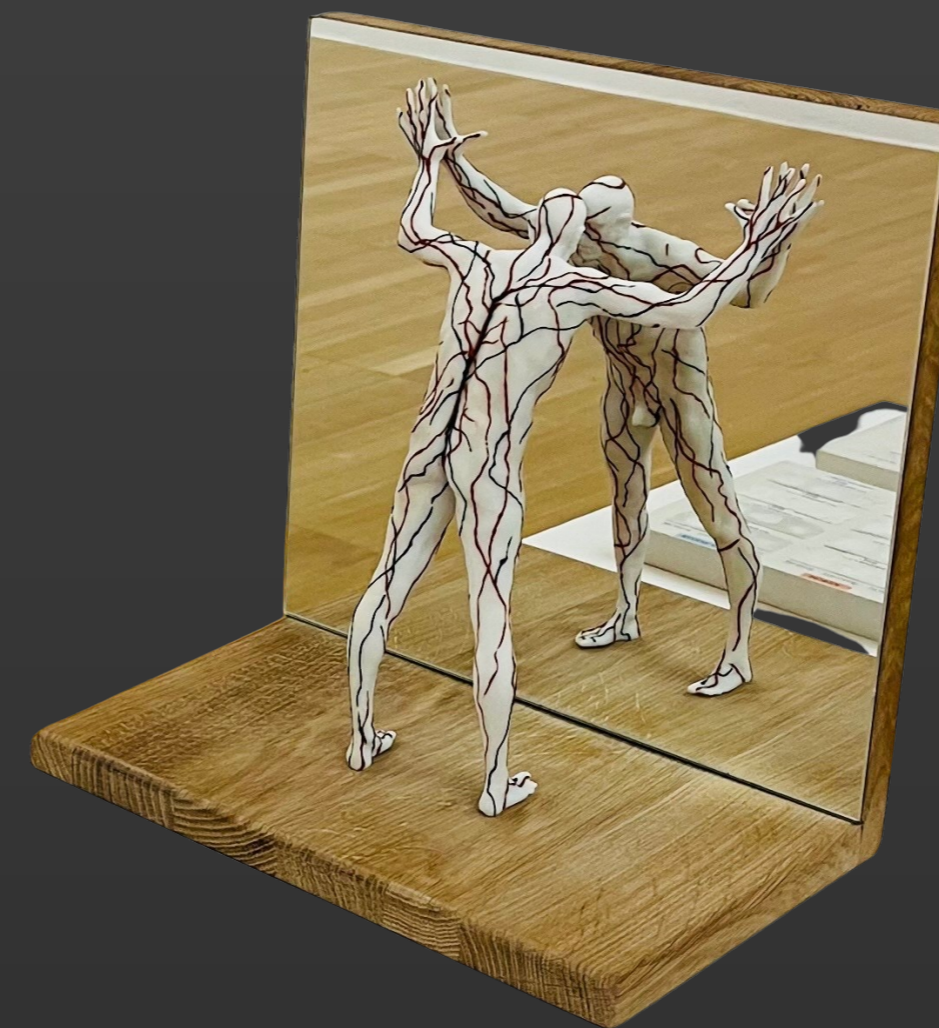


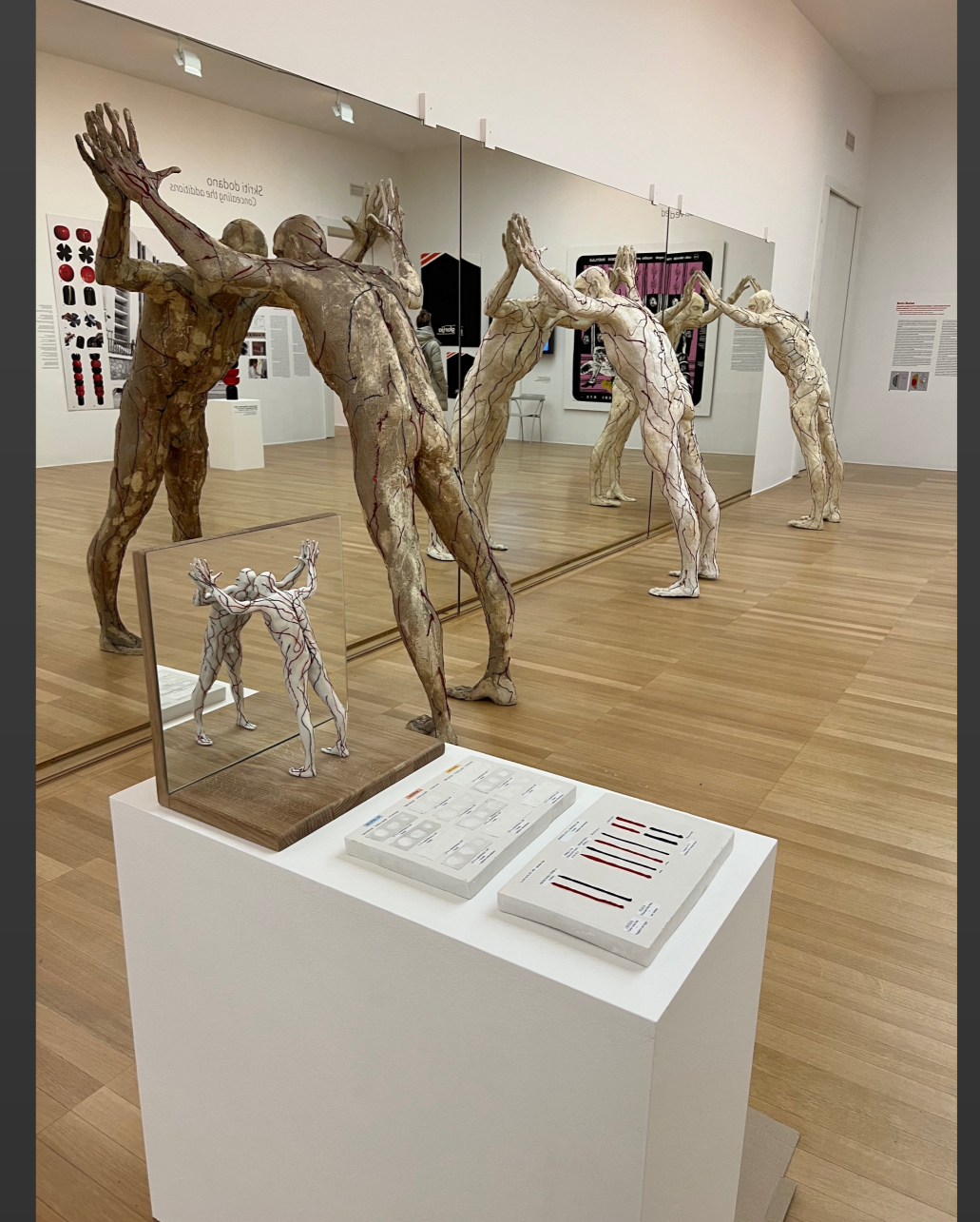
CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION TREATMENTS AND MAKING A 3D MODEL OF THE SCULPTURAL COMPOSITION *TARGET II* AS PART OF THE INTERNATIONAL INTERDISCIPLINARY PROJECT *UP CLOSE*

Author: Ana Božičević, Assist. Prof., bozicevic.ana@gmail.com
Institution: Academy of Fine Arts, University of Zagreb, Department of Conservation and Restoration of Works of Art

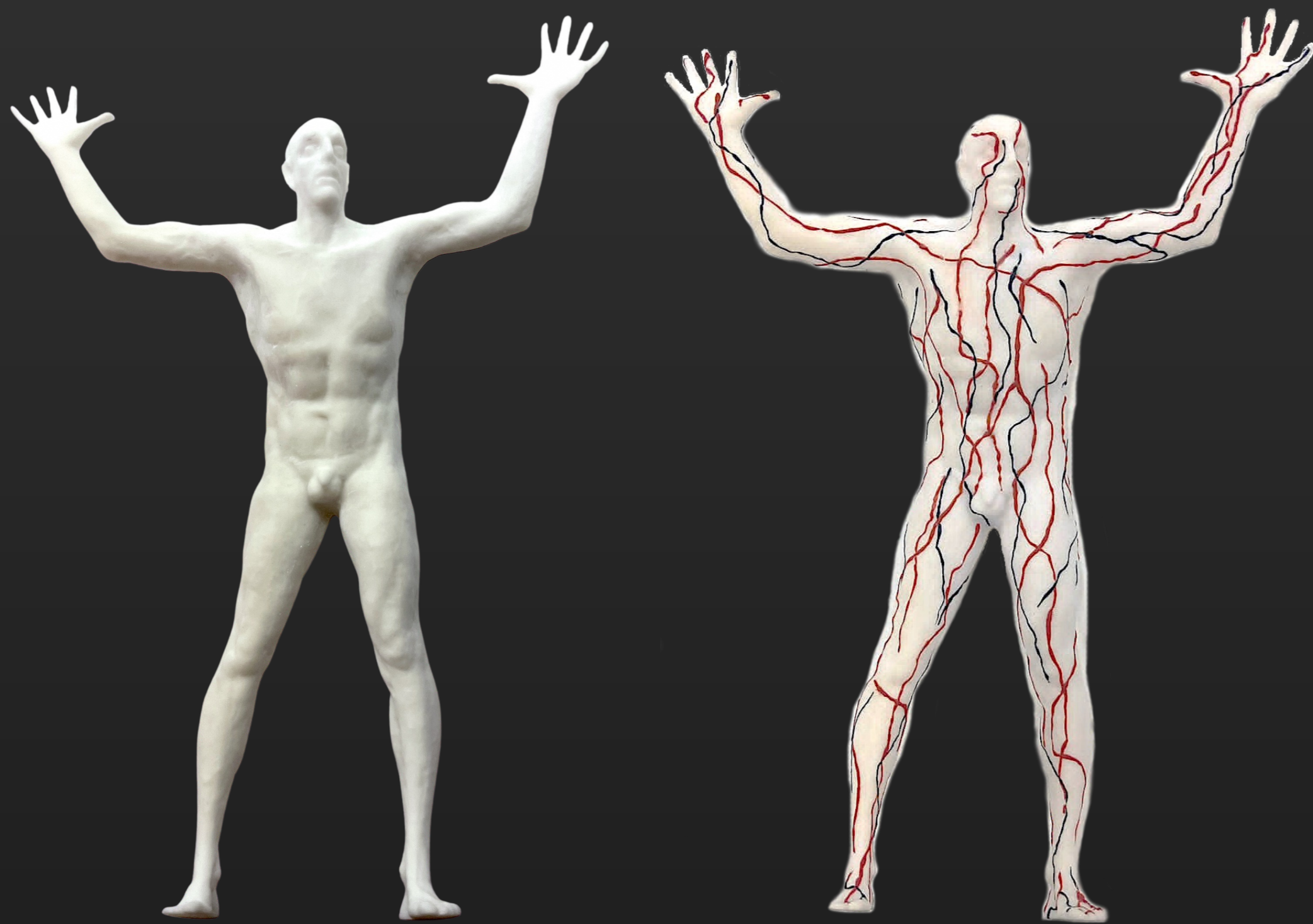
The sculptural composition *Meta II*, created by the late Marija Ujević Galetović, one of the greatest Croatian sculptors of the 20th century, was made in 1981 as a metaphorical message by the artist about the vulnerability of human life. The artist drew inspiration from a photograph of men lined up against a wall during the Islamic revolution in Iran, which she saw on television. The composition consists of three life-sized polyester sculptures that were initially exhibited at the Sebastian Gallery in Dubrovnik. Subsequently, they were displayed unprotected and exposed to weather conditions and sunlight in the courtyard of the Zagreb Glyptothek for several years. Since 2005, they have been part of the collection of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Zagreb. Numerous relocations, inadequate storage conditions, as well as alterations to the original materials, have left their mark and caused significant damage to this important work of Croatian contemporary art.



Picture 2: The model placed on a replica of the actual exhibition layout so that visitors can touch it



Picture 3: The exhibition "Up Close" held at the Modern Gallery in Ljubljana in 2022



Picture 1: The model created using photosensitive resin and MSLA 3D printing technique at D3Stooges3D creative studio in Zagreb

The international interdisciplinary project 'Up Close' was designed with the aim of bringing the field of conservation and restoration closer to museum audiences. The project emphasized collaboration between museum conservation and restoration departments and educational institutions that train new professionals in this field. As part of the project, students from three academies (Ljubljana, Split, and Zagreb) worked on museum artifacts under the supervision of their mentors. Comprehensive conservation and restoration treatments were performed on two out of three sculptures that constitute the *Meta II* sculptural composition. The work took place outside of regular classes and involved various aspects and phases, including diagnostics and scientific analysis, historical and artistic research, written, graphic, photographic, and 3D documentation, consultations with the artist, interventions on the sculptures, as well as the preparation of materials for exhibition and public education. In addition to following standard professional procedures, the author herself actively participated in the process, providing valuable insights and contributing to the overall success of the project. The treatments were carried out by Dorotea Podolšak, a fourth-year student specializing in sculpture conservation and restoration at the Department of Conservation and Restoration of Works of Art, Academy of Fine Arts, University of Zagreb, under the professional supervision and mentorship of M.Sc. Mirta Pavić, M.A. Kristina Matković, and M.A. Ivana Drmić from the Department of Protection and Restoration at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Zagreb.

The project resulted in a large exhibition on the restoration and preservation of modern and contemporary art, as well as the ethical questions that arise during the restoration process. For the purpose of an exhibition layout adapted for blind and visually impaired individuals, a reduced-scale model was created using MSLA 3D printing technique and photosensitive resin. The model was displayed alongside the original sculptures. The scanning of the sculpture was carried out by students Josip Simon and Karlo Krekić from the Department of Conservation and Restoration of Works of Art, under the mentorship of Assistant Professor Ana Božičević, implementing the knowledge they acquired during the international project *Re/Forma Viva*. To enhance the model, student Dorotea Podolšak later added veins using polyester resin with red and blue pigments.



Picture 4: Student Dorotea Podolšak performing conservation and restoration treatment on the sculpture



Picture 5: Students Karlo Krekić and Josip Simon scanning the sculpture using photogrammetry method with the help of a drone at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Zagreb