



## Female Torso 3

### Date

c. 1913-1914

### Primary Maker

Henri Gaudier-Brzeska

### Medium

Seravezza and Sicilian marble

### Description

Henri Gaudier-Brzeska was raised by a family of carpenters near Orléans in France. Determined to become a sculptor, he moved to London in 1911, becoming part of the Vorticist movement, as well as a founding member of the London Group, alongside Ezra Pound (1885–1972) and Wyndham Lewis (1882–1957). Gaudier-Brzeska often drew artistic inspiration from Paleolithic and ancient Egyptian works, touting the superiority of their “primitivism” over the popular classicism of the ancient Greeks. The artist often carved directly into the stone without first creating preparatory models. The naturalistic Female Torso 3 may have been created by Gaudier-Brzeska to demonstrate his accomplishment as a sculptor and his understanding of classical sculpture. The model for this dissected figure was the artist and writer Nina Hamnett (1890–1956), a vibrant and unconventional woman who later become colloquially known in Paris as the “Queen of Bohemia.” Gaudier-Brzeska returned to France to enlist at the beginning of World War I. He was killed in combat on June 5, 1915, at the age of twenty-three.

### Dimensions

Overall: 10 3/4 × 3 1/2 × 3 1/2 in. (27.3 × 8.9 × 8.9 cm)