



PROJECT SHEET
Sculpture Restoration

VILLA HERCOLANI, BOLOGNA, ITALY

THE PROJECT

At the end of the 14th century, Giovanni II Bentivoglio transformed the "Belpoggio" castle into a holiday residence, evolving its architecture into a hybrid style between a castle and a palace. "Belpoggio" became part of the Herculani family following the marriage of Lucrezia Orsi to Astorre Herculani in 1751. Prince Filippo of the Holy Roman

Empire, Astorre's son, oversaw significant restoration works that gave the house its current appearance.

The building's statuary complex, approximately 8 m high and 12 m long, depicts two "Ercoli" on a pedestal. These two mythological figures, dating back 700 years, required restoration work.



Owner _____

Herculani Family

Architect _____

Vittorio Camerini

Contractor _____

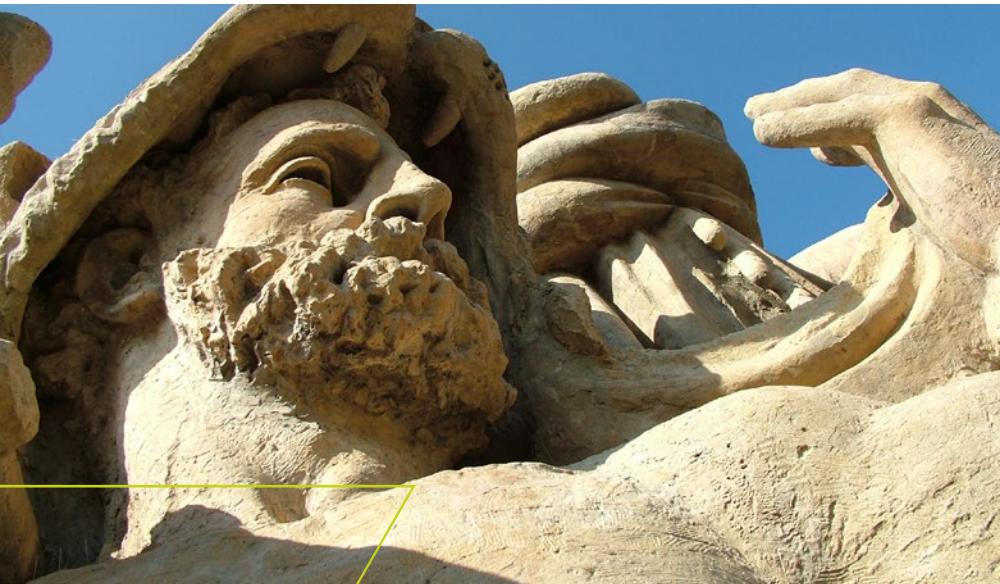
Leonardo

Duration _____

12 months

Delivery date _____

March 2006



TECHNICAL APPROACH

Condition assessment

Analyses highlighted a significant state of deterioration of the Hercules statue. Numerous mortar cracks were present, both on the surface and in depth, putting certain parts of the sculpture at risk.

Restoration

Repairs carried out using natural PROMPT cement respected the properties of the original materials. Missing parts were

reconstructed, including several fingers, part of the club, numerous hanging fringes, the drapery, and almost the entire crown above the coat of arms. Severely damaged and irrecoverable parts, such as the upper crown, were fully rebuilt in natural cement.

Different mortars were employed: a coarse mortar for shaping the main structure and a finer mortar for the exterior finishing of the sculptural elements. Multiple tests were conducted to determine the correct aggregate size and the ap-

propriate pigmentation for the final layer. The resulting color represents an optimal compromise among the various shades of the original surface.



VICAT ADVANTAGES

→ Technical support



PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS



Natural ochre aesthetic



Compatibility with original materials



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