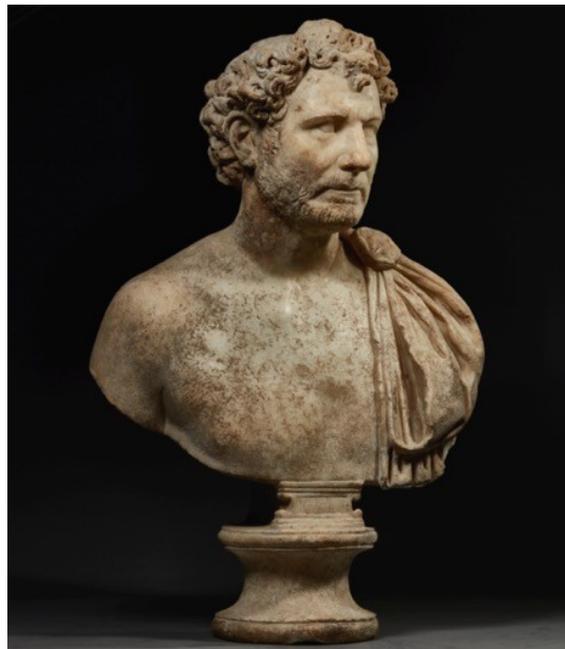




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**GETTY MUSEUM ANNOUNCES ACQUISITION OF
SECOND-CENTURY ROMAN PORTRAIT BUST**



Portrait Bust of a Man, AD 140-160. Roman. Marble. Height: 30 in.

LOS ANGELES – The Getty Museum announces the acquisition of a second-century AD Roman marble portrait bust of a man.

The life-sized sculpture portrays a middle-aged man of high status who has a powerful and vivid appearance. His short beard and moustache are akin to those of the emperor Hadrian (AD 117-138), but the curly hair, prominent facial features, and intense gaze are more characteristic of the expressive style of the reign of Antoninus Pius (AD 138-161) and his son and successor, Marcus Aurelius (AD 161-180). He wears a deeply folded *paludamentum* (military cloak) fastened with a circular brooch over his left shoulder.

"This new acquisition is a superb example of early Antonine portraiture, which was previously not well represented in the Museum's collection," said Timothy Potts, director of the J. Paul Getty Museum. "Roman portraiture achieved its most individualized and dynamic

expression between the mid-second and early third centuries AD, as shown in the artistic quality and vivacity of this exceptional portrayal. It will be one of the highlights of the Roman portrait sculptures on display in the second-floor galleries of the newly installed Villa.”

The bust is carved in one piece along with its *tabula* (name plate) and joins the original, separately worked circular base. As with nearly all surviving Roman sculptures, the artist is unknown, but based on its style it can be assigned to a workshop in Rome that produced portraits for imperial and aristocratic patrons.

The work was first documented on the Roman art market in 1960 before it was acquired by an American collector around 1961, who then gave it to the Denver Art Museum in 1965. The museum deaccessioned it in 2017 and it was sold at auction at Sotheby's. The Getty Museum acquired it from an art dealer in London.

The bust will go on view at the Getty Villa in June 2018.

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The J. Paul Getty Museum collects Greek and Roman antiquities, European paintings, drawings, manuscripts, sculpture and decorative arts to 1900, as well as photographs from around the world to the present day. The Museum's mission is to display and interpret its collections, and present important loan exhibitions and publications for the enjoyment and education of visitors locally and internationally. This is supported by an active program of research, conservation, and public programs that seek to deepen our knowledge of and connection to works of art.

Visiting the Getty Villa

The Getty Villa is open Wednesday through Monday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. It is closed Tuesdays, Thanksgiving, December 25 (Christmas Day), and January 1.

Admission to the Getty Villa is always free, but a ticket is required for admission. Tickets can be ordered in advance, or on the day of your visit, at www.getty.edu/visit or at (310) 440-7300. Parking is \$15 per car, but reduced to \$10 after 3 p.m. Groups of 15 or more must make reservations by phone. For more information, call (310) 440-7300 (English or Spanish); (310) 440-7305 (TTY line for the deaf or hearing impaired). The Getty Villa is at 17985 Pacific Coast Highway, Pacific Palisades, California. Same-day parking at both Museum locations (Getty Center and Getty Villa) is available for \$15 through the Getty's Pay Once, Park Twice program.

Additional information is available at www.getty.edu. Sign up for e-Getty at www.getty.edu/subscribe to receive free monthly highlights of events at the Getty Center and the Getty Villa via e-mail, or visit www.getty.edu for a complete calendar of public programs.