

DIANE DE POLIGNAC

MARIA PAPA ROSTKOWSKA (1923-2008)



Maria Papa Rostkowska working,
marble factory Henraux, Querceta,
Italy, c. 1970 - Photo : Jean Ferrero

Maria Papa Rostkowska is an Italian-Polish sculptor known mainly for her marble works, some of which are monumental and visible in public spaces across Europe. After escaping the camps and the war, she left Poland to live and work between France and Italy.

BIOGRAPHY

YOUTH AND RESISTANCE

Maria Papa Rostkowska (née Baranowska) was born on 4 July 1923 in Brwinów, in the suburbs of Warsaw, Poland. The youngest of four girls, she had just begun studying technical drawing and architecture at Jastrzebowski High School when the Second World War broke out.

In 1943, Maria Baranowska married Ludwik Rostkowski Jr., a Polish politician. Together, they joined the armed resistance and, with Ludwik's father, Dr. Ludwik Rostkowski Sr. (a founding member of Żegota, an underground Polish resistance organisation to aid Jews), Maria Rostkowska helped rescue Jews from the Warsaw Ghetto. Ludwik Rostkowski Jr. was posthumously awarded the Righteous Among the Nations Medal.

After the outbreak of the Warsaw Uprising on 1 August 1944, Maria Rostkowska became an active member of the resistance and took part in the fighting against the Germans. She was arrested and put on a transport to Auschwitz. She was able to escape deportation, however, and returned to a devastated Warsaw. After liberation, she was awarded the Silver Cross of the Order of Virtuti Militari for her actions during the war. In 1945, she gave birth to her only son, Nicolas Rostkowski.

RECOGNITION IN POLAND

In 1947, Maria Rostkowska resumed her studies and enrolled at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. After winning a scholarship from the Polish government, which was extended by UNESCO and the French government, she went to Paris, where she devoted herself to drawing and painting. Returning to Poland in 1950, she taught painting in Gdansk, and then in Warsaw. She regularly exhibited her works, which were in the socialist realist style. Most of these paintings are now kept at the Museum of Socialist Realism in Koźłówka.

Maria Rostkowska left Warsaw in 1950, in the wake of a wave of Stalinist repression that claimed the life of Ludwik Rostkowski Jr., a political activist and vice president of the Democratic Youth. She was accepted to the position of assistant at the State Higher School of Fine Arts in Sopot. Then, in 1953, Maria Papa was appointed Associate Professor at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts. Taking part in numerous exhibitions in Poland, the artist won a number of awards for her work. She was awarded the Polish State Art Prize for the large-scale mural decorations that she had created in 1954 in the old town of Lublin. The following year, in 1955, she received the prize once again for her painting *La Silésienne*.

MOVING TO PARIS AND SCULPTURE

The Exhibition of Young Artists held at the Arsenal Gallery in Warsaw in 1955 was a major post-war event in Poland, marking the end of socialist realism in Polish art. It was there that Maria Rostkowska, who was exhibiting her self-portrait at the event, met the French painter Édouard Pignon. At the latter's invitation, Maria Rostkowska moved to Paris in 1957. The French capital

became her permanent home and the city she would hold most dear. A year later, she married Gualtieri Papa di San Lazzaro, a prominent Italian art critic, writer and journalist. He was also the founder of the art journal *XX^e Siècle* and the eponymous gallery in Paris. They chose the writer Pierre Volboudt and the painter Serge Poliakoff to be the witnesses at their wedding.

In the summer of 1958, Maria Papa discovered the world of ceramics in Albisola, an Italian village renowned for its artistic community, which had gathered around the futurist ceramicist and poet Tullio Mazzotti. In Albisola, she worked with renowned artists such as Giuseppe Capogrossi, César, Roberto Crippa, Agenore Fabbri, Lucio Fontana, Asger Jorn, Wifredo Lam, Piero Manzoni and Milena Milani. Her creations, terracotta sculptures and bas-reliefs, were exhibited by the art dealer Carlo Cardazzo in his Galleria del Naviglio in Milan.

In Paris, Maria Papa Rostkowska produced several bronze castings and actively participated in numerous salons and exhibitions, exhibiting notably at the Salon de la Jeune Sculpture in 1961, 1962 and 1963. She forged friendships with a multitude of influential artists, including the painters Anna-Eva Bergman and Hans Hartung, Marc Chagall, Olivier Debré, Sonia Delaunay, Natalia Dumitresco and Alexandre Istrati, Maurice Estève, Robert Helman, Ladislav Kijno, Arika Madeyska, Alberto Magnelli, Joan Miró, Zoran Music, Édouard Pignon, Serge Poliakoff and Pierre Soulages. She was also associated with the sculptors Jean Arp, César, Émile Gilioli, Frans Krajcberg, Marino Marini, Henry Moore, Alicia Penalba, Ilio Signori and Alina Szapocznikow, as well as the writers Emil Cioran, Eugène Ionesco, André Pieyre de Mandiargues, Adolf Rudnicki, André Verdet, and Cesare Zavattini, and the film director Vittorio de Sica.

In 1959, her son Nicolas joined her in Paris. Maria Papa Rostkowska then began to work back and forth between Albisola and Paris; in the latter, she used the studio of the sculptor Émile Gilioli.

CHOOSING MARBLE

In the mid-1960s, following the advice of Jean Arp, Gigi Guadagnucci and Marino Marini, Maria Papa began exploring the direct carving of marble, which became her preferred medium. In 1966, she was invited to participate in the Marble Symposium organised by the Henraux marble works in Querceta, Italy. She set up her studio there, near Pietrasanta, close to the Monte Altissimo and Carrara quarries. In the same year, she received an award from the William and Noma Copley Foundation for sculpture. This honour was also bestowed upon Alina Szapocznikow, making them the only two Polish artists to have been awarded the distinction. This marked the beginning of a prolific period during which Maria Papa created a wide range of marble and stone sculptures, from monumental works to more intimate pieces.

In 1968, her son Nicolas married Joëlle Ribert, who would go on to become an ethnologist with a passion for travel

and comparative religion. Through their influence, Maria Papa travelled extensively, discovering the United States (1970), India (1979) and Iran (1973). In 1973, she travelled to Tehran at the invitation of Farah Diba, wife of the Shah of Iran, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. She would later exhibit her work in Russia, at the Hermitage Museum. Gualtieri di San Lazzaro passed away in Paris on 8 September 1974. He was buried in the Montparnasse Cemetery, where Maria Papa laid a marble version of her *Le Guerrier* work on his grave.

After a thirty-four-year absence, Maria Papa presented her works in Poland in 1991, as part of a group exhibition of émigré artists at the Zacheta National Gallery of Art in Warsaw. In 1993, she recorded a series of interviews with a journalist, which were broadcast on Polish National Radio. In 1994, she returned to Poland for the first time since her departure in 1957; this would also be her final trip to her native country. The following year, a documentary film dedicated to her was broadcast on Polish national television. Entitled “Woman and Marble”, it showed her sculpting *La Promesse de bonheur*, a 3-metre-high work that now adorns the French National Assembly in the Palais Bourbon in Paris.

Throughout her life, Maria Papa Rostkowska took part in over one hundred solo and group exhibitions. Notable venues included Carlo and Renato Cardazzo’s Galleria del Naviglio in Milan, the Galleria del Cavallino in Venice and the Galerie XX^e Siècle in Paris, as well as various Parisian salons. Her works have come to form a valuable part of numerous private and public collections in France, the United States, Switzerland, Belgium, Italy, Poland and Japan. Several of her sculptures and bas-reliefs can be found gracing European cities, including Paris and Warsaw.

During the 1990s, Maria Papa continued to create marble works that were true odes to life, joy and family. Although she suffered a stroke in 2001, she continued her work on small-scale marble pieces until she passed away in Lido di Camaiore, Italy, in 2008.

In June 2009, three of her monumental sculptures, *Le Baiser*, *Le Lion* and *La Donna seduta*, were donated to the Polish State by Nicolas Rostkowski. They now adorn the grounds of the National Museum of Poland in Warsaw.

In 2011, the monumental version of *La Promesse de bonheur*, which was a gift from Nicolas and Joëlle Rostkowski, was unveiled at the French National Assembly, inside the Palais Bourbon, opposite the entrance to the “hemicycle” chamber. The then President of the French Parliament, Bernard Accoyer, paid tribute to Maria Papa Rostkowska, describing her as “French at heart”.

Nicolas and Joëlle Rostkowski went on to donate more sculptures to Polish institutions: in 2014, the large sculpture *Venus bionda* was placed at the entrance to the Museum of Sculpture at the Królikarnia Palace. Two other sculptures, *Le Guerrier* and *Mère et l’enfant*, were installed in the Presidential Palace in Warsaw, in the orangery and reception room, respectively. Finally, the monumental sculpture *La Fontaine de bonheur* was installed at the Polish Library in Paris in 2015.

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Maria Papa Rostkowska, 1957
Archives of the Rostkowski family

SELECTED PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

France

Musée des Beaux-Arts, Dijon
Musée de Grenoble, Grenoble
Musée de l'Hospice Saint-Roch d'Issoudun, Issoudun
Musée de Menton, Menton
Musée d'Art et d'Histoire, Meudon
Musée Despiau-Wlérick, Mont de Marsan
Musée des Beaux-Arts, Nantes
Palais Bourbon Assemblée Nationale, Paris
Centre national des arts plastiques, Paris (en dépôt au Consulat Général de France, Houston, TX)
Musée de la sculpture en plein air, Paris
Bibliothèque Polonaise, Paris
Fondation de Coubertin, Saint-Rémy-lès-Chevreuse

Italie

Universita degli Studi, Milan
Banca Intesa, Milan
Parc international de la sculpture contemporaine, Pietrasanta
Fondazione Henraux, Querceta

Pologne

Château Royal de Wawel, Cracovie
Musée National, Lublin
Centre de la Sculpture Contemporaine, Oronsko
Hôtel de ville de Sopot, Sopot
Palais Présidentiel, Varsovie
Musée National, Varsovie
Palais Royal de Lazienki, Varsovie

SELECTED EXHIBITIONS

Exposition collective, *Les Arts visuels en défense de la paix*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1950
Exposition collective, *4^e Festival d'art de Sopot : les arts visuels en défense de la paix*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1951
Exposition collective, *2^e Exposition nationale d'arts visuels. Peinture, sculpture, architecture*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1951
Exposition collective, *Exposition pour la célébration du 10^e anniversaire du Parti des Travailleurs Polonais*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1952
Exposition collective, *3^e Exposition nationale d'arts visuels*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1952
Exposition collective, *Exposition de la Section de Varsovie de l'association des artistes et designers polonais*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1953
Exposition collective, *4^e Exposition nationale d'arts visuels*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1954
Exposition collective, *5^e Exposition de la section peinture, sculpture, graphisme de Varsovie*, Galerie nationale d'art Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1954
Exposition nationale des jeunes artistes-plasticiens, *Contre la guerre – contre le fascisme*, l'Arsenal, Varsovie, Pologne, 1955

Exposition collective, *6^e Exposition de la section peinture, sculpture, graphisme de Varsovie*, Galerie Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1955

Exposition collective, *Junge Generation. Polnische Kunstausstellung: Malerei, Bildhauerei, Plastik*, Berlin, Allemagne, 1956

Exposition personnelle, *Bas-reliefs en terre cuite*, Albisola, Italie, 1959

Exposition personnelle, *La Donna nell'arte contemporanea*, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, Italie, 1959

11^e Salon de la jeune sculpture, Jardin du Musée Rodin, Paris, France, 1959

Exposition personnelle, *Formes et reliefs*, Galerie XX^e Siècle, Paris, France, 1960

12^e Salon de la jeune sculpture, Jardin du Musée Rodin, Paris, France, 1960

13^e Salon de la jeune sculpture, Jardin du Musée Rodin, Paris, France, 1961

Salon Comparaisons, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1961

Exposition personnelle, Galleria da Pescetto, Albisola, Italie, 1961

Exposition personnelle, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, Italie, 1961

Salon Comparaisons, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1961

Exposition personnelle, *Formes et reliefs II*, Galerie XX^e Siècle, Paris, France, 1962

Exposition collective, *Collettiva femminile di pittura e scultura : Dadamaino, Maria Papa Rostkowska*, Galleria da Galleria da Pescetto, Albisola, Italie, 1962

Exposition personnelle, Galleria da Pescetto, Albisola, Italie, 1962

Galleria della Palma Punto 3, Albisola, Italie, 1962

Exposition collective, *Peintures, sculptures, dessins, Vallauris*, Galerie Cavaleiro, Cannes, France, 1962

Salon Comparaisons, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1962

Punta San Martino di Arenzano – Galleria del Sole al Portichetto, troisième édition de «Arte rivolta alle stelle» avec la participation de Crippa, Capogrossi, Fontana, Fabbri, Maria Papa Rostkowska, Dadamaino, 1962

Exposition collective, *Krit-Punto 2*, Palacio de la Virreina, Barcelone, Espagne, 1962

Salon Comparaisons, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1963

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1963

Salon de la jeune sculpture, Jardin du Musée Rodin, Paris, France, 1963

Exposition personnelle, *Sculpture champêtre*, Centre Américain, Paris, France, 1963

Exposition collective, *Albisola 63*, Galleria da Pescetto, Albisola, Italie, 1963

18^e Salon des Réalités nouvelles, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France 1963

V Concorso Internazionale del Bronzetto, Sala della Ragione, Padoue, Italie, 1963

Exposition collective, *Terza edizione Arte rivolta alle stelle*, participants de l'exposition : Crippa, Capogrossi, Fontana, Fabbri, Maria Papa Rostkowska, Dadamaino, Galleria del Sole al Portichetto, Punta San Martino di Arenzano, Italie, 1963

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1964

Exposition collective, *Le Fantastique dans l'Art*, Galerie Creuzevault, Paris, France, 1964

Exposition collective, *Albisola*, Galleria da Pescetto, Albisola, Italie, 1964

Salon des Réalités nouvelles, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1964

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1965

Exposition collective, *Peintures, sculptures, objets*, Galerie Creuzevault, Paris, France, 1965

Salon des Réalités nouvelles, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1965

Exposition collective, *La Main*, Galerie Claude Bernard, Paris, France, 1965

Exposition collective, *Sous le signe de Pausias*, Galerie XX^e Siècle, Paris, France, 1965

Exposition collective, *Donner à voir*, Galleria da Pescetto, Albisola, Italie, 1965

Prix Nelson William Copley pour la sculpture, Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1966

Salon International des galeries pilotes, Musée cantonal des Beaux-Arts, Lausanne, Suisse, 1966

Exposition collective, *Exposition Internationale du Marbre*, Museo Civico del Marmo, Carrare, Italie, 1966

Exposition collective, *La Petite sculpture*, Galerie Maywald, Paris, France, 1966

Exposition collective, Galerie Moni Galatchi, Paris, France, 1966

Exposition collective, *Symposium Du Marbre*, Marbrerie Henraux, Querceta, Italie, 1966

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1966

Exposition personnelle, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, Italie, 1967

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1967

Salon des Réalités nouvelles, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1967

Exposition collective, *Le portrait*, Galerie Claude Bernard, Paris, France, 1967

V^e Biennale Internationale de Sculpture, Carrare, Italie, 1967

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1968

Exposition collective, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, Italie, 1968

Exposition collective, Galleria del Cavallino, Venise, Italie, 1968

Exposition personnelle, Galleria del Cavallino, Venise, Italie, 1968

VI^e Biennale Internationale de Sculpture, Carrare, Italie, 1968

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1969

Peintres et sculpteurs italiens à Paris, Festival International des Arts, Menton, France, 1969

VI^e Biennale Internationale de Sculpture, Carrare, Italie, 1969

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1970

Peintres et sculpteurs italiens à Paris, Festival International des Arts, Menton, France, 1970

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1971

Exposition personnelle, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, Italie, 1972

Exposition personnelle, Galerie XX^e Siècle, Paris, France, 1972

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1972

Exposition personnelle, *Marbres 1969-1972*, Galerie Mony Calatchi, Paris, France, 1972

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1973

VII^e Biennale Internationale de Sculpture, Carrare, Italie, 1973

Galleria Civica d'Arte Moderna, Ferrare, Italie, 1973

Mostra Raccolta di Sculture della Società Henraux, Marbrerie Henraux, Querceta, Italie, 1973

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1974

X^e Biennale Internationale d'Art, Menton, France, 1974

VIII Mostra Collettiva di Città di Massa, Massa, Italie, 1974

Exposition collective, *Les Sculpteurs italiens à Paris*, Institut Culturel Italien, Paris, France, 1974

Exposition collective, *Prima Collettiva della Scultura in Versilia*, Querceta, Italie, 1974

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1975

Exposition collective, *Chevaux Sculptés*, Château de Fontaine-Henry, France, 1975

Exposition collective, *L'Arte nella riviera di Ponente*, Mostra AICS (Associazione Italiana Culturale Sport), Savona, Italie, 1976

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1976

Grand Prix International d'Art Contemporain, Centre de Congrès Auditorium de Monte-Carlo, Monte Carlo, Monaco, 1976

XVI Mostra della Ceramicha, Castellmonte, Italie, 1976

XII^e Biennale Internationale d'Art, Menton, France, 1976

Rassegna, Mostra Internazionale della Ceramica, Albisola, Italie, 1976

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1977

Exposition personnelle, *Exposition Féminine*, Galleria Regis, Finale Ligure, Italie, 1977

Première exposition collective de céramique, Estate 1977, Albisola, Italie, 1977

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1978

Première Triennale européenne de la Sculpture, Jardin du Palais-Royal, Paris, France, 1978

Mostra Estiva delle Sculture, Seravezza, Italie, 1978

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1979

Institut Culturel Italien, Paris, France, 1979

IV Biennale Internazionale Dantesca a Ravenna, Centro Dantesco Dei Frati Minori Conventuali, Ravenna, Italie, 1979

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1980

Exposition collective, *Exposition au profit de la Ligue contre le Cancer*, Espace Cardin, Paris, France, 1980

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1981

Il Triennale de la sculpture, Grand Palais, Paris, France, 1981

Premio di ceramica Bianco, Albissola Mare, Italie, 1981

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1982

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1983

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1984

Exposition collective de sculptures, *La Donna Creativa*, Centre culturel L. Russo, Couvent de Saint-Augustin, Pietrasanta, Italie, 1984

Exposition personnelle, Couvent Saint-Augustin, Loano, Italie, 1984

Salon d'Automne, Grand Palais, Paris, France, 1984

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1985

Exposition personnelle, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, Italie, 1985

III^e Triennale Européenne de sculpture, Musée Bourdelle, Paris, France, 1985

Sculpture di Passagi, Villa Giorgini Schiff, Montignoso, Italie, 1985

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1986

Exposition personnelle, Galleria Farsetti, Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italie, 1986

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1987

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1988

Exposition collective, *Les Dessins des sculpteurs*, Couvent de Saint-Augustin, Pietrasanta, Italie, 1988

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1989

Exposition collective, *Les Choix d'un amateur* (Maria Papa, Anita da Caro et Roger Vieillard), Centre des Arts et loisirs du Vésinet, Vésinet, France, 1989

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1990

Exposition personnelle, *Sculptura ad Femminile*, Studio d'Arte La Subbia, Lido di Camaiore, Italie, 1990

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1991

Triennale internationale de sculpture, Fondation de la culture, Osaka, Japon, 1991

Exposition personnelle, Galleria Subbia, Lido di Camaiore, Italie, 1991

Exposition collective, *Nous sommes présents*, Musée National Zacheta, Varsovie, Pologne, 1991

Exposition personnelle, Galerie Françoise Moulin, Lyon, France, 1991

Salon de Mai, Musée d'art moderne de la ville de Paris, Paris, France, 1992

Exposition collective, Galleria Poleschi, Forte dei Marmi, Italie, 1992

Triennale internationale de sculpture, Fondation de la culture, Osaka, Japon, 1993

Exposition collective, Galerie Poleschi, Forte dei Marmi, Italie, 1993

Exposition collective, Galleria Subbia, Lido di Camaiore, Italie, 1993

Exposition collective, Galerie Françoise Moulin, Lyon, France, 1993

Exposition collective, Galerie Yves Lebouc, Paris, France, 1993

Exposition collective, Galerie Bourdon, Paris, France, 1993

Exposition personnelle, *Promesse de Bonheur*, Galerie Point JAL, Paris, France, 1994

Exposition personnelle, *Arika Madeyska, Painting. Maria Papa, Sculpture*, Galerie Ars Polona, Varsovie, Pologne, 1994

Exposition collective, Galerie Art Public, Paris, France, 1994

Triennale Internationale de l'Art SACRUM, Czestochowa, Pologne, 1994

Exposition personnelle, Couvent de Saint-Augustin, Pietrasanta, Italie, 1995

Exposition collective, *Sacrum*, Lourdes, France, 1995

Triennale internationale de sculpture, Fondation de la culture, Osaka, Japon, 1995

Exposition collective, *Yeux ouverts*, Couvent de Saint-Augustin, Pietrasanta, Italie, 1995

Exposition collective, *Situazioni sculpture*, Palazzo ducale, Lucca, Italie, 1996

Exposition collective, *Le sembianze del mito sculpture*, San Giovanni in Persiceto, Italie, 1996

VIII Biennale Internazionale di Scultura, Carrare, Italie, 1996

Exposition collective, *Forma felice*, Museo Pianeta Azzurro, Centre International de Sculpture, Fregene Italie, 1996

Exposition collective, Centre culturel Ca la Ghironda, Ponte Ronca di Zola Predosa, Italie

Exposition collective, Galeria Contraste, Forte dei Marmi, Italie, 1996

Exposition internationale collective, Piazza del Duomo, Pietrasanta, Italie, 1997

Exposition internationale de la sculpture, *Artisti ed artigiani a Pietrasanta*, Istituto Statale d'Arte Staggio Staggi, Pontestrada, Italie, 1997

Exposition collective, Centre Culturale Luigi Rosso, Pietrasanta, Italie, 1997

Exposition collective, *Living language of Sculpture*, Musée de l'Ermitage, Saint-Petersbourg, Russie, 1998

Exposition personnelle, *Caresses du temps*, Galerie Orenda, Paris, France, 2008

Exposition collective, *Les Talents venus de l'Est : ceux qui ont choisi l'Art à Paris*, Galerie Orenda, Paris, France, 2009

Exposition collective, *Les Talents venus de l'Est : ceux qui ont choisi l'Art à Paris*, Galerie Metro-Tamka, Varsovie, Pologne 2009

Exposition personnelle, *Hommage à Maria Papa*, Museo dei Bozzetti, Pietrasanta, Italie, 2009

Exposition collective, *Michel-Ange et ses descendants*, Montgomery Museum of Fine Arts, Montgomery, AL, États-Unis, 2009

Exposition personnelle, Spazio Tadini Casa Museo, Milan, Italie, 2009

Exposition personnelle, *Maria Papa Rostkowska : Sculpture. Edith-Laure Rostkowski : Bijouterie artistique*, Galeria Napiorkowska, Varsovie, Pologne, 2010

Exposition collective, *Signe et Matière*, (avec Caroline de Boissieu et Paolo Valle), Galerie Orenda, Paris, France, 2010

Rétrospective de l'œuvre de Maria Papa, Galleria Stefano Cortina, Milan, Italie, 2012

Rétrospective des marbres de Maria Papa, Stefano Cortina Gallery, Milan, Italie, 2012

Exposition collective, *Donne e Arte. Omaggio a Maria Papa*, Couvent Saint-Augustin, Pietrasanta, Italie, 2012

Exposition rétrospective, *Woman of marble*, Musée National de Pologne, Palais de Krolikarnia, Varsovie, Pologne, 2014

Exposition collective, *Michelangelo e la Versilia*, Istituto Culturale Italiano di New York, New York, NY, États-Unis, 2015

Exposition collective, *Pureté de la ligne* (Maria Papa et Dadamaino), Galerie Orenda, Paris, France, 2015

Exposition personnelle, *Femme de marbre*, Bibliothèque Polonaise, Paris, France, 2015

Exposition collective, *Jubilée*, Musée national de Pologne, Varsovie, Pologne, 2016

Exposition personnelle, *Maria Papa Rostkowska et ses amis*, Musée d'Art Contemporain Cascina Roma, San Donato Milanese, Italie, 2017

Exposition collective, *Jean Arp et la Pologne*, Musée national de Poznan, Poznan, Pologne, 2017

Exposition personnelle, *Maria Papa Rostkowska*, Associazione Culturale Renzo Cortina, Milan, Italie, 2017

Exposition collective, *Serge Poliakoff et ses amis*, Galerie Pixi, Paris, France, 2018

Exposition rétrospective, *Maria Papa Rostkowska et ses amis de l'École de Paris. Hommage à la Revue XX^e Siècle*, (Poliakoff, Esteve, Pignon, Miro, Chagall, Fontana, Magnelli...), Musée de l'Hospice Saint-Roch, Issoudun, 2020

Exposition personnelle, *Maria Papa Rostkowska et ses affinités artistiques - Jean Arp, Émile Gilioli et Marino Marini*, Musée d'Art et d'Histoire de Meudon, Meudon, France, 2022

Exposition personnelle, *Maria Papa Rostkowska, la résonnance haptique de la matière*, Centre de la sculpture polonaise, Oronsko, Pologne, 2023

Exposition personnelle, *Promesse de bonheur*, Musée du Palais royal, Varsovie, Pologne, 2023

Wifredo Lam et les magiciens de la mer, Musée de la Céramique, Savone, Italie, 2023

Exposition personnelle, *La Sculptrice à rencontre du marbre*, Fondation Coubertin, Saint-Rémy-lès-Chevreuse, France, 2024

Exposition personnelle, *La Force du destin*, Musée de la ville de Pietrasanta, Italie, 2025

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

Luca Pietro Nicoletti, *Maria Papa : Un destino europeo*, monographie trilingue (italien, français, anglais), Milan, Cortina Arte et Paris, Orenda Art international, 2009

Bruno Botella, *Petits secrets et grands privilèges de l'Assemblée nationale*, Paris, Éditions du moment, 2013

Aleksandra Sobczak-Kövesi, *Maria Papa Rostkowska - Woman of Marble*, Varsovie, Musée national, 2014

Flaminio Gualdoni et Nicolas Rostkowski, *Dadamaino, Maria Papa Rostkowska*, Milan, Cortina Arte, 2015

Stefano Cortina, Joëlle Rostkowski et Agnieszka Tarasiuk, *Maria Papa Rostkowska - La passion de la sculpture*, Paris, Société Historique et Littéraire Polonaise de Paris, 2015

Marco Meneguzzo, Lydia Harambourg, Agnieszka Tarasiuk, Stefano Cortina, Massimo Mallegni, *Maria Papa Rostkowska ; Le opere, gli amici, i luoghi*. Milan, Cortina Arte, 2017

Lydia Harambourg, Patrice Moreau et Nicolas Rostkowski, *Maria Papa Rostkowska - Une sculptrice au cœur de la Nouvelle École de Paris*, Issoudun, Musée Saint Roch, 2020

Lydia Harambourg, Marianne Lombardi, Ewa Ziembinska, Agnieszka Tarasiuk et Nicolas Rostkowski, *Jean Arp, Émile Gilioli, Marino Marini, Maria Papa Rostkowska et ses affinités artistiques*, cat. exp., Musée d'art et d'histoire de Meudon, Cinisello Balsamo, Silvana Editoriale, 2022

Lara Conte, «Female sculptors at Henraux in the Sixties», *Marmo*, avril 2023

Maciej Aleksandrowicz, Marta Smolinska, Ursula Strobele, Burcu Dogramaci, Lydia Harambourg et un entretien avec Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, *The haptic resonance of the matter: Maria Papa Rostkowska and female guests on the centenary of the Artist's birth*. Oronsko, Centrum Rzeźby Polskiej, 2023

Sous la direction de Malgorzata Maria Grabczewska, textes de Marianna Otmianowska et Joëlle Rostkowski, *The Promise of Happiness - Maria Papa Rostkowska*, Varsovie, Éditions Lazienki Krolewskie, 2023

Alexandra Merieux, Lydia Harambourg, Lara Conte et Nicolas Rostkowski, *Maria Papa Rostkowska - Sculptrice à la rencontre du marbre*, Saint-Rémy-lès-Chevreuse, Fondation de Coubertin, 2024

SELECTED SCULPTURES IN PUBLIC SPACES

États-Unis

Vénus noire qui marche, marbre noir, Consulat Général de France, Houston, Texas

France

Couple, composition monumentale en granit rose, Parc des Sculptures du Musée des Beaux-Arts - Palais de Carnolès, Menton, 1968

Guerrier du Désert, sculpture monumentale en marbre, cimetière du Montparnasse, tombe de Gualtieri Papa di San Lazzaro, Paris, 1974

La Mère et l'Enfant, ronde-bosse, commande de la ville de Paris, Direction des affaires scolaires, 3 rue de l'Arsenal, Paris, 1987

La Mère et l'Enfant, bas-relief monumental en travertin, commande de la ville de Paris, crèche municipale, 12 rue Duméril, Paris, 1989

Cactus qui marche, commande de la ville de Paris, Musée de la sculpture en plein air, jardin Tino-Rossi, port Saint-Bernard, Paris, 1997

La Promesse de bonheur, sculpture monumentale en marbre, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Palais Bourbon, Assemblée nationale, Paris, 2011. Dévoilée par Bernard Accoyer, Président de l'Assemblée nationale. Cette « Française de cœur » est la première artiste étrangère à avoir une œuvre présentée dans le Palais Bourbon. Cérémonie d'hommage pour le 100^e anniversaire de l'artiste à l'Assemblée nationale par Yaël Braun-Pivet, Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale, 21 septembre 2023

La Fontaine de bonheur, sculpture monumentale en marbre, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, cour de la Société historique et littéraire polonaise, Bibliothèque Polonaise, Paris, 2015

Ubu Roi, sculpture monumentale en terre cuite et *Grande Fleur*, sculpture en marbre, dons de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Parc de sculptures, Musée de l'Hospice Saint-Roch, Issoudun, 2020

La Mère et l'Enfant, sculpture en bronze et *Bélier*, terre cuite, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Musée d'art et d'histoire, Meudon, 2022

Maternité, sculpture en bronze, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, place de la Chaume, Issoudun, 2022

La Découverte du Nouveau Monde, sculpture en bronze, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Jardin des bronzes, Musée de la Fondation de Coubertin, Saint-Rémy-lès-Chevreuse, 2024

Sans titre, terre cuite, *La Pureté*, sculpture en marbre et *Torse féminin*, sculpture en bronze, dons de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, parcours permanent de la Nouvelle École de Paris, Musée de Grenoble, 2025

Sans titre, relief en terre cuite, collection Gildas Fardel, Musée d'Art, Nantes

Vénus, marbre brun, Musée Despiau-Wlérick, Mont-de-Marsan

Il spirito del tempo, sculpture en marbre blanc de Carrare, Musée des Beaux-Arts, Dijon

Italie

Visage inconnu, *La Tête* et *La Barque*, dons de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Musée Henraux, Querceta, 2009

La Rosa, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Fondazione Centro Arti Visive, Pietrasanta, 2009

La Découverte du Nouveau Monde, sculpture monumentale en marbre, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Università degli Studi, Milan, 2010

Gaïa, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, place Gabriele d'Annunzio, Pietrasanta, 2014

Turan, bas-relief en marbre, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, collection permanente, Musée Henraux, Querceta, 2025

Pologne

Le Baiser, *La Donna Seduta* et *Le Lion*, sculptures monumentales en marbre, dons de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, parc du Palais de Krolakarnia, Varsovie, 2010

Guerrier, sculpture monumentale en marbre, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Orangerie du Palais présidentiel, Varsovie, 2015

Maternité, sculpture en bronze, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, salon Roccoco du Palais présidentiel, Varsovie, 2016

La Promesse de bonheur, sculpture en marbre blanc de Carrare, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Palais royal du parc Lazienki, Varsovie, 2023

Cinq sculptures en terre cuite, dons de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Musée national de Pologne, Varsovie, 2014

Venus Bionda, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Parvis du Musée national de Pologne, Varsovie, 2014

Mère et l'Enfant, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Parc de sculptures du Centre de la Sculpture Polonaise et Contemporaine, Oronsco, 2023

Mère et l'Enfant, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Hôtel de Ville, Sopot, 2023

Guerrier, sculpture monumentale en marbre, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, château du Wawel, Cracovie, 2025

Le Guerrier du désert, bronze patiné noir, don de Nicolas et Joëlle Rostkowski, Musée national de Pologne, Lublin, 2025



Maria Papa Rostkowska working on her sculpture *Mère et Enfant*, marble factory Henraux, Querceta, Italy, c.1990
Archives of the Rostkowski family