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Maria ng Makiling - Sculpting Chronology (November and December)

This is a double issue covering both November and December. Continuing from last month's issue the Sculpture of Maria as it appears in the the website's blog posts..

Date: 11/02/2016 - Hair Details 2

I have made deep grooves and finer details on Maria's hair. This is being done by cutting through with a craft knife and then afterwards putting enough glue again to strengthen it further.

I have detailed the eye areas also while the hair is being dried. I sanded the face over and it's smoother now. Figures 1A and 1B shows the hair in front view.

It's raining yesterday and today. Drying now takes longer and it's difficult to carve out from a damp surface (even if it is apparently dry). Hopefully it will be sunny tomorrow and I can continue on carving more areas. I would probably detail the lips otherwise.

I forgot to mention that I felt a dull pain in my lower back, this adds the difficulty in carving areas that I need to bend my hip. But anyway, after 7 days, it's almost gone now .



Figure 1A



Figure 1B



Date: 11/04/2016 - (not in Blog) Hair Details 3

Figures 2A to 2D shows the hair at the back. I would like to have a hair for Maria that naturally intertwine but not messy. Fine details will be done at the tip of the hair where it meets the skin or clothing.



Figure 2A



Figure 2B

Further addition of paper clay on the hair will be done as I desire more waves or deeper grooves. Additional layers will be sanded after drying. Some pattern will emerge from the sanded layer such as the natural contours that will form during sanding and I will just follow that even if it's not what I have planned.

The fine lines that can be seen in the pictures are carved when it has dried hard enough, usually after 3 days in a dry, hot weather. A thinned-up glue (adding more water) is usually applied after carving to bind the fibers back again and also if the layer tends to detach from the layer, to make it stick back again to that layer.



Figure 2C



Figure 2D

Date: 11/08/2016 - Sanding Arms and Torso

It's been raining for 5 days here making parts of the sculpture not suitable for carving.

Fortunately, the sun came up yesterday, a little bit cloudy but no rain. But still I didn't do carving so, I just sanded her arms and lower torso, the belly area.

The surface smoothness might not be visible in the photo but the texture and definition of the abdominal and the arms can be contrasted on other parts of the body as shown in Figure 3.

Smoothing the surface now will reveal the contours that cannot be seen when the surface is rough. Then as additional layers are added (the clothing layer will be added next) those contours will be followed through and if necessary will be further enhanced.



Figure 3

Date: 11/12/2016 - Drape

The last 4 days were just sanding the body of Maria to remove the bumps, creating more definition and as preparation for the drapery. I have started putting part of the clothing on her left thigh as shown in the pictures.

Her clothing will extend down to the rock she is standing on and an inch from the tip to the water surface. The cloth that comes in contact with the rock will form the folds following the contours of the surface of the rock. The extension of the clothing will be added later so as not to be in the way when the details of the surfaces behind it, the rock surface and the water surface, is being detailed.

I am still going to modify the drape in her right thigh, to make the thigh more visible and yet the drape must also be fully emphasized. Figures 4A to 4C shows the drape on the left thigh and a portion of the drape going down from the right thigh.



Figure 4A



Figure 4B



Figure 4C



Figure 5A



Figure 5B

Date: 11/21/2016 - Clothing and Hair

Sanding and Carving the Raw figure were mostly the activities that I have done for Maria this week. Carving takes a lot of time. My forefinger and thumb hurts at night after the carving session, Amazingly the pain subsides the next day. Same goes when I sand.

I sanded the arms and right leg during this time. The toes of the right feet were also detailed.

I carved the hair to have deep undercuts to highlight it and the fine hair strands at the tip that can be seen at her back as seen in Figures 5A and 5B.

Then I have added the creases on her clothing on the breast and groin area.

**Date: 12/05/2016 - Hair Details**

I've been mostly carving and sanding Maria's hair during the past week shown in Figures 6A and 6B. Sanding her hair is much harder than I thought. Because of the deep grooves and undercuts only short strokes of sanding can be made and this consumes a lot of time. The undulating curves and contours also limit the the sanding stroke.

Adding to the challenge is making the hair realistic by carving not just continuous curved lines but intertwining strands.

I have smoothen also the left thigh drape, providing more detail as shown in Figures 6C and 6D.



Figure 6A



Figure 6B



Figure 6C

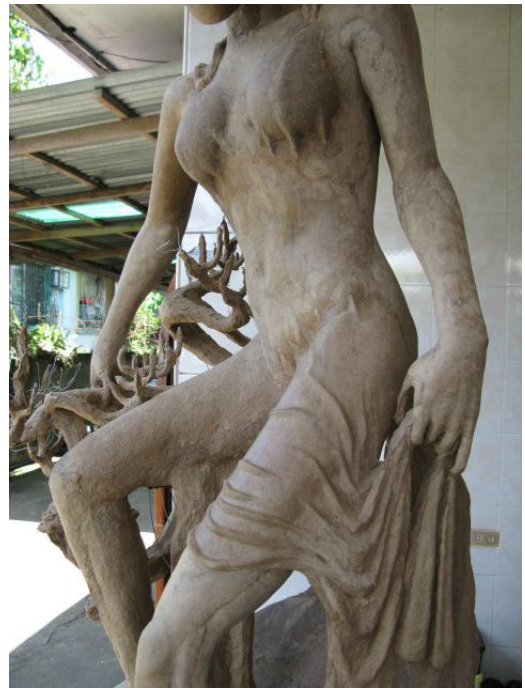


Figure 6D

Date: 12/18/2016 - Adding the Folds

I have given a rest to sanding for the time being and start adding the folds and creases of Maria's clothing (shown in Figures 7A and 7B). This will probably be the focus of the work this week.

I think an additional volume of the hair is needed. So, while the cloth is drying, I might put some paper clay on the sides and back of the hair.



ART PAPER NEWSLETTER

Issue No.3 and 4



Figure 7A



Figure 7B

If you have downloaded this newsletter from other sites , Facebook for example, you can also view it in my website (www.dennistolentino.weebly.com) on Newsletter Page under the Blog Tab.

Next month's newsletter will contain the continuation of sculpting Maria and hopefully other topics that I may arrived at or may be You can gave me some ideas which you can write in the Forums Page.

Thank you for reading this newsletter and hopefully it have given you some new insights, ideas, added boost to your passion for creating your artwork or gain some inspiration.

Thank you for the Facebook likes. This is important to me as an artist giving me additional inspiration and motivation as I move on with my artistic journey.

Together let us help preserve the Filipino Culture and the Environment as well.

Until Next Month (February 2017).

Dennis Tolentino