

**WALTER'S INTERNATIONAL WAX MUSEUM  
NEW YORK WORLD'S FAIR 1964-65  
LAKE AMUSEMENT AREA**



# A HERITAGE OF BEAUTY AND GREATNESS

Walter's International Wax Museum follows an ancient and honorable tradition — wax sculpture of great events and great personalities in history is almost as old as history itself.

The Babylonians and Egyptians modeled heads in wax more than 3,000 years ago. Lysistratus cast the bust of Alexander the Great in wax. Noble Romans kept likenesses of relatives in special galleries. Geniuses like Michelangelo, Andrea del Verrocchio, Alfonso Lombardi, and Leonardo da Vinci worked in the medium.

Wax sculpture had virtually died out in the United States. The Walter brothers sparked its comeback when they brought an exhibit of European wax tableaux to the Seattle World's Fair in 1962 — where it became the hit of the fair, drawing more than 1,000,000 visitors.

Preparation of a lifelike wax sculpture presentation is a fascinating, but exacting and expensive undertaking. There are only a relative handful of top-rank artists-in-wax, most of them in Europe.

However, Katherine Stubergh Keller, descendent of German wax artisans, is a recognized American master worker in the field. She created the famous "The Last Supper," a faithful, three-dimensional reproduction of the da Vinci masterwork, as well as other classics in wax.

Each clan of wax sculptors and artisans has its own trade secrets and formulae. Exhaustive research is done to assemble data about a subject of a wax sculpture — color of eyes and hair, height and similar details.

The time, talent, and materials run the cost of a wax super scene, such as Cleopatra (see cover), to more than \$50,000. Scenes and settings are created by leading stage and film designers. The humans in a wax sculpture are first painstakingly modeled in clay. A plaster cast of the clay figure becomes the matrix into which wax is poured. (Beeswax is the basic component of sculpture wax, but the exact mixture is a jealously guarded secret of each guild.)

The raw likeness in wax undergoes an incredibly complex processing. For instance, 40,000 to 60,000 graded, shaded human hairs must be individually implanted in the scalp of a wax tableau star. Eyelashes, lips, fingernails, and other distinguishing features are fashioned with minute attention to detail. Themes are presented in natural size; and the clothing, jewels, weapons, and furnishings are reproduced in the most exacting and authentic detail.

The end product of all this artistry and effort is a spectacular three-dimensional moment of frozen history, so lifelike it almost seems to breathe.

Walter's International Wax Museum at the 1964 New York World's Fair displays a treasure trove of historical, legendary, contemporary and religious art. (Religious groups, such as The Last Supper; the Madonna and Child, and Popes John XXIII and Paul VI with Cardinal Spellman, are reverently shown in a separate area.)

Contemporary wax art includes an authentic movie set — the pool room scene — from the Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Sammy Davis Jr., and Bing Crosby cinema, "Robin and the Seven Hoods." Such outstanding world figures as Dr. Ralph Bunche, Dr. Albert Schweitzer and David Ben-Gurion are shown, as is Dr. Kildare (Richard Chamberlain) and television hosts Ed Sullivan, Johnny Carson, and Steve Allen. Doris Day and Rock Hudson, the box office toppers of 1963, are shown in the forecourt of Hollywood's Grauman's Chinese theater.

Here, under one roof at the World Fair, is rich beauty in wax — a heritage of history preserved for our delight and wonder, to remind us of the greatness of the past, present day accomplishments, and the promise of the future.



**HEADY WORK** — Lou Walter, coproducer with his brother Manny of the International Wax Museum, tapes famed Steve Allen's head size. Allen is depicted in the celebrity section of the museum.



**MOVIE SETTINGS** — Staff artist designs the pool hall scene from the Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr. movie, "Robin and the 7 Hoods."



**DRESSY** — Rich fabrics and opulent furs go into authentic costumes worn by historical figures in the wax tableaux. A lady-in-waiting is dressed for the Napoleon III court scene.



**MUSKETEER TAKES SHAPE** — Artisan working on the head of Athos, one of the Three Musketeers in the Cardinal Richelieu scene.



**ARTIST AT WORK** — Katherine Stubergh Keller, one of the world's top sculptors, works on a clay model of Dr. Albert Schweitzer, the great humanitarian.



## SCENES

1. The Presidents
2. David Ben-Gurion, and Doctors Bunche, Carver & Schweitzer
3. Nimrod, the Hunter
4. Cardinal Richelieu
5. Marie Antoinette and the Scandal of the Necklace
6. Napoleon III at Court
7. Frédéric Chopin & George Sand
8. Death of Atala
9. Cyparisse
10. Daniel in the Lions' Den
11. Joan of Arc
12. Moses and 10 Commandments
13. Madonna & Child
14. Da Vinci "Last Supper"
15. Pope John, Pope Paul & Cardinal Spellman
16. Death of da Vinci
17. Da Vinci Painting Mona Lisa
18. Lady Godiva
19. Sleeping Beauty
20. Superman & Cyclops
21. 3 Paris Scenes (Chez Jules, Paris by Night & Toulouse-Lautrec at the Follies)
22. Louis XV at Versailles
23. Sardanapalus
24. Grauman's Chinese Theater (Doris Day, Rock Hudson & Ed Sullivan)
25. Television Favorites (Steve Allen, Johnny Carson, Dick Chamberlain & Shirl Conway)
26. Movie Horror Scenes (Frankenstein, Count Dracula & Wolfman)

## WINDOW SCENES

27. Cleopatra
28. Robin and the Seven Hoods — Motion Picture (Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., & Barbara Rush)



# WALTER'S *International* WAX MUSEUM

COVER: Cleopatra, the beautiful Queen of Egypt, in the midst of a cortege of warriors, courtiers, and slaves. Caesar beseeching Cleopatra to go to Rome, promising to place her statue in the Temple of Venus.

WAX CREATED BY THE STUBERGHES, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
SCENIC DESIGN—NICKY NADEAU, LOS ANGELES, AND DESIGN ENTERPRISES, RIVERSIDE, CALIFORNIA  
JEWELRY CREATED BY CORO, INC., NEW YORK CITY



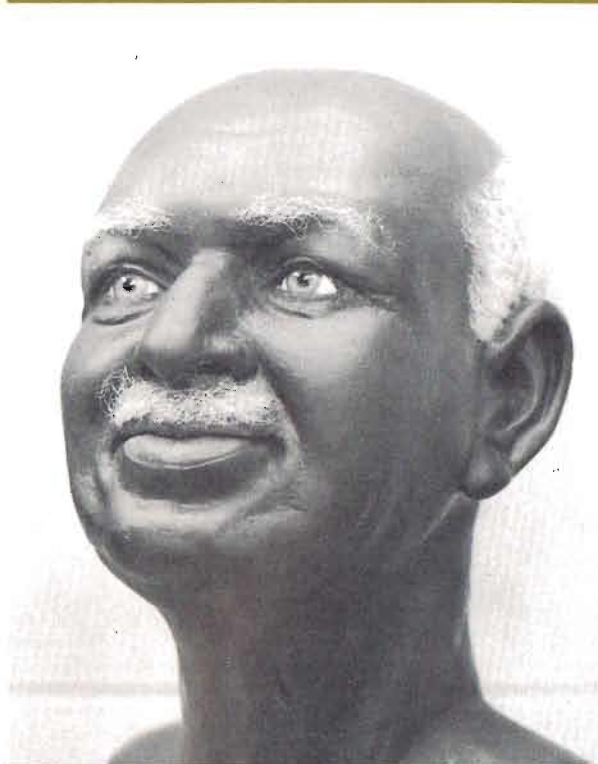


## Joan of Arc

Jeanne d'Arc in the full armor of a French knight. The figure is inspired by the statue at the Church of the Madeleine, in Paris.

It tells the story of the inspired peasant girl who "heard voices" bidding her help the Dauphin win his throne.

It stands as a symbol of the glorious and tragic events which marked the beginning of the national esprit of France. Here, see Jeanne d'Arc, one of the central figures of French history, dying in a burst of flames, the victim of a great injustice.



DR. GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER  
HUMANITARIAN AND SCIENTIST

## Frederic Chopin & George Sand

The Great Chopin at Majorca with George Sand the novelist who wore men's clothes, smoked cigars, and abandoned the delicate manner of her sex.



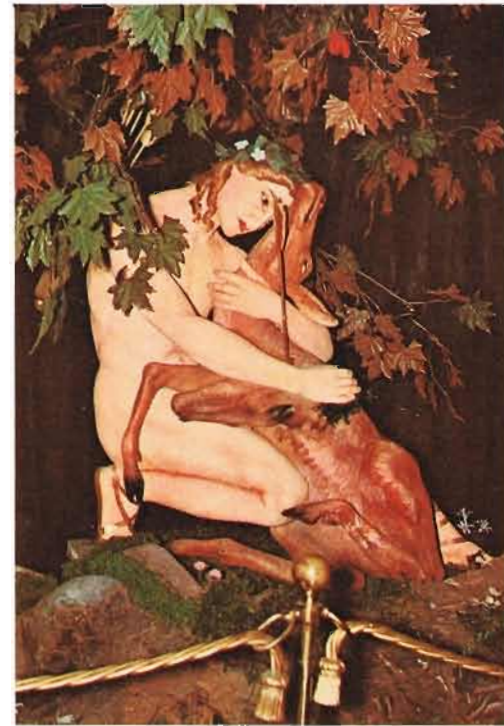


## *Marie Antoinette and the Scandal of the Necklace*

Marie Antoinette, Archduchess of Austria, Queen of France, and wife of Louis XVI, shown receiving the precious necklace from the jeweler Bassenge. Cardinal de Rohan, duped by the charlatan Cagliostro and the Comtesse de La Motte, bought the necklace to present to the Queen. When Rohan was unable to pay for it, Louis XVI was informed of the whole matter, and he had the Cardinal imprisoned in the Bastille.

## *The Sad Legend of Cyparisse*

In the falling darkness, this young Greek hero wounded a hind with an arrow, and was stricken with grief when he realized what he had done. On the point of committing suicide, Cyparisse was saved by Apollo, who gave him the shape of the eternally green cypress tree. Ever since, the cypress has been symbolic of grief.





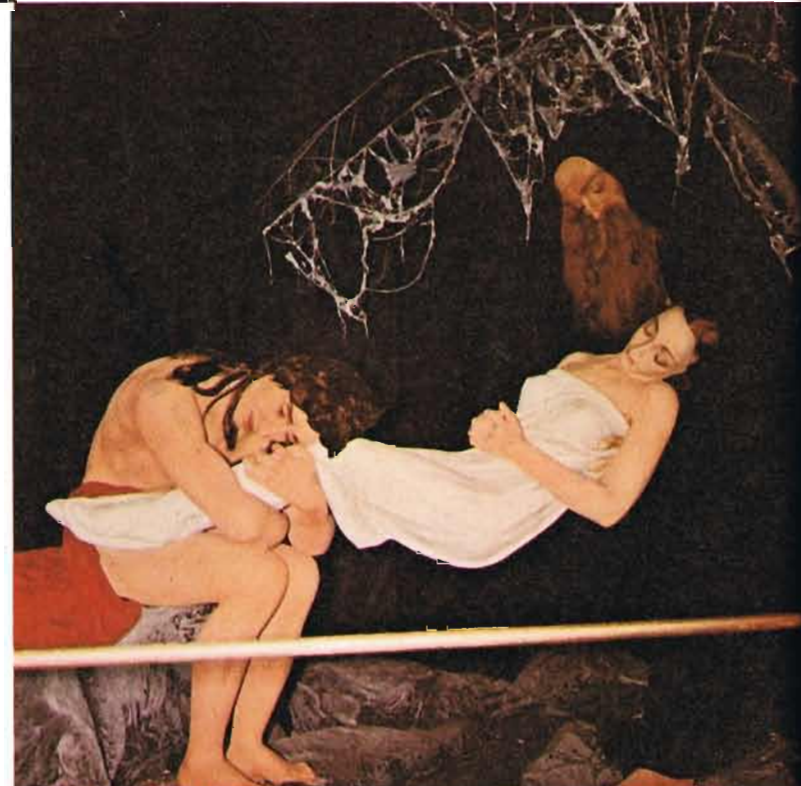
## *The Great Sacrifice of Lady Godiva*

Modeled after the painting by Bonnat, in the Toulouse Museum, this scene presents the great lady of Coventry whose name has come down to us as a symbol of modesty, because of her magnificent gesture on behalf of the oppressed people of the town.



## *The Death of Atala*

Inspired by the romantic work of Chateaubriand and by the painting by Giroder in the Louvre, this scene holds the viewer enthralled by its deep melancholy.







PARIS BY NIGHT

TOULOUSE-LAUTREC AT FOLLIES



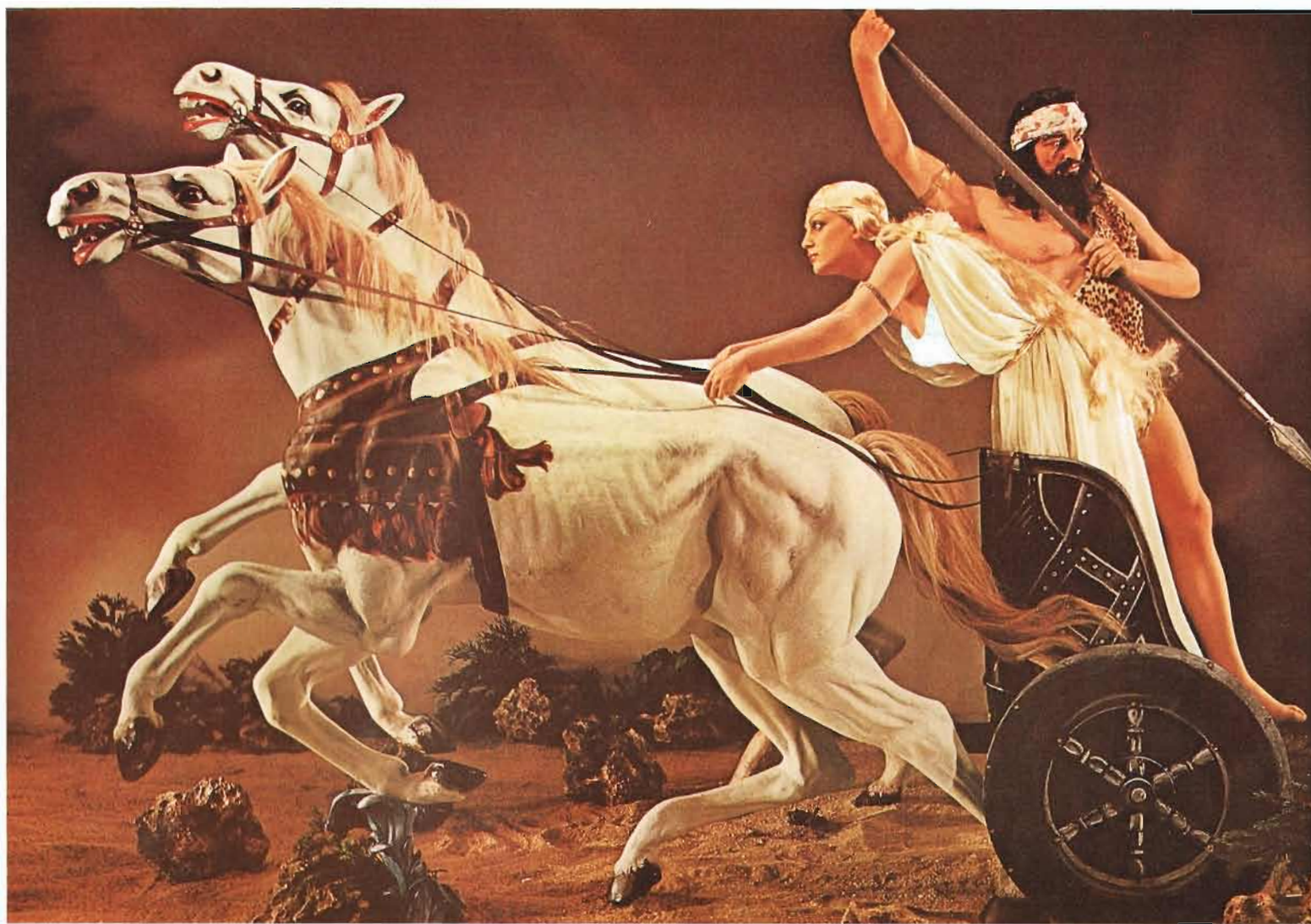
CHEZ JULES



## *Parisian Scenes*

In these groupings, scenes once familiar to Toulouse-Lautrec are revived, to show the color of old Paris.





## *Nimrod the Hunter*

The builder of the Tower of Babel, followed by lifelike African lions. Nimrod's love for the hunt was so great a passion with him, that his name is still used figuratively as a synonym for the huntsman. In our scene, the chariot is driven by Nimrod's daughter while Nimrod himself gives his attention to the lions he is hunting.





## *Life in Versailles in the time of Louis XV*

In this scene we see restored the luxury and elegance of the period in French history known as the "Age of Reason," but which led to the Revolution and the end of the monarchy. Madame de Pompadour exerted a happy influence on the fine arts and on literature, although her extravagance exposed her to criticism.





## *The Last Supper*

The most famous of all religious pictures was painted by Leonardo da Vinci on the wall of the Santa Maria Convent in Milan, Italy. This magnificent life-size reproduction of Jesus and his Disciples leaves one with a feeling of having been present at one of the world's greatest happenings.



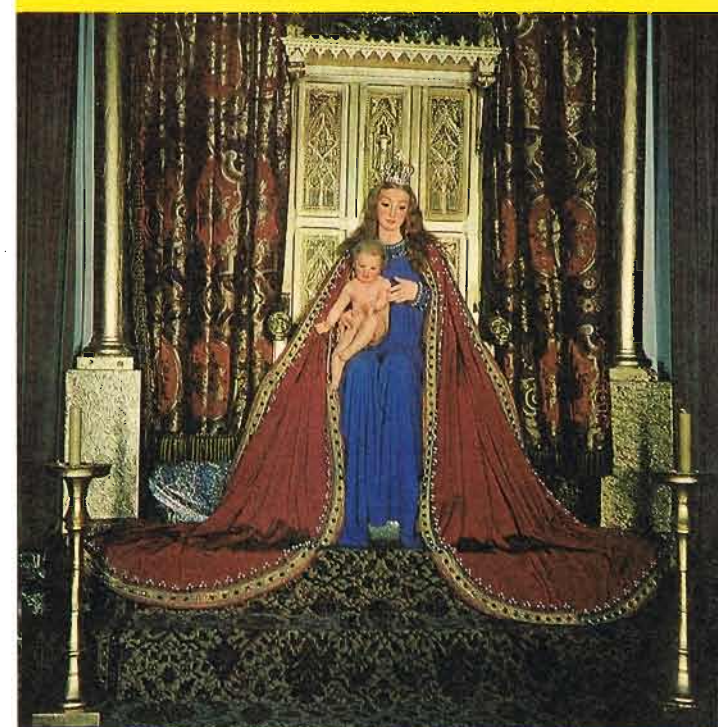


## *Daniel in the Lions' Den*

This grouping shows Daniel,  
surrounded by the lions  
who have abandoned their  
natural ferocity and  
assumed lamblike postures.

## *Madonna and Child*

Consistently a favorite theme with master painters and sculptors through the ages, Madonna and Child was created for display at the World's Fair by Europe's finest wax artisans. It is included with other religious tableaux in a special grouping.







## *Cardinal Richelieu*

Two historical personalities become friends in legend as the fictional Three Musketeers of author Alexandre Dumas recover diamonds belonging to Anne of Austria and provide her introduction to Cardinal Richelieu. In life, Anne was consort of French King Louis XIII, who selected the Cardinal as his Prime Minister.

## *Sleeping Beauty*

Sleeping girl.— Please, keep silence.  
Do not disturb her in her sleep. Do not wake her up.  
After Charles Perrault.





*Leonardo da Vinci  
and  
King Francis I*

This group is inspired by the painting, by Ingres, portraying Francis I, King of France, and Cardinal Giovanni de Medici (later, Pope Leo X), attending the bedside of Leonardo da Vinci in the great artist's last moments. There is an air of solemnity, proper to the scene, which impresses itself on the beholder.







## *Sardanapalus*

This scene was inspired by the tragic poem of Lord Byron, and the elaborate painting by Delacroix. It shows the burning of the palace at Nineveh; and it is decorated with an extraordinary profusion of multicolored silks, of gold and silver brocade and many jewels, and other interesting details.





## *Napoléon III and His Court*

In this charming scene of a splendid period, we see Napoleon III, Emperor of France, with Empress Eugenie, attending a reception. This Empress with her pale solemn receptions, the pomp of feasts, the glittering of lights and of a brilliant crowd with its fine uniforms and attractive dresses.

All these beautiful ladies have left behind them, like a perfumed trail of their passage, a never to be forgotten and peculiar legend of conquering tenderness.