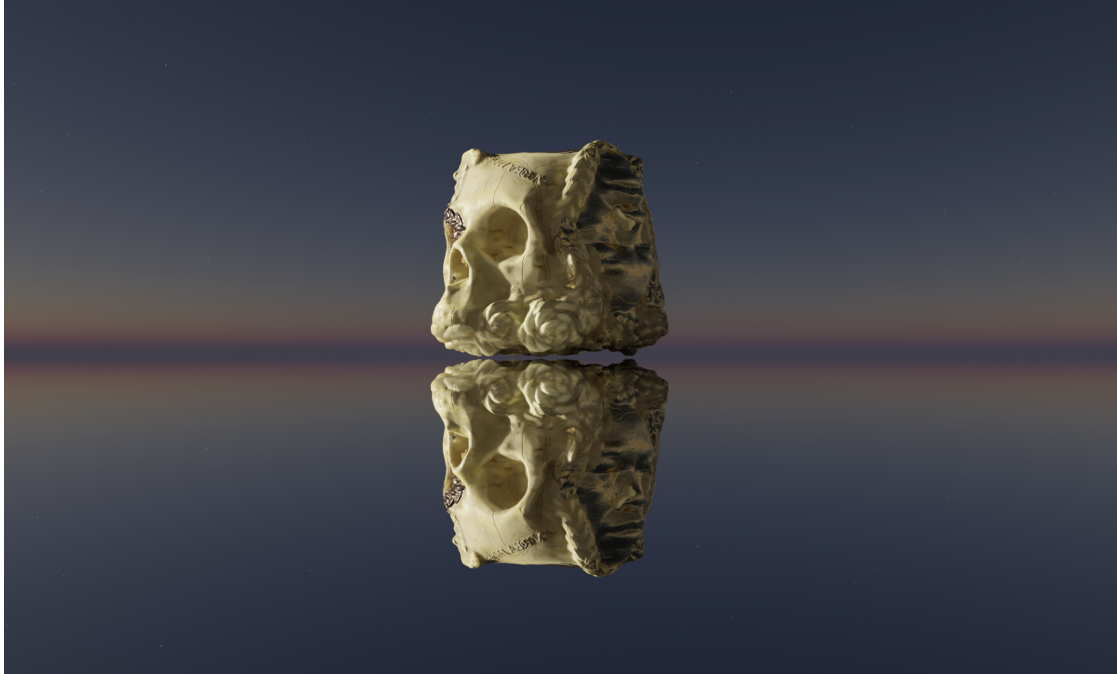


The Mystery (version 5), 2021

Digital version 1



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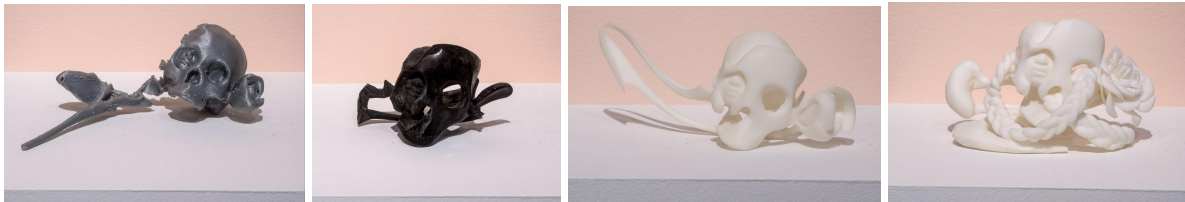
Instagram: @auriea.harvey.studio

A talisman, everyone needs one. The Mystery version 5 is in a series of sculptural explorations on the subject of mortality. Drawing from the tradition of Memento Mori, a theme popular in Baroque painting and sculpture. A skull, a face, a rose, a braid. Bone, nature, beauty, death. You collect the 3d model of this sculpture in different formats. The file formats invite your use and contemplation (in a metaverse, a website, an animation). Ultimately to see beyond the spectacular displayed form -from polygons into text, the most archival of data- a final resting place. With a secret link included in the package, you will be able to order a 3D print of The Mystery as a bead or small sculpture, order as many as you wish. There is no true size in digital 3D. The Mystery could be printed to be as small as a fly or large as a human head. Use as is meaningful.

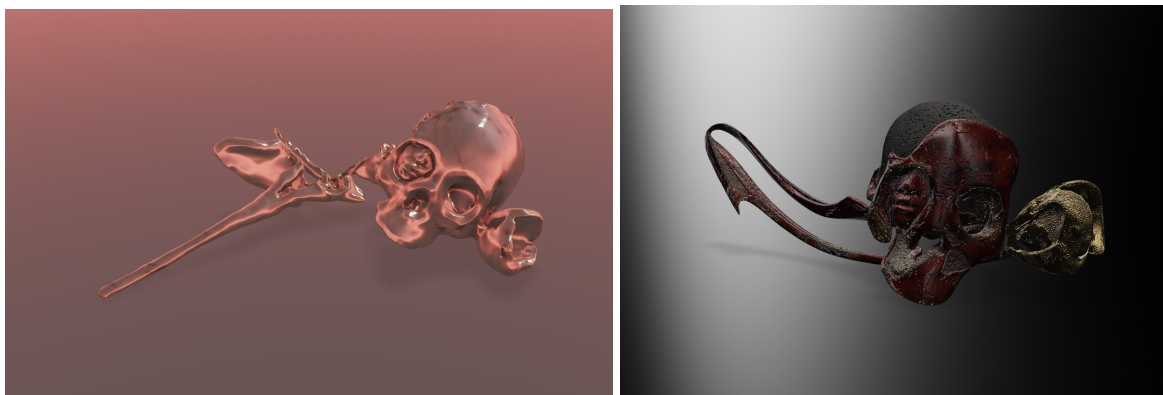
The Mystery Series



This series has its genesis in 2016 when I made a 3D scan of a skull and a flower and became intrigued by it's juxtaposition with a small head I had sculptured and output as a wax and had cast in bronze. This combination I iterated through versions 1 -4 and created editions based on these which were shown in my first solo exhibition at bitforms gallery New York City in 2021. Shortly after the show closed I knew I wanted to make a final form of this idea using my own face.



The Mystery 1-4, Physical 3D printed sculpture studies, as seen in bitforms gallery 2021



The Mystery 1 (digital version 1) and *The Mystery 3* (digital version 3), as seen on my page at hicetnunc (www.hic.link/auriea) 2021

Inspiration



[Memento Mori](#)

Memento mori (Latin for 'remember that you [have to] die') is an artistic or symbolic reminder of the inevitability of death. The concept has its roots in the philosophers of classical antiquity, and appeared in funeral art and architecture of the medieval period. Memento mori jewelry with skull or coffin motifs became popular in the late 16th century, and it was reflected in the artistic genre of vanitas, where symbolic objects such as hourglasses and wilting flowers signified the impermanence of human life.

[Vanitas](#)

A **vanitas** is a symbolic work of art showing the transience of life, the futility of pleasure, and the certainty of death, often contrasting symbols of wealth and symbols of ephemerality and death. Best-known are vanitas still lifes, a common genre in Low countries of the 16th and 17th centuries; they have also been created at other times and in other media and genres.

[Vanitas by Tale of Tales](#)

VANITAS. A memento mori for your digital hands.

To lift you up when you're feeling down. And drag you down when you're up too high.

Everything flows, nothing remains.

Vanity of vanities, all is vanity!

Life is the farce we are all forced to endure.

Sometimes, when you're depressed, it's good to see something depressing.

A contemplation of the fleetingness of life. To help appreciate what you have.

A meditative experience. A spiritual toy. A reminder of the preciousness of life.

Use of this sculpture



3D prints of The Mystery v5 made in my studio, strung as beads and as a 200% size sculpture.

In addition to the electronic presentation created for Feral File you should consider experiencing The Mystery v5 as a physical object. To that end I have sent up a *private* link for collectors to order 3D prints of The Mystery (v5) on Shapeways print-on-demand service:

Order your own 3D prints:

<https://www.shapeways.com/product/TVAMFFSJ5/themystery-v5?key=d618629222f9337bb7b9919634e657b9>

Sizes:

60% - X 19.77, Y 16.79, Z 15.87 mm. / X 0.78, Y 0.66, Z 0.63 in.
80% - X 26.37, Y 22.38, Z 21.17 mm. / X 1.04, Y 0.88, Z 0.83 in.
100% - X 32.96, Y 27.98, Z 26.46 mm. / X 1.3, Y 1.1, Z 1.04 in.
200% - X 65.92, Y 55.97, Z 52.93 mm. / X 2.6, Y 2.2, Z 2.08 in.
300% - X 98.88, Y 83.95, Z 79.39 mm. / X 3.89, Y 3.31, Z 3.13 in.

You can choose from numerous colors and materials.

Note: Using AR on your mobile device you can project the sculpture into your space and see what it looks like in these sizes! Either point your mobile browser to a web page containing the sculpture or load the included GLB (Android) or USDZ (iOS) 3D file directly. Use two finger pinch to resize by percentages.

Other Suggestions

3D print the sculpture yourself

Use the included STL file and 3D print The Mystery V5 in the material and size of your choice. The model is optimised for both SLA and FFF printing methods.

Look under the skin

Open the OBJ and DAE files in a text editor.

Examine the sculpture more closely

Open up the 3D files and have a look. I suggest using your operating system's 3D capabilities or download the free software:

Meshlab - <https://www.meshlab.net/> or Blender 3D - <http://blender.org>

Self-host the sculpture

Put this folder onto your web server and load index.html to view your copy of the sculpture.

Decorate your Metaverse

The GLB file is suitable for most real-time engines and online chat rooms.

Please Note:

While I do grant permission and even encourage your use of this work, you may not alter these polygons via sculptural methods nor reupload it to any 3D printing service. The form and all rights of this work remains with me. I plan to make further versions of this work. If there is anything custom you would like to happen to this sculpture, please contact me.