



The Spirit of Polonia

**NICOLAS COPERNICUS**

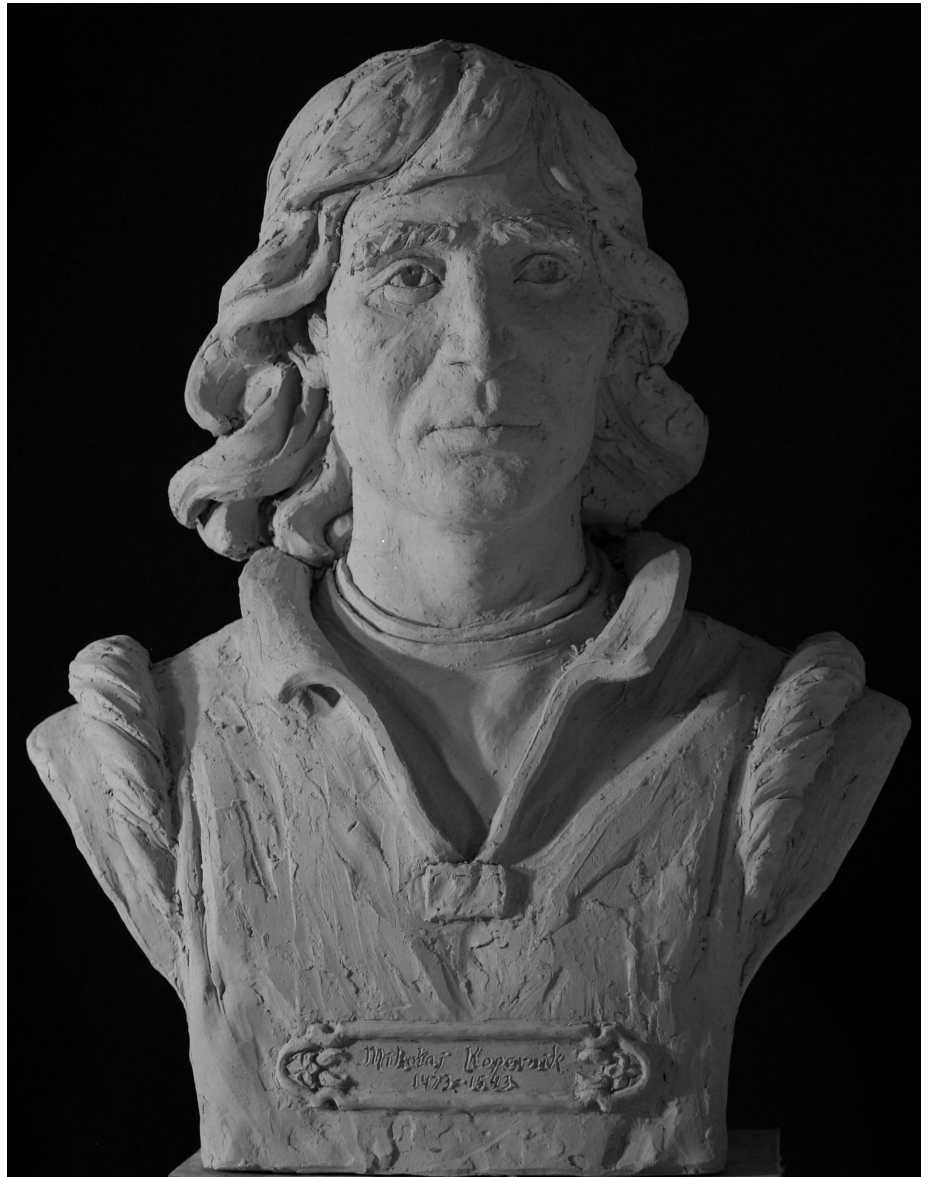
\$ 3500

*Renaissance Man & Promulgator of the Modern Theory of the Universe*

signed and dated: *Tracy H Sugg / 2009*

stoneware clay

23 x 19 in.



## PROVENANCE

DeLamar Mansion/Polish Embassy in New York City, NY Unveiled during a formal ceremony 2009

The Kosciuszko Foundation in New York City, NY Solo Exhibit 2009-2012

Private Collection of Sculptor Tracy H Sugg 2009 to present

Sculpture that reflects a Touch of the Infinite  
[tracyhsugg.com](http://tracyhsugg.com)



## NOTES

*The Spirit of Polonia—A Legacy to Mankind* was an exhibit created that covered the history of Poland through the heroes and heroines that are reflected in her faith, military, arts, science and statecraft. Each portrait bust is over life-size.

The purchase of any sculpture from *The Spirit of Polonia* includes a certificate of authenticity and an exhibit catalogue.

*Excerpt from the Introduction:*

But all of the Poles in the selection have influenced American life in some way in the various individual and collective legacies. Tracy H. Sugg, in her personal journey of discovery to breathe life into her sculpture of these champions of Polish, American and world liberty has done all of us a great service - she has captured in their spirit the love of liberty and nation that burns in the heart of every freedom loving soul. May her work serve as an inspiration to all freedom loving people everywhere to keep the flame of liberty so nobly kept burning by these Polish Patriots a bright beacon of hope that will never be extinguished.

Thomas R. Rozman (Rozmyslowicz)

September 29, 2009

*Excerpt from pg 14, Nicolas Copernicus*

For his time, Copernicus 70 year life span had been a singular achievement, one focused on the “many hats” that he had worn, some of which had been as advisor, astronomer, cleric, diplomat, economist, governor, jurist, mathematician, military commander, painter, scholar, physician, professor, and translator. He was a testament to the European Renaissance of which he had been an important, integral part, indeed a true renaissance man. Of all his pursuits, he considered astronomy an avocation rather than a vocation, yet it would be principally through his lifelong search into the nature of the universe that he would forever be acclaimed as one of greatest thinkers of the human experience.

Copernicus’ lifelong fascination with astronomy, however, put him in conflict with the teachings of the Church. The “geocentric” or earth-centered theory of the universe postulated by the Greek astronomer Ptolemy in the second century had been accepted by the Church as a spiritual truth. Based on his research, Copernicus developed a “heliocentric” or sun-centered theory which postulated that the unmovable sun was at the center with all the planets revolving around the sun in orbits, earth included, which also rotated on its axis every 24 hours while the moon revolved around the earth. Copernicus fully realized the implications of his heliocentric theory as it related to the authority of his beloved Church and foundation of his Catholic Christian faith.

Therefore, his monumental work of a lifetime, *De Revolutionibus Orbium Coelestium* was not to be published at his request until the day he died on May 24, 1543.

### **Sculptor’s Notes –**

In this portrait bust of Copernicus, I chose a composition that reflects an influence of the portraits painted of him during his lifetime. Harkening back to the proto-Renaissance style of his portraits, the head is slightly turned, eyes looking to the side. His expression is that of a man of discovery. By creating the movement of his hair, I produced a contrast with the austerity of his garments, showing action in the portrait and bringing the man and his discovery to life