



MADAME TUSSAUD'S TIME-HONORED CRAFTSMANSHIP

The Unique Art of Wax Figure Making

In its own class and rich history, Madame Tussauds is dedicated to the meticulous art of sculpting and working with wax to create life-size, three-dimensional figure of the most popular celebrities from the worlds of film, television, music, political, historical, social and sports celebrities from yesterday and today. The figures are startlingly realistic tributes to the celebrities invited to appear at a Madame Tussauds attraction.

Madame Tussauds wax figures are uniquely created from private sittings with the celebrity subject and based on hundreds of precise measurements and photographs, impeccable craftsmanship and dedication to artistic perfection.



Even with today's technology, the painstaking process of creating wax figures is relatively unchanged since Madame Tussaud produced her first Figure of French writer, Voltaire, more than 200 years ago," said Janine Digioacchino, General Manager, Madame Tussauds New York and Washington D.C. "Because our work reflects not only the images, but also the personalities of celebrities, a tremendous amount of artistic talent is required at each and every development phase."

Few people know how these exquisite figures are created, since the private studios where the sculptors work are not open to the public. Over the years, hundreds of celebrities have made their way through Madame Tussauds "stage door" to the sittings studio, built specially to ensure privacy and confidentiality.

It takes up to six months to complete one figure. Beginning with a sitting, sculptors spend several hours with their subject, taking more than 250 precise measurements of the body, hands and face with calipers and cloth tape measures. During this process, they photograph their subject's head and body from every possible angle. It is at this time that the sculptor makes the all-important observations that will convey the subject's personality and character in wax form.

Madame Tussauds

NEW YORK ★

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The sculptor models a clay figure of the subject, then clay is molded in plaster. From the mold, the body is cast in fiberglass for durability and the head is cast in wax. It is then ready for eyes, skin color, hair and teeth. Each pair of eyes is individually crafted in acrylic and takes approximately 10 hours to produce. Eyeballs are hand-painted to exactly match eye color and fine red silk thread is used to create natural-looking veins. Skin coloration is carefully applied to bring out facial characteristics. Hair color, curl and texture are perfectly matched to a sample taken at the sitting and hair is painstakingly inserted strand by strand into the wax scalp. Next, each tooth is individually processed, identically colored and positioned to match the subject. Celebrities often donate their own clothes and accessories or have their

own tailor or preferred designer work with the Madame Tussauds wardrobe manager to create

exact copies of their favorite outfits.



When showcasing its priceless works, Madame Tussauds cares for its wax figures with daily cleanings, jewelry polishing, hair washing and make-up retouching. This rigorous attention to detail upholds the high

standards that have made Madame Tussauds the world leader in wax figures and exhibition.

More information may be obtained online at www.madame-tussauds.com