Who is the most mysterious神秘的 man to have ever lived?

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Updated Nov 24 · Upvoted by Laura Bradford, M.A. History & English Literature, University of Glasgow (2…

Short answer: L’Inconnue de la Seine, aka又被叫做 the Unknown Woman of the Seine塞纳河.

I know this is a woman instead of a man, but this is an interesting story nonetheless但是, so stick with和某人待一起 me for a minute or two.

In the 1880s, a woman’s body was found dead, floating漂 in the Seine River. Estimated估计 age 16. Her body showed no signs of foul肮脏 play虐待 and, because of this, it was assumed假设 her death was a suicide.

今天文章难度大部分都在四级范围内，偶尔GRE，故事有趣，尤其第二个，所以大家不用担心内容太多

塞纳河

Her body was taken to the coroner验尸官’s office. The coroner must have thought she was pretty and spent hours crafting精心制作 a death mask of the girl’s face. Legend has him quoted引用, saying:

Her beauty was breathtaking令人兴奋, and showed few少/没什么 signs of distress 痛苦at the time of passing死亡. So bewitching令人着迷 that I knew beauty as such must be preserved保存.

(Death mask: A wax蜡 or plaster石膏 cast模子 of a dead person’s face, most often taken from the corpse尸体. These masks were used as either mementos纪念品 or for portraits肖像画)

验尸官 **legend has it that据传说** 蜡，石膏，模子

Now, you should know that death masks were sort种类 of a thing, especially of famous people, and people, in general大体上来说, were kind of morbid病态 back then (now we’re nice and civilized)

So, somehow以某种方式, people saw the death mask of this unknown drowned淹死 lady and they wanted their own death mask of her face. Well, as正如 you can imagine, when you’re a guy who makes molds模子 of dead people’s faces and you suddenly have a face that everyone wants, you sell that shit.

The woman’s death mask soon became mass大量 produced生产 and, by 1900, everyone who was anyone in Germany and France owned one.

模子

Fast forward快进 nearly 100 years to Norway. It’s 1958 and you’re a toy玩具 maker by trade就职业而言 and have just created the world’s first CPR心肺复苏术 dummy假人. And you need to put a face on it. What face do you choose? You guessed it, the unknown woman of the Seine.

Why, you may ask?

快进 挪威 心肺复苏术

Maybe he didn’t know what to make the dummy假人 look like. Maybe, like that coroner验尸官 back in Paris, he had a thing for对。。有意思 dead girls (I didn’t really mean that the way it sounded). Maybe the death mask his great grandfather had purchased购买 from a coroner while visiting France was hanging挂 on the wall in his workshop车间.

Now, nearly 60 years later, this same face graces优雅 CPR dummies around the world. And still, nobody knows who the hell she is.

Although this woman obviously明显 had a turn逆转 of bad luck, after all, it’s not good luck that ends up with以终结 you floating in a river, she, postmortem在死之后, has become rather popular.

Just imagine the number of people who have laidlay放 their lips on hers.