



# Less is More: Thirty Torsos

Steven Tabor 2019 (c)

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Sometimes just a hint inspires the viewer to complete the picture. In classical Greek art, the torso was used to represent the notion of a harmonious blend of physical, mental, and spiritual ideals. Likewise, the architect Mies van der Rohe declared that “less is more” or that having just the essential things is far better than having way too much of superfluous things. This allows you to focus on what actually matters. The “torso”, as the core or the central part of the body, seemingly plays this role, and can inspire the viewer to imagine the features and emotions of the person portrayed as a whole.

This project is comprised of a number of recovered images. I had done a studio shoot with a model from Bohemia named Mia and had discarded a number of images in which her facial expressions were not to my liking. Looking again at those images, I was struck by how strong, emotive and powerful her body was. It was as if her torso had its own thoughts, feelings and emotions. After a bit of judicious cropping, the torsos are released from their full-body shell, and are gathered here in this small collection to say less, but to speak more.

















































































































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