Beat: Arts

Before Liberty Reached New York

The Birth of an icol

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USPA NEWS - From Model to Monument .
When visitors enter the Musée des Arts et Métiers in Paris , they encounter one of the most remarkable artifact ` s in the history of engineering the scale model of the Statue of Liberty created by French sculptor Auguste Bartholdi . At first glance , it appears to be a beautiful artistic object .In reality was much more than that . This maquette was the starting point of a complex process that transformed an artist `s vision into one of the largest monuments of the nineteenth century .The Statue of Liberty was not created directly at its final height of 93 meters from ground to torch .Like many great architectural and sculptural projects , it began as a small projects , it began as a small model .Bartholdi first developed a series of sketches and miniature sculptures to refine the proportions of the figure , the position of the torch , the drapery of the robe and the facial expression .The model now preserved at the Musée des Arts et Métiers represents a crucial stage in this evolution .One of the most fascinating aspects of the project was the collaboration between art and engineering .

This challenge brought another famous French figure into the projects : Gustave Eiffel , later celebrated world wide for Eiffel Tower .Eiffel and his engineering team designed an innovative internal frame work that acted like a giant skeleton inside the statue .Years of vision , calculations and craftsmanship transformed Auguste Bartholdi `s model into a monument that would come to symbolize America in the eyes of the world .

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