

Young Girl with a Sheaf



Amazing Grace

In *Young Girl with a Sheaf*, Camille Claudel depicted a female figure leaning against a bundle of wheat. Claudel was able to study from nude models, rare for a 19th-century woman. As a result, she rendered the human form with intimacy and grace.



Young Girl with a Sheaf, ca. 1890

Take a closer look

Camille Claudel (1864–1943) originally modeled this piece in clay and then cast it in bronze. Looking closely, we can see where she manipulated the clay to achieve different textures.

Something to talk about

Claudel and Sarah Bernhardt (1844–1923), also in the museum's collection, were contemporaries. Their works highlight two distinct styles yet share some similarities. Find Bernhardt's *Après la tempête (After the Storm)* (ca. 1876). What do they have in common? How are they different?

Who knew?

Claudel studied and collaborated with noted French sculptor Auguste Rodin. Scholars believe she contributed to some of his works, including *The Gates of Hell* (1880–1917) and *The Burghers of Calais* (1884–95).

Camille Claudel, *Young Girl with a Sheaf*, ca. 1890; Bronze, 14¼ x 7 x 7½ inches; National Museum of Women in the Arts, Gift of Wallace and Wilhelmina Holladay; Photograph by Lee Stalsworth

