

# The Torso Casting Process

By Christa Gampp

- The artist and the female model will set a date, time and place for the creation of the torso cast.
- A sitting or standing pose will be chosen that will be comfortable for the model to hold for the duration of the casting process.
- The woman's torso will be covered with a layer of Vaseline to allow for the easy removal of the cast.
- The plaster gauze will be dipped in warm water and applied to the model's body to create the cast. This will take about 25 to 30 minutes.
- Once the plaster strips have hardened (about three minutes), the torso cast can be easily removed from the body. The model's work is now done.
- The artist will cut the torso cast to shape and apply additional layers of plaster strips for strength and support.
- After a drying time, the torso cast will be prepared for painting and/or mixed media application.
- The artworks will be constructed to hang on a wall like a painting, or free-standing like a sculpture.

**Note:** the torso casts will be constructed from plaster gauze strips, the same material that is used in hospitals to make castings for broken bones. The artist uses only high quality medical grade plaster gauze material that does not contain latex.

**Below:** images of unpainted torso casts

