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## Lucky Belly

The bas-relief “Lucky Belly” created by Romas Kvintas is always noticed by the passers-by of Vilniaus street.

TRavelling abroad people usually are eager to learn about local places or objects which might bring you luck or grant your wishes. Everyone prefers getting some extra luck in their lives by just following some kind of small ritual which would summon up the



positive energy. So the “Lucky Belly” is one of them. It is believed that “Lucky Belly” will bring success in business. The “Lucky Belly” is a really cheerful and a fun looking bronze sculpture of a belly, which is 40 cm long. People say that if you rub it you will release all these magic powers that might bring you luck. Even if you don't believe in miracles like that – touch the sculpture –

the least you'll get afterwards is a sincere smile. The belly does have a great sense of humour to win against any negativity.

During the opening of the sculpture, the legend associated with the work was also presented: "I have heard the story of a poor family living in Vilnius for a long time. They were just trying to overcome all of the hindrances in their life, the children were starving. But to all amazement, they grew up incredibly talented and when the children matured they became wealthy merchants and hard-working craftsmen, producing the most elegant things for high society. It is said that the burgomaster of Vilnius decided to ask their mother what the secret of her upbringing was. The woman explained: "Every morning since their birth I fondled the belly of a future merchant and rubbed the hands of a future jeweller' What's fondled, it usually grows, "answered the woman and rubbed burgomaster's head." The artist was joking that the inspiration of this sculpture was his belly!