

Masters of Money Design



Part 2 of 3



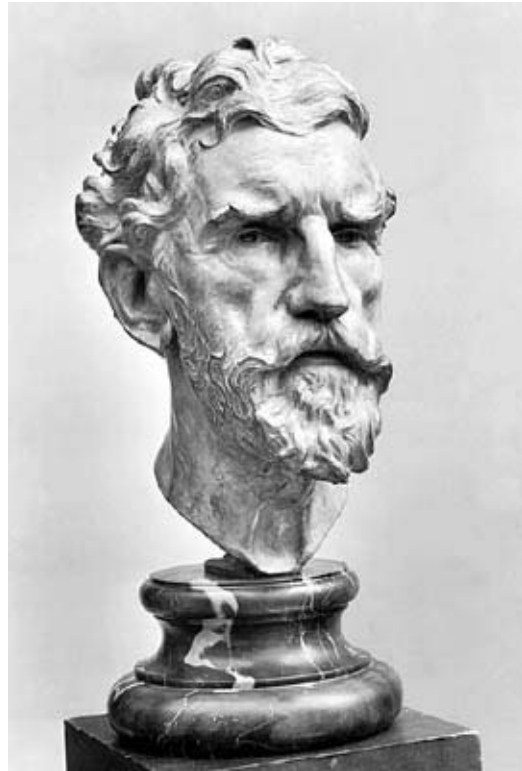
Eric Leonard, President

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Masters of Money Design – Part 2 of 3

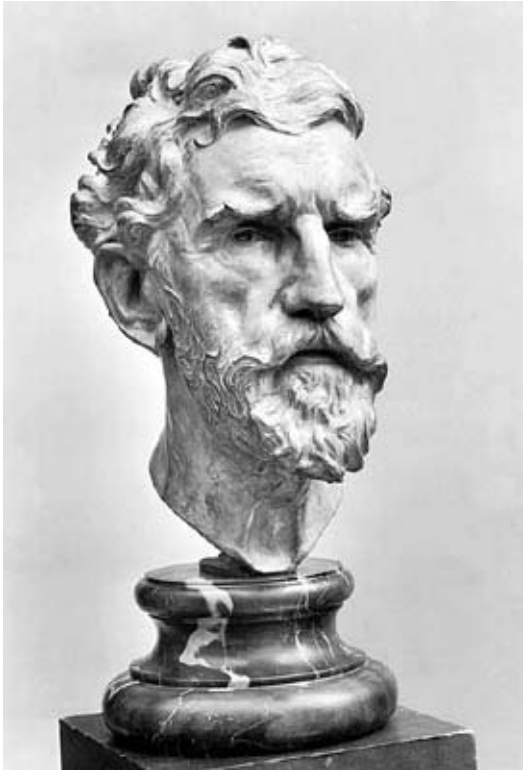
Featuring James Fraser and Hermon MacNeil. Both worked with and were influenced by Augustus Saint-Gaudens.



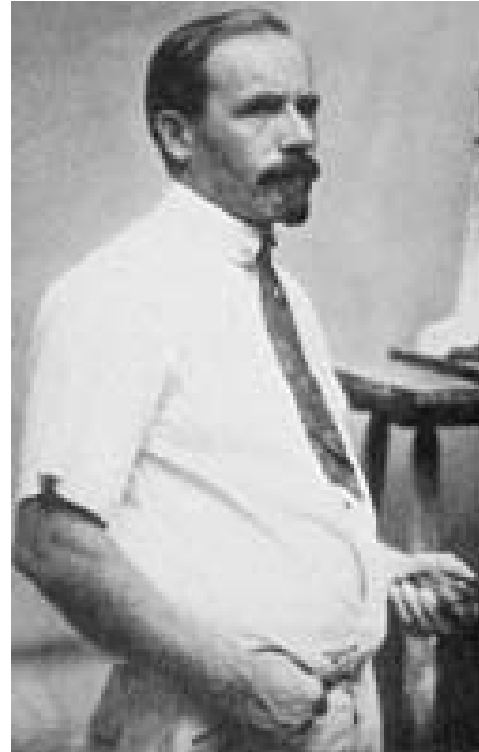
Augustus Saint-Gaudens

Masters of Money Design – Part 1 of 3

Last time we talked about Augustus Saint-Gaudens and one of his many students, Adolph Weinman.



Augustus Saint-Gaudens



Adolph Weinman

Masters of Money Design – Part 1 of 3

The magnificent coins designed by Augustus Saint-Gaudens and Adolph Weinman

The Striding Liberty Gold Double Eagle by...



Augustus Saint-Gaudens

The Winged Liberty or “Mercury” Silver Dime by...



Adolph Weinman

Theodore “Teddy” Roosevelt

Felt that American coinage was an embarrassment; he knew the power of imagery and admired ancient coinage.



President Roosevelt



Roosevelt led the Rough Riders during the Spanish American War

Barber Coins that Roosevelt Disliked

Charles Barber was the Chief Engraver of the Mint

Charles Barber was overly traditional and more interested in designing coins that were easy to mint rather than artistic statements of American values.



BARBER DIME
1892 – 1916



BARBER QUARTER
1892 – 1916



BARBER HALF DOLLAR
1892 – 1915

Roosevelt Felt Indians Symbolized America



INDIAN HEAD CENT
1859 – 1909

Roosevelt felt strongly that American coins should have uniquely American symbols.



INDIAN HEAD \$10.00 GOLD
1907 – 1933



INDIAN HEAD \$5.00 GOLD
1908 – 1929



INDIAN HEAD \$2.50 GOLD
1908 – 1929



BUFFALO NICKEL
1913 – 1938

James Earle Fraser (1876 – 1953)



“The End of the Trail”

Fraser studied under Saint-Gaudens in Paris and in the United States.

In his most famous statue, an Indian and pony are bowed into a fierce blizzard, both facing death on a lonely prairie.

Fraser was considered one of the few artists who was able to capture the pride and the plight of the American Indian in his art.

James Earle Fraser (1876 – 1953)



Fraser was born in Winona, Minnesota and designed the Buffalo or Indian Head Nickel.

Two types of Buffalo Nickels were produced:

Type 1 with the buffalo standing on a mound (1913 only).

Type 2 with the buffalo standing on a flat landscape (1913 – 1938).

Buffalo Nickels were replaced by the Jefferson Nickel in 1938.

James Earle Fraser (1876 – 1953)



Fraser used three different Indian chiefs to form the composite image on the obverse:

Chief John Big Tree, a Seneca

Chief Two Moons, a Cheyenne

Chief Iron Tail, a Sioux

The Seneca was the model for the nose and forehead, the Sioux was the model for the cheek and chin, and the Cheyenne for the hair and headdress.

James Earle Fraser (1876 – 1953)



A desirable, high-value piece is the “Three-Legged Buffalo”

The buffalo on the reverse was a bison in the New York Zoo called “Black Diamond” which was sold for \$700 in 1915 at the age of 20. He weighed 1,550 pounds and dressed to 750 pounds of meat. His hide measured 15’ x 15’ and was made into a robe. Finally, his head was mounted.

Hermon Atkins MacNeil (1866 – 1947)



“Returning of the Snakes”

MacNeil and worked with Augustus Saint-Gaudens on the Columbian Exposition of 1892 in Chicago.

He put into bronze several Indian myths and dances including the “Returning of the Snakes” in which a nude Indian runs through cactus to return two handfuls of rattlesnakes to the wild so that they can carry prayers for rain back to heaven.

Hermon Atkins MacNeil (1866 – 1947)



MacNeil was born in Boston, Massachusetts and designed the Standing Liberty Quarter.

Two types of Standing Liberty Quarters were produced:

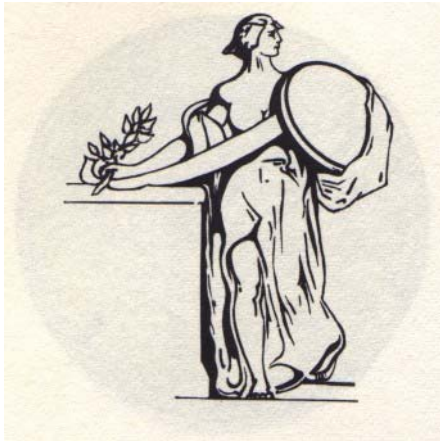
Type 1 with a partially nude Lady Liberty (1916 only).

Type 2 with chain mail on Lady Liberty and a redesigned eagle (1917 – 1930).

Standing Liberty Quarters were replaced by the Washington Quarter in 1932.



Hermon Atkins MacNeil (1866 – 1947)



The model for the Standing Liberty Quarter was a 22 year old woman named Dora Doscher.

Miss Doscher (who later became Mrs. H. W. Baum) was also the model for the statue of the goddess Diana that stands in the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.

As Lady Liberty on the coin, she is holding an olive branch in her right hand for peace while carrying a shield for defense.

Masters of Money Design – Parts 1 & 2 of 3

Featuring Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Adolph Weinman, James Fraser, and Hermon MacNeil.

