

# Masters of Money Design

Part 1 of 3



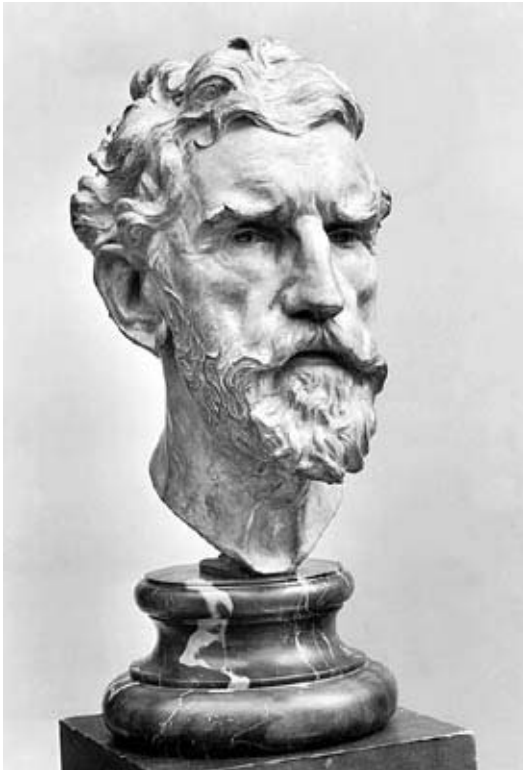
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[www.crescentcitycoinclub.org](http://www.crescentcitycoinclub.org)

# **Masters of Money Design – Part 1 of 3**

Featuring Augustus Saint-Gaudens and Adolph Weinman



**Augustus Saint-Gaudens**



**Adolph Weinman**

# Masters of Money Design – Part 1 of 3

Featuring 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 Admired Ancient Coins and Art

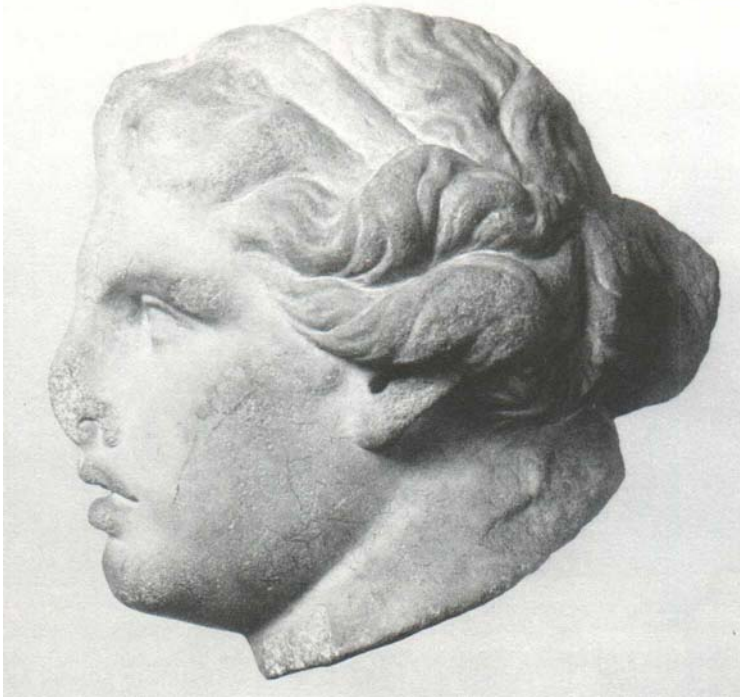


**Ancient silver and gold coins**

Roosevelt felt strongly that American coins should have the same strength of message that ancient coins exhibited.

Lydian Turtles were minted approximately 700 B.C. with Greek and Roman coins minted for hundreds of years to follow.

The “Beautiful Head” of Pergamon was carved in 165 B.C. and was considered by Roosevelt and Saint-Gaudens to be the ideal model for Liberty or Columbia.



**“Beautiful Head” of Pergamon**

# Roosevelt Admired Ancient Coins and Art

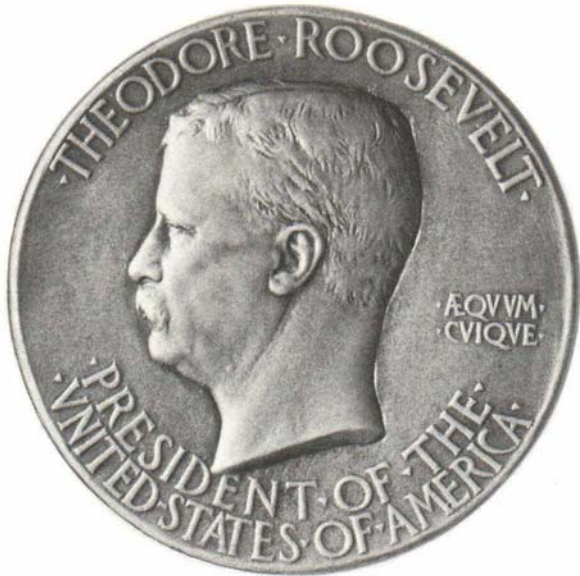
You can see the resemblance with the “Beautiful Head” and proposed designed by Saint-Gaudens.



**“Beautiful Head” of Pergamon**



# Inaugural Medal and the Gold Eagle



Roosevelt commissioned Saint-Gaudens to design his inaugural medal of 1905.



The reverse was later used on the \$10 Gold Eagle!



# Models and Final Form of the Double Eagle



Models submitted for final approval



Saint-Gaudens favored the  
“Striding Liberty” with angel wings

The final form of the \$20 Gold Double Eagle

# The Model for “Striding Liberty”



Hettie Anderson (b. 1873) was the model for “Striding Liberty” and was of African-American descent.



# The Majesty of the Double Eagle



The extremely high relief pattern of 1907 is considered by many to be the most beautiful American coin ever minted.

In a 1996 Sotheby Auction, one extremely high relief pattern sold for \$825,000.

High relief patterns of 1907 with Roman numerals sell for upwards of \$7,000.

High relief patterns of 1907 with Arabic numerals sell for upwards of \$600.



# Varieties of the Double Eagle



Roosevelt felt that Roman numerals were more fitting for a coin based on ancient Greek and Roman design.

Also, he did not appreciate the motto "In God We Trust" on coins because of separation of Church and State.

On both counts, he was overruled.

# The Saint-Gaudens One Cent Coin



Saint-Gaudens designed a one cent coin that was never minted.

Instead, Indian Head cents were minted until 1909 when they were replaced with the Lincoln cent (Wheat Ears at first, replaced with Memorial in 1959).



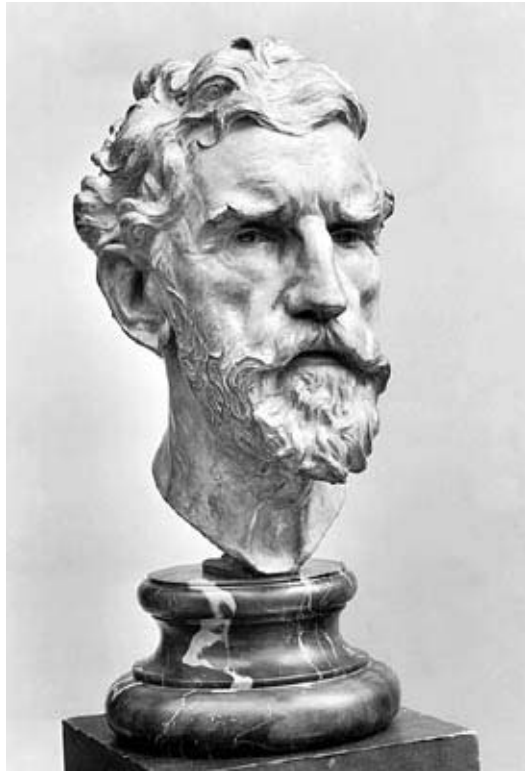
**INDIAN HEAD CENT**  
1859 – 1909



**LINCOLN CENT**  
(Wheat Ears Reverse)  
1909 – 1958



# The Legacy of Augustus Saint-Gaudens



**Augustus Saint-Gaudens**  
**1848 - 1907**



**INDIAN HEAD \$10.00 GOLD**  
**1907 - 1933**



**ST. GAUDENS \$20.00 GOLD**  
**1907 - 1933**



# Adolph Weinman, Student of Saint-Gaudens

Adolph Weinman was born in Germany in 1870 and came to America in 1880. He studied under Saint-Gaudens.



**Adolph Weinman**



Winged Liberty or "Mercury" Dime



Walking Liberty Half Dollar

# Winged Liberty or “Mercury” Dime



## Obverse

Lady Liberty is wearing a Phrygian cap with wings that symbolize “freedom of thought”. But people mistook her for the Greek god Mercury who was male and had wings on his feet!



## Reverse

The faces, Roman symbol of authority, is a bundle of rods with an axe. An olive branch is behind the faces which represents a desire for peace.

At the time, America was being pressed by Europe to join World War I.

# Walking Liberty Half Dollar



## Obverse

Lady Liberty walking toward a rising sun draped in an American flag carrying a branches of laurel and oak. She is wearing a Phrygian cap, Roman symbol of slaves who are now free.



## Reverse

The American Bald Eagle perched on a mountain ledge with a pine sapling (an early symbol of “Young America”) in its right talon.



# The Legacy of Adolph A. Weinman



**Adolph Alexander Weinman**  
**1870 - 1952**



**MERCURY DIME**  
**1916 - 1945**



**LIBERTY WALKING HALF DOLLAR**  
**1916 - 1947**

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