

Masters of Money Design



Part 3 of 3



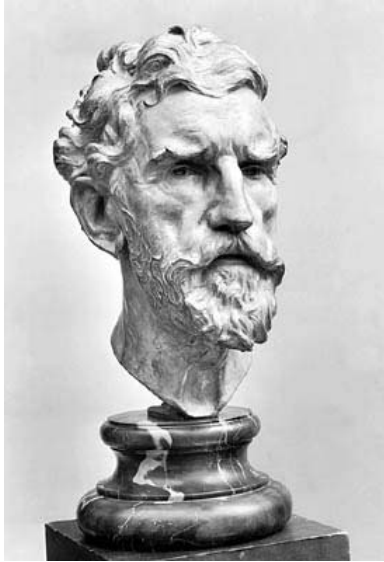
Eric Leonard, President
Crescent City Coin Club



www.crescentcitycoinclub.org

Masters of Money Design – Part 1 of 3

Featured Augustus Saint-Gaudens and Adolph Weinman



Masters of Money Design – Part 2 of 3

Featured James Fraser and Hermon MacNeil

The Buffalo Nickel...



by **James Fraser**

The Standing Liberty Quarter...



by **Hermon MacNeil**

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

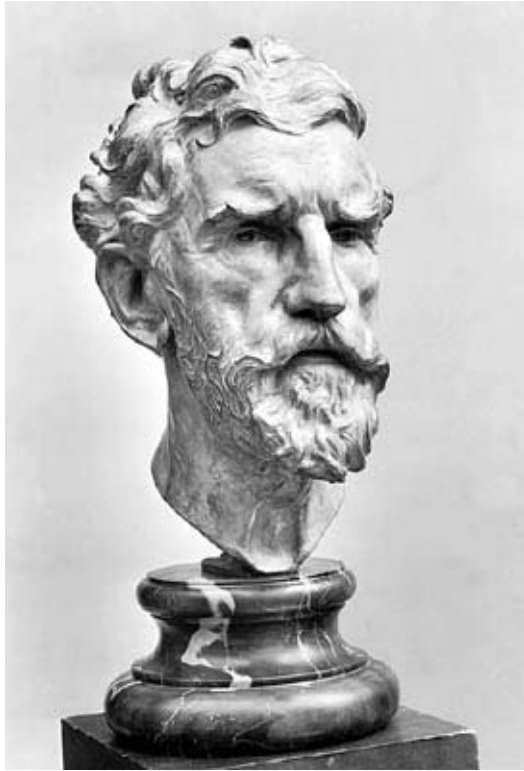


BARBER QUARTER
1892 – 1916



BARBER HALF DOLLAR
1892 – 1915

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

The Majesty of the Double Eagle and Dime



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

Roosevelt Felt Indians Symbolized America

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



INDIAN HEAD CENT
1859 – 1909



INDIAN HEAD \$10.00 GOLD
1907 – 1933



INDIAN HEAD \$2.50 GOLD
1908 – 1929



INDIAN HEAD \$5.00 GOLD
1908 – 1929



BUFFALO NICKEL
1913 – 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 End of the Trail”

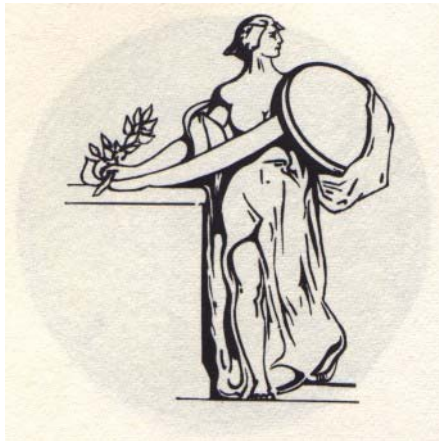
In his most famous statue, an Indian and pony are bowed into a fierce blizzard, both facing death on a lonely prairie.

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 – Part 3 of 3

Featured Victor Brenner and John Flanagan

The Lincoln Cent...



by **Victor Brenner**

The Washington Quarter...



by **John Flanagan**

The Coinage Act of 1792

The first Coinage Act required that the obverse of all gold and silver coins bear an impression “emblematic of Liberty and the year of the coinage.”

On the reverse side, “there shall be the figure or representation of an eagle with this inscription: ‘United States of America’...”



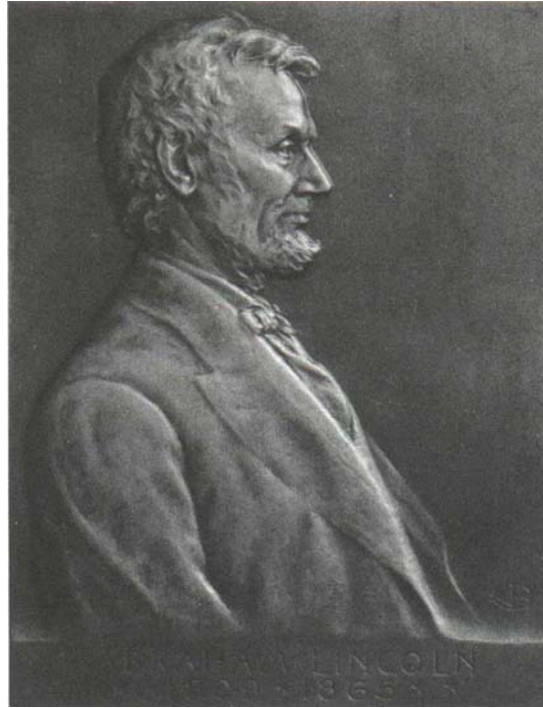
The Saint-Gaudens One Cent Coin



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

Instead, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the birth of Abraham Lincoln, Victor Brenner was commissioned to redesign the cent using a “specific symbol of Liberty.”

The Lincoln Cent Obverse



Brenner had previously sculpted a bronze plaque in honor of Lincoln. President Theodore Roosevelt was shown the plaque during a visit to Brenner's studio to discuss the design for a Panama Canal medal. Roosevelt was so impressed that he cancelled Saint-Gaudens' redesign of the cent.

The Lincoln Cent Reverse

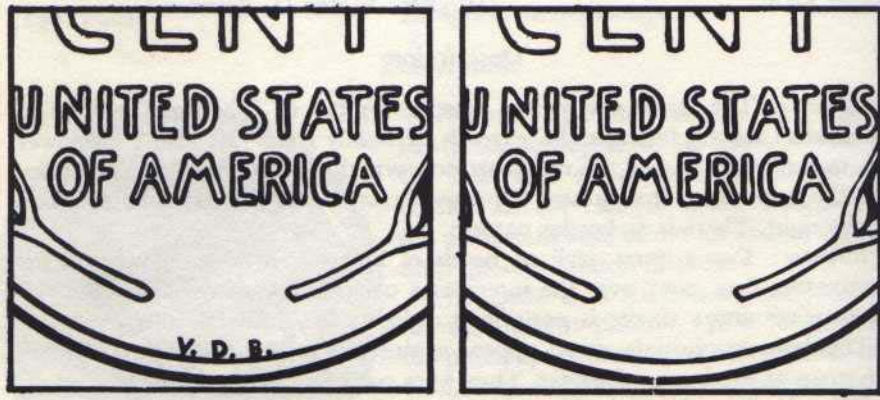


Designed by Victor Brenner and originated in 1909. Two curved heads of long-beard wheat flank the denomination and inscription. The motto is positioned radially across the top.



Designed by Frank Gasparro and approved by President Eisenhower on January 2, 1959. The Lincoln Memorial is in the center with denomination below, inscription and motto above. With the statue, Lincoln appears on both sides!

The “V.D.B.” Controversy



Victor David Brenner’s early models of the Lincoln cent included his full name on the obverse. When this boastful act was rejected, he put his initials on the reverse.

Secretary of the Treasury MacVeigh objected and ordered Brenner’s initials to be removed. But over 27 million pieces had already been minted in Philadelphia and nearly a half million in San Francisco. The initials were removed and production was continued throughout 1909. Therefore, the “1909S-VDB” is a key in the series.

The Changing Metals of the Lincoln Cent



Copper cents: 1909 – 1942, mixed with shell case brass 1944 – 1945, back to copper 1946 – 1982.



From “Wheat Ears” to “Memorial” in 1959, the 150th anniversary of Lincoln’s birth.



Zinc plated steel: 1943 only.



Copper coated zinc: 1982 on.

The Washington Quarter Obverse



To commemorate the 200th anniversary of the birth of George Washington, John Flanagan a friend and pupil of Augustus Saint-Gaudens was commissioned to redesign the quarter.

Since photography did not exist at the time of George Washington, Flanagan had to use sketches and a marble bust of him created in 1785 by the French sculptor Jean Antoine Houdon.

Other Washington Quarter Designs



This design was submitted by James Fraser, the designer of the Buffalo nickel.



This was an alternate design offered by John Flanagan.

Flanagan was born in 1865 in Newark, New Jersey. He was a friend and pupil of Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Before redesigning the quarter, he was commissioned to create a commemorative coin for the Titanic, which sunk on April 15, 1912). He died in 1952.

The Washington Quarter Reverse



The reverse displays a heraldic bald eagle standing on a bundle of arrows (reminiscent of the faces) above two laurel branches. In 1975 and 1976, in commemoration of the bicentennial of the United States, the reverse was changed to depict a Colonial drummer with a victory torch encircled by 13 stars.



Beginning in 1999 and continuing for 10 years, five states per year will be featured on the reverse of the quarter in the order of their admission to the Union.

Masters of Money Design – Parts 1, 2, & 3

Augustus Saint-Gaudens, Adolph Weinman, James Fraser, Hermon MacNeil, Victor Brenner, and John Flanagan.

