



# Augustus Saint-Gaudens

Alex Kelling



*Victory. ASG (1903)*

# Design Method – Sculptures and Engravings

## Design Style:

- Beaux-Art Architecture
  - Late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - Started by École des Beaux-Arts
  - Statues and figures within work
  - Symmetry
  - Classic details (columns, pediments)
- American Renaissance
  - 1876-1917
  - Classicalism and American symbology at the centennial of American Independence



Nancy Curri (2018)



Mildred and William Dean Howells. ASG (1898)



# Foundational Years

- Born in Dublin Ireland in 1848
  - Father was a shoemaker
  - Moved to New York at 6 months old
- Cameo Cutter apprentice
  - Ages 13 - 19
- National Academy of Design & Cooper Union
- Moved to Paris in 1867 to study at Ecole gratuite de Dessin
  - Sculptor François Jouffroy's atelier at École des Beaux-Arts



*Hannah Rohr Tuffs. AGS (1872)*



*Augustus Saint-Gaudens. Kenyon Cox (1887)*



# Career Prelude

- Moved to Rome in 1870
  - *Hiawatha*
    - First full-length statue
- Returned to New York in 1875
  - Ornamental Metal Work for Tiffany Studios
  - Commissions for memorials & Tombs



*Hiawatha. ASG (1874)*

# Career Zenith

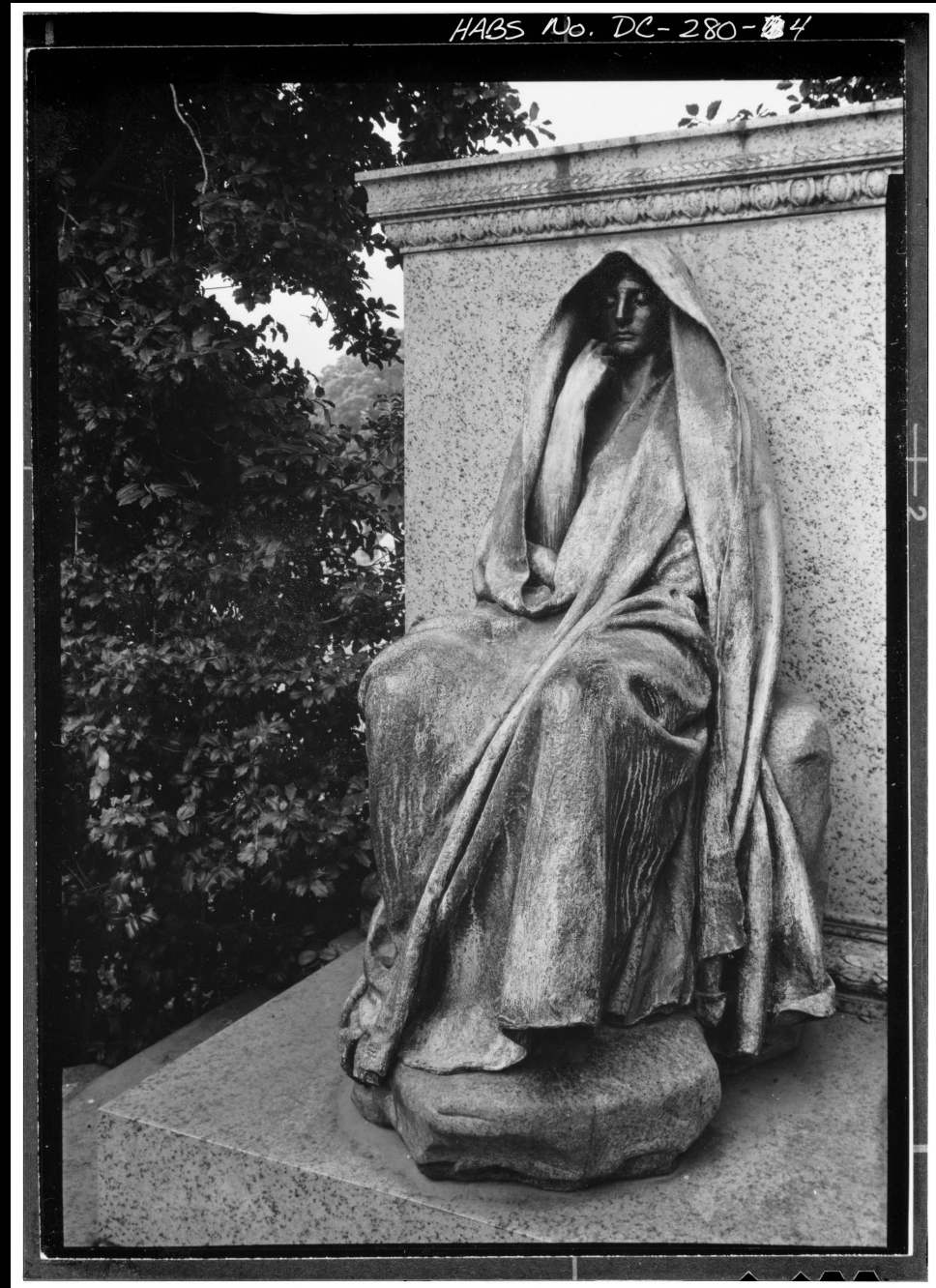
- Diana
  - 18 ft (replaced with 13ft version)
    - 1891
  - Bronze
  - Weathervane of Stanford White's Madison Square Garden
  - Model Davida Johnson Clark
  - Lit by electric light



*Diana. ASG (1891)*

# Career Zenith

- Adams Memorial
  - Memorial to:
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> President John Adams
    - 6<sup>th</sup> President John Quincy Adams
    - Marian Adams
  - 1891
  - Bronze





# Career Zenith

- Shaw Memorial
  - Colonel Robert Gould Shaw and the all-Black 54<sup>th</sup> Massachusetts Infantry Regiment
  - 1897
  - Bronze



Matt Teuten, NPS, (2019)



# Career Zenith

- U.S. Coinage
  - President Theodore Roosevelt desired new beauty in American currency
    - Comparable to old Greek coins
    - Asked Saint-Gaudens to design
      - Ailing health at the end of his life
  - Series of design revisions for practicality
    - \$20 High Relief took 5+ stampings to get desired relief
  - \$10 “Indian” 1907-1933
  - \$20 “Saint-Gaudens” 1907-1933



(PCGS)

(Usmint.gov)



# Career Zenith

- Medal Designs
  - 1893 Columbian Exposition Commemorative
  - 1889 George Washington Inauguration Centennial
  - 1905 Theodore Roosevelt Inauguration



(Met Museum)

# Career Zenith

- William Tecumseh Sherman
  - Civil War general who led the March to the Sea
  - Central Park NYC
  - 1903
  - Gilded

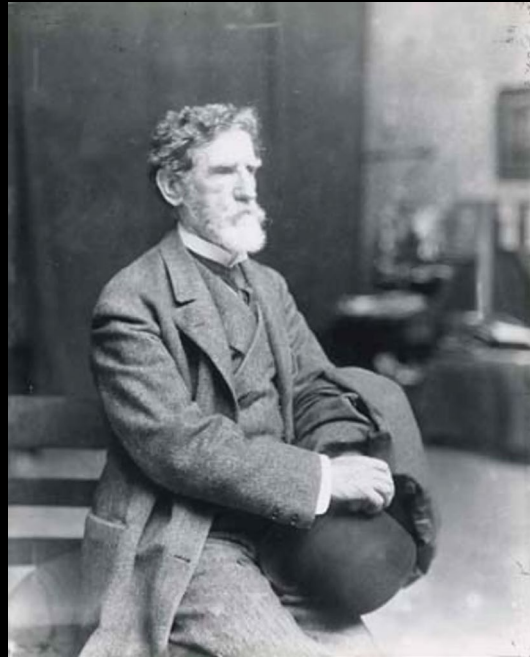


Central Park In Bronze, (2017)



# Legacy

- Died of Cancer in 1907
- Saint-Gaudens National Historic Park
  - Cornish NH
  - Summer cottage (1885)
  - Home (1900-07)
  - Studio



Augustus Saint-Gaudens, 1904, © Peter A. Juley & Son Collection, Smithsonian American Art Museum J0021709



NPS

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