



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Art

Celebrating 175: Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, Biographical Sketches (WMAA file), 1917-1947

Extracted on Apr-23-2024 01:13:56

The Smithsonian Institution thanks all digital volunteers that transcribed and reviewed this material. Your work enriches Smithsonian collections, making them available to anyone with an interest in using them.

The Smithsonian Institution (the "Smithsonian") provides the content on this website (transcription.si.edu), other Smithsonian websites, and third-party sites on which it maintains a presence ("SI Websites") in support of its mission for the "increase and diffusion of knowledge." The Smithsonian invites visitors to use its online content for personal, educational and other non-commercial purposes. By using this website, you accept and agree to abide by the [following terms](#).

- If sharing the material in personal and educational contexts, please cite the Archives of American Art as source of the content and the project title as provided at the top of the document. Include the accession number or collection name; when possible, link to the Archives of American Art website.
- If you wish to use this material in a for-profit publication, exhibition, or online project, please contact Archives of American Art or transcribe@si.edu

For more information on this project and related material, contact the Archives of American Art. [See this project](#) and other collections in the Smithsonian Transcription Center.

Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney #3

Same year the Metropolitan Museum, New York, bought her head of a Spanish peasant.

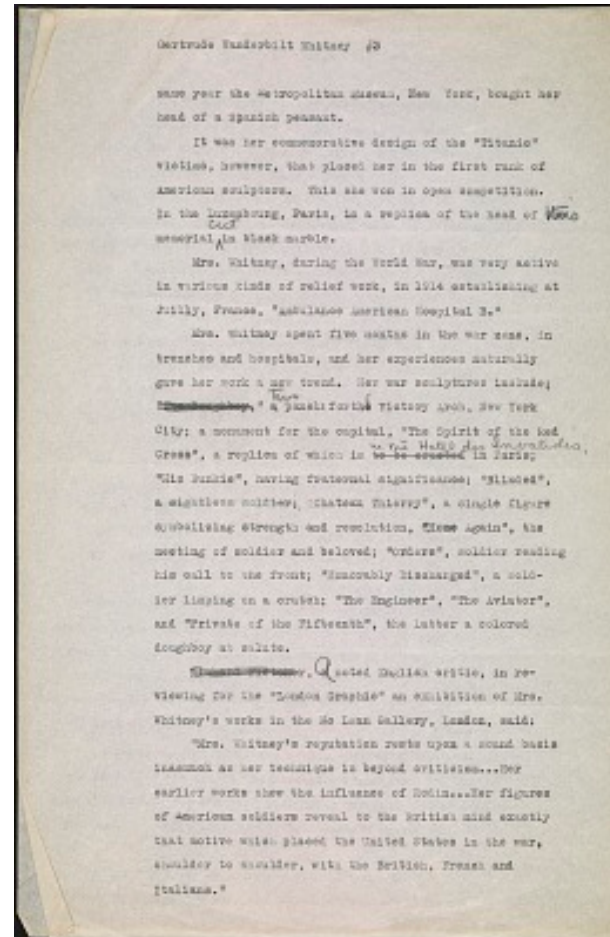
It was her commemorative design of the "Titanic" victims, however, that placed her in the first rank of American sculptors. This she won in open competition. In the Luxembourg, Paris, is a replica of the head of ~~the~~ ~~this~~ memorial cut in black marble.

Mrs. Whitney, during the World War, was very active in various kinds of relief work, in 1914 establishing at Juilly, France, "Ambulance American Hospital B."

Mrs. Whitney spent five months in the war zone, in trenches and hospitals, and her experiences naturally gave her work a new trend. Her war sculptures include; ~~the~~ "The Dough Boys" a ~~two~~ panels for the Victory Arch, New York City; a monument for the capital, "The Spirit of the Red Cross", a replica of which is ~~to be created~~ in the Hotel des Invalides in Paris; "His Bunkie", having a fraternal significance; "Blinded", an sightless soldier; "Chateau Thierry", a single figure symbolizing strength and resolution, "Home Again", the meeting of soldier and beloved; "Orders", soldier reading his call to the front; "Honorably Discharged", a soldier limping on a crutch; "The Engineer", "The Aviator", and "Private of the Fifteenth", the latter a colored doughboy at salute.

~~Richard Fictoner~~ a ~~noted~~ English critic, in reviewing for the "London Graphic" an exhibition of Mrs. Whitney's works in the Mc Lean Gallery, London, said:

"Mrs. Whitney's reputation rests upon a sound basis inasmuch as her technique is beyond criticism...Her earlier works show the influence of Rodin...Her figures of American Soldiers reveal to the British mind exactly that motive which places the United States in the war, shoulder to shoulder, with the British, French, and Italians."



Celebrating 175: Gertrude Vanderbilt Whitney, Biographical Sketches (WMAA file), 1917-1947
Transcribed and Reviewed by Digital Volunteers
Extracted Apr-23-2024 01:13:56



Smithsonian Institution

Archives of American Art

The mission of the Smithsonian is the increase and diffusion of knowledge - shaping the future by preserving our heritage, discovering new knowledge, and sharing our resources with the world. Founded in 1846, the Smithsonian is the world's largest museum and research complex, consisting of 19 museums and galleries, the National Zoological Park, and nine research facilities. Become an active part of our mission through the Transcription Center. Together, we are discovering secrets hidden deep inside our collections that illuminate our history and our world.

Join us!

The Transcription Center: <https://transcription.si.edu>

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/SmithsonianTranscriptionCenter>

On Twitter: [@TranscribeSI](https://twitter.com/TranscribeSI)

Connect with the Smithsonian

Smithsonian Institution: www.si.edu

On Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Smithsonian>

On Twitter: [@smithsonian](https://twitter.com/smithsonian)