

SPAIN IN WASHINGTON: A GUIDE



'Two Women at a Window' by Murillo,
National Gallery of Art



EMBAJADA DE ESPAÑA
EMBASSY OF SPAIN
CONSELADO DE ESPAÑA
CONSULATE OF SPAIN



YO SOLO

BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ

1746 - 1786

Lt. General and Governor of Louisiana
Hero of the American Revolution
Honorary Citizen of the U.S.



Presented in 2019 by



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Welcome to Washington, D.C.!

Spain and the United States share a long, rich, and fruitful history that has expanded into modern times. This relationship can be seen throughout the country in everything from state flags and Spanish words to architecture and symbols originating from Spain.

Washington, D.C., as the capital of the United States, offers a very complete view of this relationship. Washington is home to statues of Bernardo de Gálvez, the Spanish hero of the American Revolution and honorary U.S. citizen, masterpieces from Spanish greats, like Velázquez, El Greco, Picasso, and Miró, multiple honorary tributes to Christopher Columbus, and a slew of artistic pieces that pay homage to Spain and its explorers and missionaries in the U.S. Capitol Building. The variety and extensive nature of Spain's presence in Washington alone is a testament to the importance of the relationship our countries share, one that we continuously work to expand and improve across sectors.

This guide will teach you more about this relationship. I invite you to use it to get a taste of Spain in Washington and to give your time in D.C., whether as a tourist or a local, a Spanish touch.

Sincerely yours,

Santiago Cabanas
Ambassador of Spain to the United States

SPAIN IN WASHINGTON

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Photos and text by the Embassy of Spain in Washington, D.C., 2020

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Farragut Square

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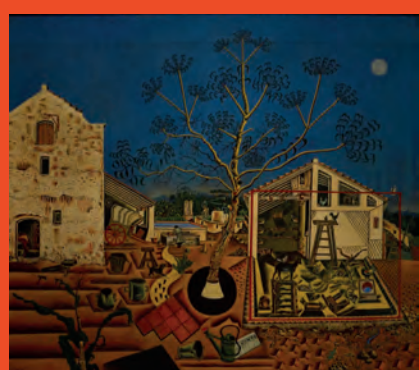
Bernardo de Gálvez Statue



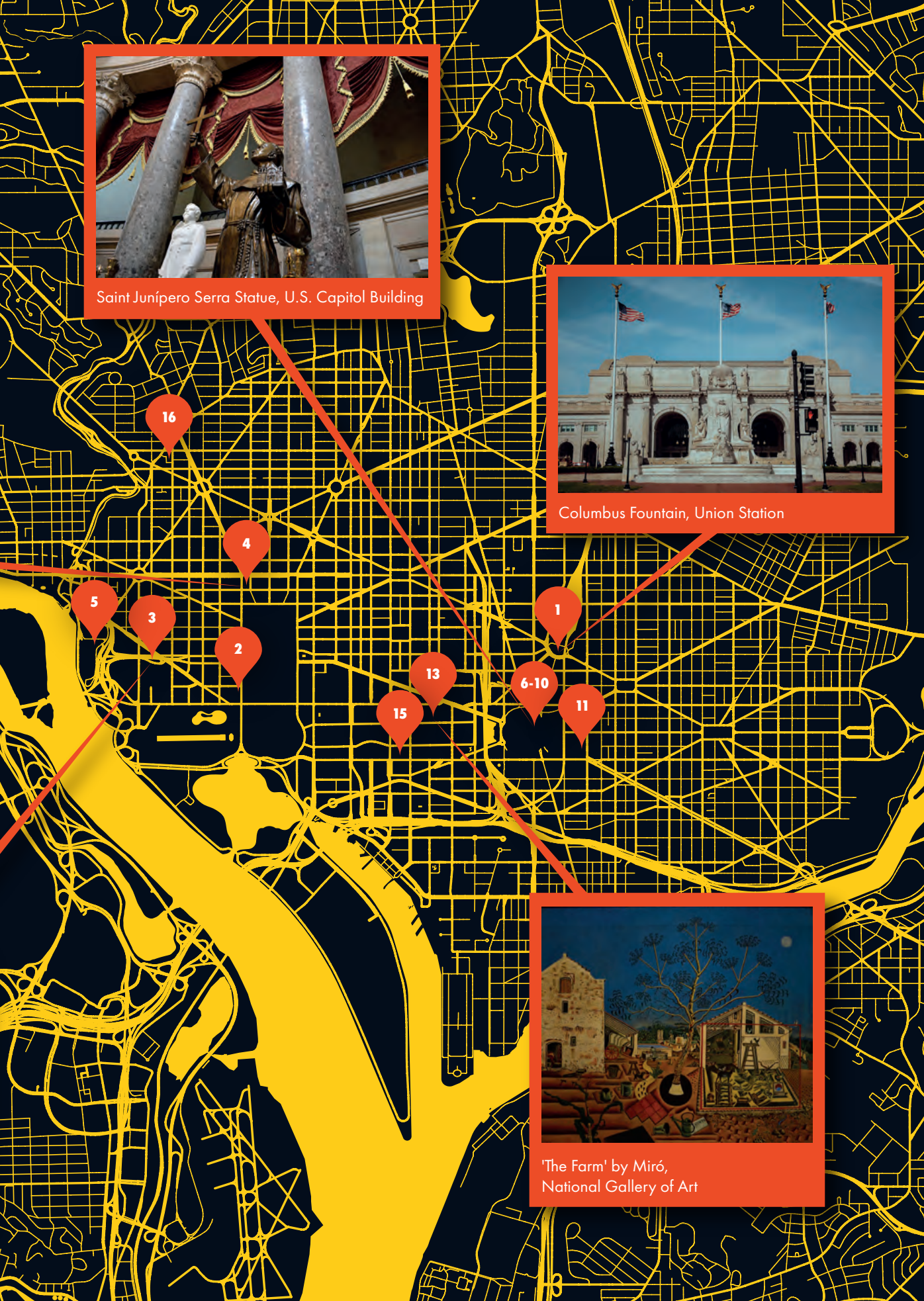
Saint Junipero Serra Statue, U.S. Capitol Building



Columbus Fountain, Union Station



'The Farm' by Miró, National Gallery of Art





I. On the Streets of D.C.

1. Columbus Fountain

 *Columbus Circle, Union Station*

The Columbus Memorial Statue and Fountain at Union Station was constructed in 1912 by American sculptor Lorado Taft and was unveiled during three days of festivities in Columbus Circle. In fact, these celebrations have become tradition: Washington's annual Columbus Day Ceremony is conducted there with the participation of Spanish diplomats. At the center is a large shaft from which projects the prow of a ship. The vessel acts as a pedestal for a heroic statue of Columbus, who stands quietly with a confident gaze towards the U.S. Capitol building. The elderly figure on the right represents the Old World, while the figure of a young American Indian on the opposite side symbolizes the New World. On the rear of the shaft there is a medallion picturing Ferdinand and Isabella, the Spanish monarchs who financed Columbus' travels. The three flagpoles behind the monument represent the ships which carried Columbus' party to America in 1492.



ORGANIZATION OF AME

YSABEL I LA CATOLICA
REINA DE CASTILLA
DE ARAGON
DE LAS ISLAS
Y TIERRA FIRME
DEL MAR OCEANO

2. Queen Isabella I

 *Organization of American States, 200 17th Street, NW*

This life-sized bronze statue of Isabel la Católica (Queen Isabella I), created by José Luis Sánchez, stands in front of the Organization of American States (OAS). The Queen of Castile (1451-1504), known for financing Columbus' voyages to the Americas, wears a gown with the emblems of the kingdoms over which she reigned and holds a pomegranate, symbolizing Granada, the last city to be reclaimed by the Catholic Monarchs in 1492. A gift of the Institute of Hispanic Culture of Madrid, it was presented in 1966 on the 475th anniversary of Columbus' first sighting of the New World. The former Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, Fernando María Castiella, told the convened ambassadors at the time of the dedication that it was a "testimony of your European past and, above all, a token for future collaboration" with Spain. Now, a wreath is placed in front of the statue annually in celebration of Spain's National Day, October 12.



BERNARDO DE GALVEZ, THE GREAT
SPANISH SOLDIER, CARRIED OUT
ROUBALLOTT'S CAMPAIGN IN
LOUISIANA'S BORDERLANDS OF THE LOWER
MISSISSIPPI. THIS MASTERPIECE
OF MILITARY STRATEGY LIGHTENED
THE PRESSURE OF THE ENGLISH
IN THE WAR AGAINST THE AMERICAN
SETTLERS WHO WERE FIGHTING FOR
THEIR INDEPENDENCE.

THE STATUE OF BERNARDO
DE GALVEZ SERVES AS A REMINDER
THAT SPAIN OFFERED THE BLOOD
OF HER SOLDIERS FOR THE CAUSE
OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCE.

THE STATUE OF A SPANISH
SOLDIER ON THIS ONE HORSE
IS A REMINDER OF HIS
VALOR.

DON JUAN CARLOS I
KING OF SPAIN

BERNARDO DE GALVEZ
SPANISH SOLDIER
1732 - 1786

3. Bernardo de Gálvez

 *Virginia Avenue and E Street, NW*

This bronze equestrian statue was sculpted by famous Spanish artist Juan de Ávalos. It was later donated to the American people by King Juan Carlos I of Spain in 1976 during his trip to the United States for the American Bicentennial, along with a sister statue, displayed in the Spanish Plaza of New Orleans. Bernardo de Gálvez, a brilliant strategist and astute statesman who bore the reforms of the Enlightenment in mind, served as Governor of Spanish Louisiana from 1777-1785, during which time he captured British colonial territories, among them the strategic stronghold of Pensacola in 1781. Gálvez epitomizes the Spanish contribution to the independence of the U.S. In 2014, he became one of the only eight people in history to be conferred honorary U.S. citizenship for his fearless and tactful military strategy in support of American independence. Along with the Statues of the Liberators, the Bernardo de Gálvez statue is located next to the United States Department of State building.

Another statue of Gálvez was erected outside of the Embassy of Spain (2375 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW), with the support of Avangrid, and can be seen on page two, beside Ambassador Cabanas.



FARRAGUT

4. Admiral David G. Farragut

 *Farragut Square, K Street between 16th and 17th Streets, NW*

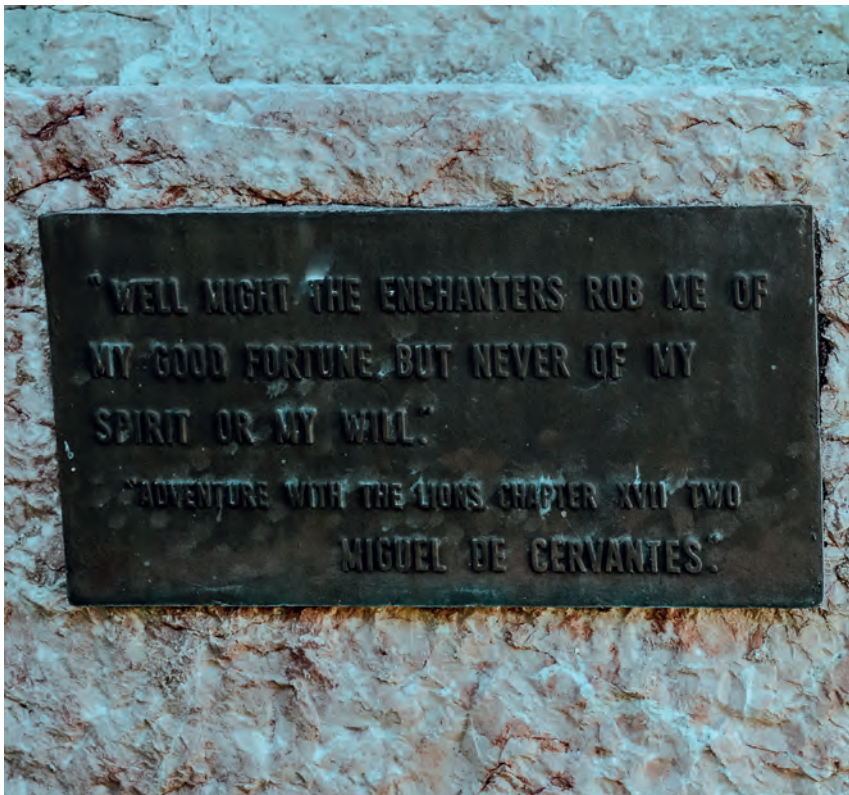
The statue of Admiral David Glasgow Farragut (1801-1870) was the first monument erected in Washington to honor a naval war hero, in 1881. Born to a Spanish father from the Balearic island of Menorca who joined the U.S. Revolutionary Navy forces and an American mother, Farragut followed in his father's footsteps in the U.S. Navy, where he nobly served for over 60 years and became the first full admiral. He is best known for his Civil War successes, including the capture of New Orleans and defeat of Confederate forces at the Battle of Mobile Bay in 1864, where he spoke his best-known words: *Damn the torpedoes! Full speed ahead!* The 10-foot portrait statue is the work of Vinnie Ream Hoxie, the creator of additional statues on display at the U.S. Capitol building, including one of President Abraham Lincoln. It shows Farragut standing on a ship's deck, his right foot on a capstan, and his telescope ready in his hands. The model and the four mortars were cast from the propellers of the USS Hartford, the ship under his direct command in Mobile. After the Civil War, Admiral Farragut was given the command of a squadron that sailed along the European coasts. In Spain, he was received by Queen Isabel II in Madrid and visited his father's homeland in Menorca.



5. Don Quixote

 *Kennedy Center, F Street, NW*

Located at the northeast corner of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, this monument blends bronze and stone in its depiction of legendary Spanish literary figure, Don Quixote de la Mancha, the immortal character created by Miguel de Cervantes. Along with the statue of Bernardo de Gálvez, King Juan Carlos I presented this sculpture, the work of Spanish artist Aurelio Teno, to the U.S. on behalf of Spain for the 1976 American Bicentennial. The figure represents Don Quixote with a steel lance in his hand, riding his horse, Rocinante, and emerging from a boulder. The jagged stone used in the sculpture is from the Spanish city of Pamplona.





Landing of Columbus
by Juan Pantoja de la Cruz



II. U.S. Capitol Building

6. The Landing of Columbus

 *First Street, SE*

October 12, 1492: Having just hit land on the Santa María, Christopher Columbus and his crew members stand on a beach in the West Indies. In this neoclassical oil on canvas (12' x 18') placed in the Rotunda in 1847, John Vanderlyn illustrates the first landing in America of the Spanish expedition led by Columbus. They arrived at an island known as Guanahani by the natives and named San Salvador by Columbus. The royal banner of Aragón and Castile is being held and raised by Columbus in order to claim the land for his Spanish patrons. Behind Columbus stand other Europeans involved in the Spanish enterprise, including the Spanish captains of the other two flagships, the Niña and the Pinta, Vicente Yáñez Pinzón and Martín Alonso Pinzón. This image also appeared on U.S. postage stamps in 1893 and 1992.



GERALD R. FORD
1913 - 2006
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
1974 - 1977
VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
1973 - 1974
UNITED STATES SENATOR OF MICHIGAN
1959 - 1973
MICHIGAN

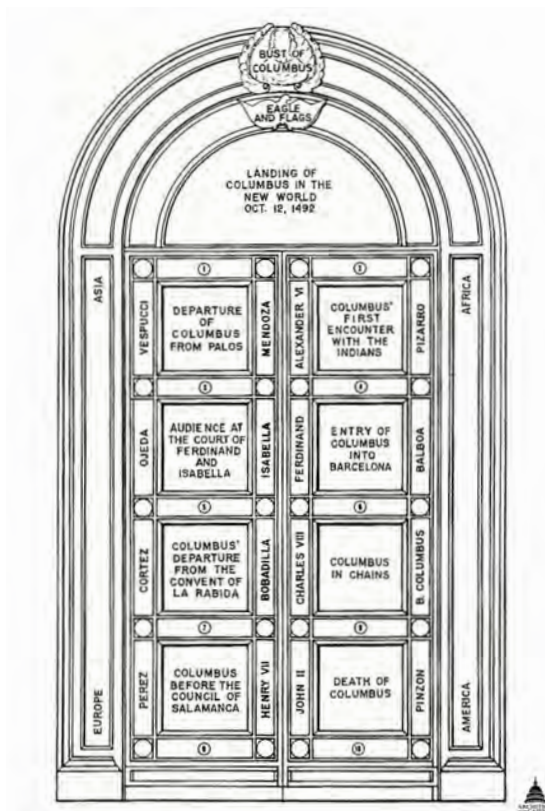
7. Discovery of the Mississippi by De Soto

In this large (12' x 18') oil on canvas piece, placed in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda in 1855, William Henry Powell depicts Hernando de Soto's arrival to the Mississippi River near Natchez on May 8, 1541, proclaiming himself the first European documented to see the River. Native Americans are depicted in this piece contemplating before their tepees as the chief holds up the pipe of peace. On the left, a soldier wrapping a wounded leg represents the attack by the Native Americans that took place the day before. A monk can be seen praying on the top right, while a crucifix is being erected in the ground. Engravings of Discovery of the Mississippi by De Soto have appeared on the reverse of two U.S. bank notes: a \$10 note in the 1860s and a \$500 note in the 1918 series.



8. The Columbus Doors

Also known as the Rogers or Rotunda Doors, they were designed in 1857 by Randolph Rogers and installed in the main entrance to the U.S. Capitol Building six years later. Just over 16 feet tall, these majestic bronze doors depict the life of Christopher Columbus, divided into 10 scenes, starting from his departure from Palos and ending with his death in Valladolid, Spain. The lunette shows Columbus' landing in 1492. Another scene depicts the sailor's triumphant return to Barcelona to share what he had found on his first voyage with the Catholic Monarchs, Queen Isabella I and King Ferdinand II. Along with these main Spanish episodes are other sections with engravings of important characters of the time, those who played a role in Columbus' life and subsequent expeditions, like Vasco Núñez de Balboa, Hernando Cortez, and Francisco Pizarro. The artist also added four figures denoting the continents of Asia, Africa, Europe, and America to symbolize the whole world's recognition of the explorer's success, as well as authors of books on Columbus, like Washington Irving.





JUNIPERO SERRA

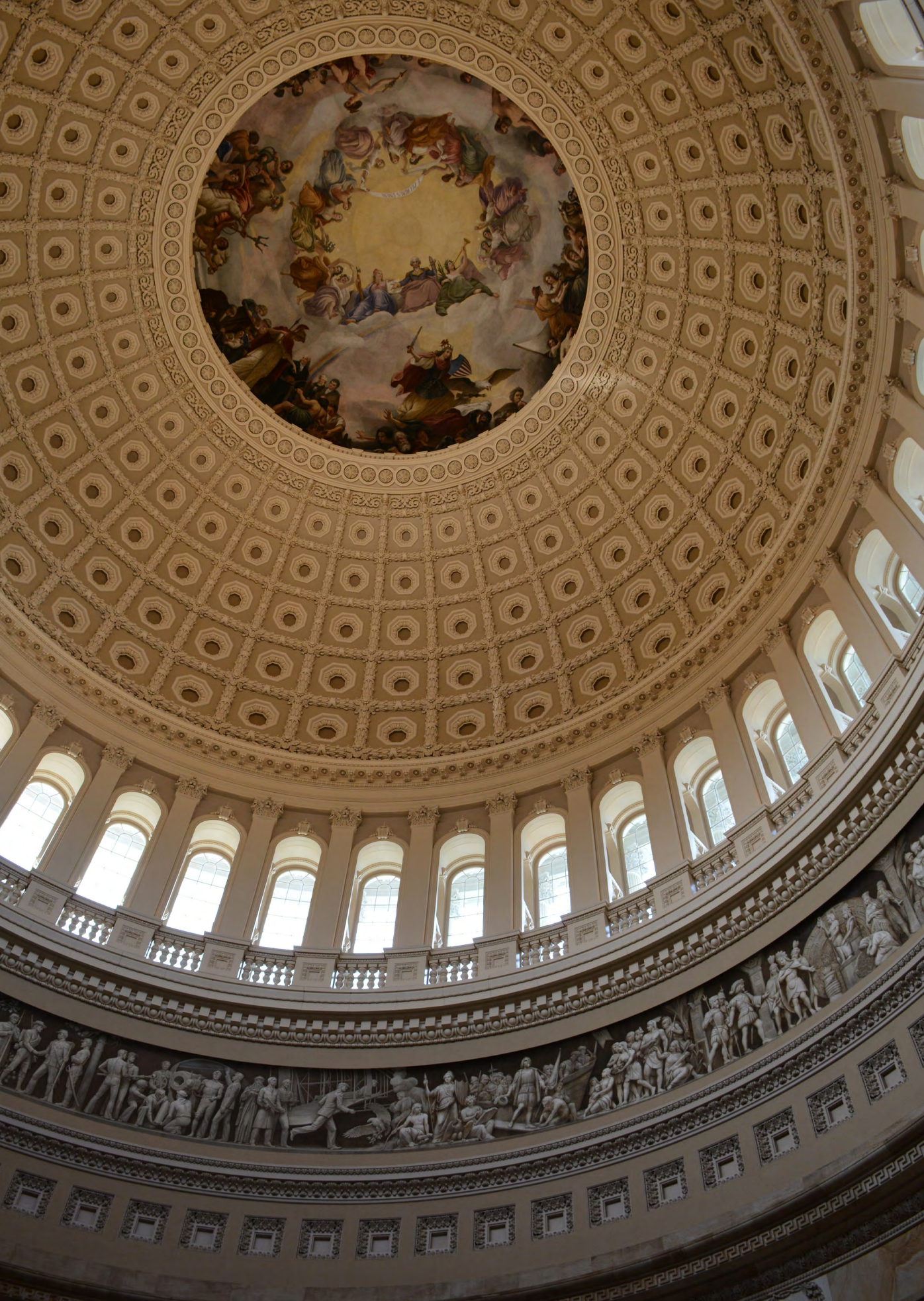
CALIFORNIA

LEW W
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DIP

9. Statue of Saint Junípero Serra

Engraved in bronze, the statue of Junípero Serra, born in the Balearic island of Mallorca in 1713, stands in the National Statuary Hall of the U.S. Capitol. The statue of the missionary was carved by Ettore Cadorin and was donated by the state of California in 1931 as one of the two statues each state is able to contribute to the Capitol. Born Miguel José Serra Ferrer, the Franciscan arrived in Mexico City in 1750, making his dream of becoming a missionary in America come true. It was in 1769 that he founded his first mission in California, San Diego. This was followed by San Luis Obispo, San Francisco, and Santa Clara, among others. Serra was committed and succeeded in converting Native Americans to Catholicism, as well as ensuring that his missions were self-sufficient. The Father of the California missions died in Monterey in 1784, at the age of 71, and was buried in the San Carlos Borromeo Mission in Carmel-by-the-Sea.

Following Saint Junípero Serra's canonization by Pope Francis in September 2015, Archbishop of Washington, Cardinal Donald Wuerl dedicated another statue to him in 2017. It stands outside the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception at Catholic University in D.C., the largest Catholic church in the U.S. Another depiction of Saint Junípero can be seen inside the National Cathedral.



10. Frieze of American History in the Capitol Rotunda

At nearly 60 feet above the ground lies this grisaille frescoed frieze on the dome of the Capitol Rotunda. Illustrating notable occurrences in American history, some of the frieze's 16 passages are dedicated to events related to Spain. It was designed by Italian artist Constantino Brumidi in 1859 and executed by Brumidi, Filippo Costaggini, and Allyn Cox.

a. Cortez and Montezuma at Mexican Temple

Brumidi illustrates Spanish explorer Hernán Cortés' arrival at the Aztec capital in 1519, welcomed by Emperor Montezuma II. At the time, Montezuma thought Cortés was a god.

b. Pizarro Going to Peru

Another scene depicts Spanish explorer Francisco Pizarro. Pizarro appears riding his horse and guiding his men through the jungle in search of El Dorado, the mythical land of gold. Pizarro eventually seized the Inca capital of Cuzco in 1533.

c. Burial of De Soto

In this part of the frieze, Brumidi depicts Spanish explorer Hernando de Soto's burial at night on the Mississippi River by his men, in order to spare his body from being found by enemies. De Soto died from a fever while exploring in the Gulf of Mexico.

d. Naval Gun Crew in the Spanish-American War

This section of the frieze, by American artist Allyn Cox, portrays a scene from the Spanish-American War (1898). A naval gun is being loaded during one of the two battles of the war in which the United States helped Cuba gain its independence from Spain.



III. Library of Congress

 101 Independence Avenue, SE

The Library of Congress is one of the largest libraries in the world. The Thomas Jefferson Building, built in the nation's capital, is famous for its neoclassical architecture and elegantly adorned interior. In the Great Hall and Main Reading Room, the ceilings are full of symbolism. On the collar of the dome is Blashfield's *Evolution of Civilization*, a mural of 12 male and female winged figures meant to represent 12 countries, civilizations, eras, and religions that were thought to have made the greatest contributions to Western civilization. The figures are Egypt, Judea, Greece, Rome, Islam, the Middle Ages, Italy, Germany, Spain, England, France, and America. Spain specifically represents the age of discoveries by portraying an explorer, who appears with a Spanish caravel, a symbol of world exploration.

Moreover, in the Great Hall, as part of the decoration, there is a cartouche dedicated to Miguel de Cervantes, the monumental Spaniard famous for *Don Quixote*. Librarian of Congress Ainsworth Rand Spofford (1825-1908) and Charles W. Eliot (1834-1926), President of Harvard University, decided which authors to display based on those whose works were considered to have made great contributions to literature and the study of history.

Another example of Spain's heritage and symbolism found in the Library of Congress is the printer's mark of Juan Rosembach in the East Corridor. These types of marks were the equivalent of today's trademark or copyright. Juan Rosembach was first documented in Valencia in 1490, where he was contracted to print breviaries. He then established a printing press in Barcelona by 1492.

CERVANTES



PUBLIC NOTICE

Use of this reading room is limited to researchers whose high school age who have a library card on file with the University of the Philippines - Diliman. Researchers using this room must conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the purpose and functions of the Library and must avoid disturbing the quiet, reasonable, and good order of the Library. Research materials located here should be searched for use permitted in the reading room.

U.P. Diliman, Quezon City, Philippines



11. Hispanic Reading Room

Housed in the Jefferson Building and home to a portrait of Cervantes, the Hispanic Reading Room is one of the Library of Congress' 12 reading rooms. As the name suggests, it has information relating to the Caribbean, Latin America, Spain, and Portugal, including about the regions' indigenous cultures and those of Hispanic and Latino heritage in the U.S. and throughout the world. Georgette Dorn, former Chief of the Hispanic Division at the Library of Congress, calls the collection "the best in the world."



The mural in the photo above can be found on the wall at the end of the Room. Surrounding the Spanish coat of arms in the center, it reads, "Por Castilla y por León, nuevo mundo que halló Colón," a rhyming Spanish phrase translating to, "For Castile and for León, a new world discovered by Columbus." The Room was established and continues to be partially maintained with contributions from The Hispanic Society of America and its founder, American scholar, philanthropist, and Hispanist Archer Milton Huntington (1870-1955).



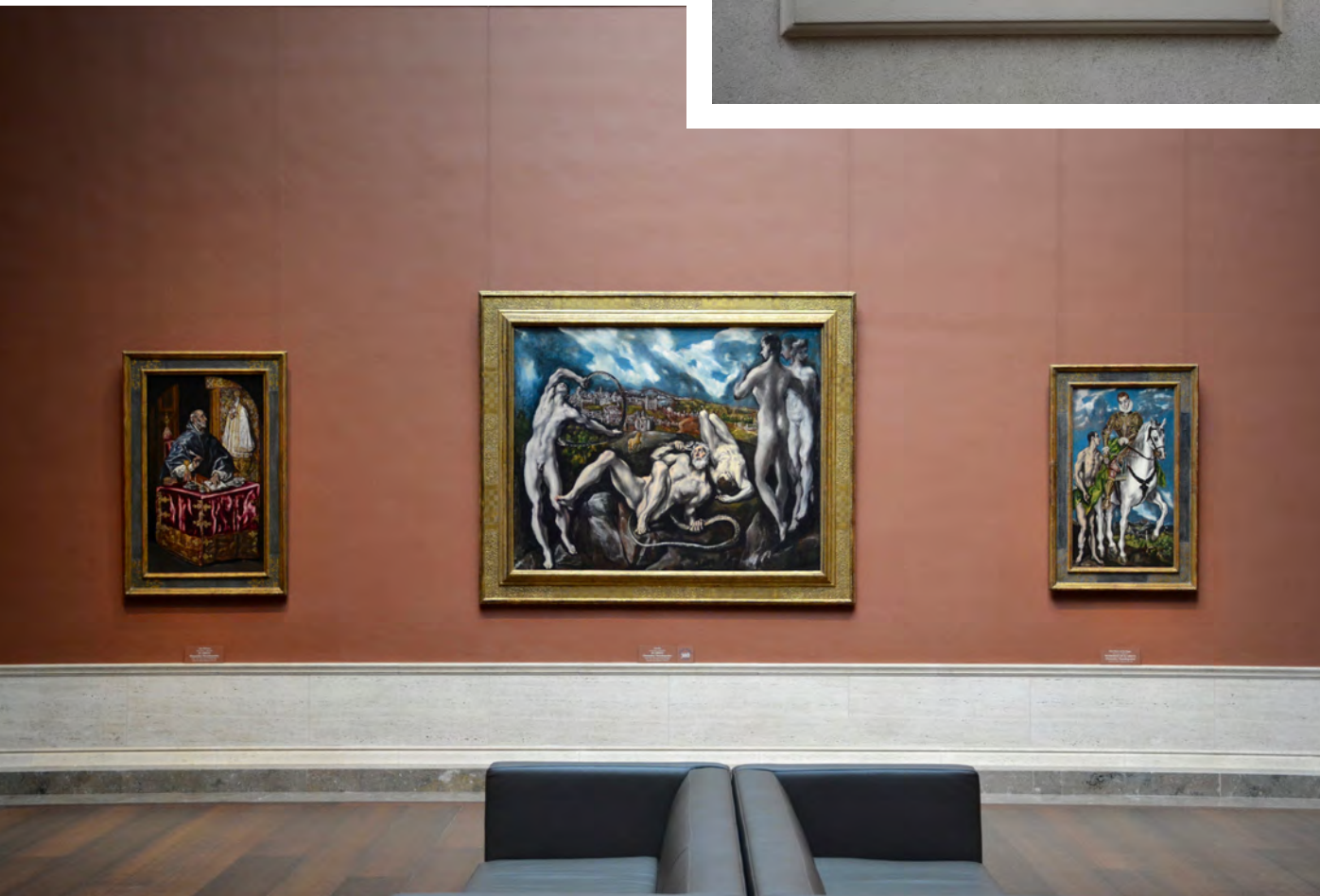
IV. Arlington National Cemetery

12. Spanish American War Memorials

Arlington, Virginia

In March 1901, Mrs. Winifred Lee Lyster, Chair of the Executive Committee of the Spanish War Memorial and Marker, requested permission to build a memorial to commemorate the Spanish American War at Arlington National Cemetery. On May 21, 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt inaugurated and presented the monument. Approximately 50 feet tall, it is in the form of a Corinthian column made of Barre granite. Mounted on the column is a sphere of Quincy granite, topped by a bronze eagle. There are four guns mounted on the rear of the monument; the two outer guns are captured Spanish bronze cannons and the two inner guns from the U.S. Navy.

Arlington Cemetery is also home to the USS Maine Memorial, bearing the mast from the USS Maine itself, which sunk in Havana Harbor, Cuba, on February 15, 1898. The Maine Mast Monument is named after Admiral Charles Dwight Sigsbee, who was the ship's captain at the time of its loss. The remains brought to Arlington for burial are in Section 24, just north of the monument. On the south side of the monument, there are two bronze Spanish cannons that were captured.



V. Museums

13. National Gallery of Art

 *Constitution Avenue, NW between 3rd Street and 9th Street*

The National Gallery of Art in Washington holds Spanish art spanning from the era of Queen Isabella and King Ferdinand to the 20th century, with more than 90 Spanish artists displayed on its walls. In its 16th century collection, the National Gallery has various works by El Greco, such as *Laocoön* and *Saint Martin and the Beggar*. Following the intensity of Spanish spirituality, there is a chronological change in the new realism of 17th century painting with Jusepe de Ribera's *Martyrdom of Saint Bartholomew*, Bartolomé Esteban Murillo's *The Return on the Prodigal Son*, Diego Velázquez's *Portrait of a Young Man*, or Francisco de Zurbarán's *Saint Lucy*. The gallery also holds several paintings from the great Francisco de Goya (1746-1828) such as *The Marquesa de Ponteijos* and the portraits of Bartolomé Sureda and his wife Thérèse Louise de Sureda.

The East Building of the National Gallery focuses on contemporary art. Some of the Spanish art exhibited includes Pablo Picasso's *Family of Saltimbanques*, Joan Miró's *La Masia (The Farm)*, and Salvador Dalí's *The Sacrament of the Last Supper*.

A sculpture by Joan Miró – *Personnage Gothique* – located in the National Gallery of Art Sculpture Garden embodies the Spanish artist's lifelong concern with imaginative imagery. It is one of his largest sculptures and is part of his surrealist vision as an artist.



PABLO PICASSO

Spanish, 1881–1973

Head of a Woman (Fernande)

model 1909, cast before 1932
bronze

Patrons' Permanent Fund
and Gift of Mitchell P. Rales 2002.1.1

14. Philips Collection

 1600 21st Street, NW

The Phillips Collection, considered to be America's first museum of modern art, offers a very interesting variety of art pieces. Within its collection, it has works by Goya, El Greco, and Tàpies, with various pieces by Picasso and Miró currently on display.

15. Hirshhorn Museum

 Independence Avenue and 7th Street, SW

The Hirshhorn National Museum explores art and artists in a very innovative way. From groundbreaking exhibitions to performances, this museum is unique. As part of its world-class collection, the museum has exhibited many Spanish works, including many by Picasso and Miró.

16. The Kreeger Museum

 2401 Foxhall Road, NW

Another museum with a great emphasis on Spanish art is the Kreeger Museum. Located just across the Residence of the Ambassador of Spain, the Museum has a collection of prints by Joan Miró called *El vol de l'alosa* (*The Flight of the Lark*) and around 10 Picasso paintings as part of its permanent collection.

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