

*Mr. Cornell
Please study &
report JN*

SUBJECT MATTER OF THE PROPOSED MURAL DECORATIONS BY
DIEGO RIVERA FOR THE RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA
BUILDING IN THE ROCKEFELLER CENTRE, NEW YORK CITY.

On the side where Brangwyn is to depict the development of the Ethical Relations of Mankind, my painting will show as the culmination of this evolution, human intelligence in possession of the Forces of Nature, expressed by the lightning striking off the hand of Jupiter and being transformed into useful electricity that helps to cure man's ills, unites men through Radio and Television, and furnishes them with Light and Motive Power. Below, the Man of Science presents the scale of Natural Evolution, the understanding of which replaces the Superstitions of the past. This is the Frontier of Ethical Evolution.

On the side where Sert is to represent the development of the Technical Power of Man, my panel will show the Workers arriving at a true understanding of their rights regarding the means of production, which has resulted in the planning of the liquidation of Tyranny, personified by a crumbling statue of Caesar whose head has fallen to the ground. It will also show the Workers of the Cities and the Country inheriting the Earth. This is expressed by the placing of the hands of the producers in the gesture of possession over a map of the world resting on sheaves of wheat supported by a dynamo, expressive of Agricultural Production supported by Machinery and Scientific Technique - the result of the evolution of the methods of production. This is the Frontier of Material Development.

The main plastic function of the central panel is to express the axis of the Building, its loftiness, and the ascending echelon of its lateral masses. For this, color will be employed in the centre of the composition merging laterally with the general clair-obscuré.

In the centre, the telescope brings to the vision and understanding of man the most distant celestial bodies. The microscope makes visible and comprehensible to man infinitesimal living organisms, connecting atoms and cells with the astral system. Exactly in the median line, the cosmic energy received by two antennae is conducted to the machinery controlled by the Worker, where it is transformed into productive energy.

~~The Worker gives his right hand to the Peasant who questions him, and with his left hand, takes the hand of the sick and wounded Soldier, the victim of War, leading him to the New Road.~~ On the right of ~~the central group~~, the Mothers, and on the left, the Teachers, watch over the development of the New Generation, which is protected by the work of the Scientists. Above, on the right, the Cinematograph shows a group of young women in the enjoyment of health-Sports, and on the left it shows a group of unemployed workmen in the bread-line. Above this group, the Television gives an image of War, as in the case of unemployment, the result of the evolution of Technical Power unaccompanied by a corresponding Ethical Development. On the opposite side, above the representation of the joys derived from Sports, the same Television brings the image of a Popular Movement, the result of high aspirations created by Ethical Development but unsuccessful without an accompanying parallel material development of Technical Power and Industrial Organisation, either already existing or created by the movement itself.

left lower side

the union of

In the ~~centre~~, ~~is~~ expressed ~~by his triple aspect~~, the Peasant who develops from the Earth the products which are the origin and base of all the riches of Mankind, the Worker of the Cities who transforms and distributes the raw materials given by the Earth, and the Soldier who, under the Ethical Force that produces martyrs in religions and wars, represents Sacrifice. Man, represented by ~~these three figures~~, looks with uncertainty but with hope towards a future, more complete balance between the Technical and Ethical development of Mankind necessary to a New, more Humane and Logical Order.

in the center
The skilled worker

Dress Rivers