

Patriotism

"Patriotism shows a typical citizen leaning on his plow, a symbol of every man's usual work, which he leaves to take up the sword for the defense of his country," wrote sculptor Lee Lawrie of his carved marble relief over the east entrance in the Senate Chamber. In this 1951 letter to Architect of the Capitol David Lynn, Lawrie added: "The strident eagle symbolizes vigilance and preparedness."

The relief of *Patriotism* was carved on location in the U.S. Capitol in 1950, during the remodeling of the Senate Chamber. The piece was one of three sculptural panels designed for the Chamber by Maryland artist Lee Lawrie, who supervised their completion based on his models. *Patriotism* was carved by Louis Milione of Philadelphia.

Lawrie, who was born in Germany but moved to the United States at a young age, executed more than 300 sculptural commissions in his lifetime. Lawrie's marble reliefs of *Courage* (p. 86) and *Wisdom* (p. 432) are also located in the Senate Chamber.



Patriotism

Lee Oscar Lawrie (1877-1963)

Marble, modeled and carved 1950

33 x 68½ inches (83.8 x 174 cm)

Unsigned

Commissioned by the Architect of the Capitol, 1950

Accepted by the Architect of the Capitol, 1950

Cat. no. 25.00009

