U.S. Capitol Historic Art

Capitol Building known as ‘Capitol Hill’ was constructed in 1793 and since that time a lot of additional buildings were built around it (Architect of the Capitol, n.d.). In this essay, an attempt to analyze the paintings of Rotunda pointing at the Apotheosis of Washington is made, considering statues that represent California, and at the same time pondering who else could represent California and what qualities are typical for a great person.

U.S. Capitol Rotunda is a room decorated with historical paintings and used for special ceremonies. In these paintings a strong religious theme is overlooked, some paintings depict Revolutionary era but all of them have the same idea – liberty and independence of America. The eye of the Capitol is the Apotheosis of Washington, George Washington’s rising toward the heaven and becoming god are shown there.

Capitol can also be called a home of statues. In National Statuary Hall there are 100 statues that symbolize 50 states. Each statue depicts a particular person who played an important role in the history of a state. California is presented by 2 statues of Father Junipero Serra and Thomas Star King. But in 2006 California asked to replace King’s statue in favor of Ronald Reagan’s one and in 2009 it has been done. To my mind, these people deserve to represent California State, because Father Junipero Serra was one of the most significant missionaries in the New World and Ronald Reagan was the only governor in California that had served as the President of the United States. If I am to choose another 2 persons to represent California, I would pick Richard Nixon as he was the only native Californian ever elected to the presidency and Ben Nighthorse Campbell, because he was born in California and was the first Native American who served in the US Senate. For representing any state, people surely choose someone great, who has served in favor of their state or has shown it in the best light. Only strong and responsible people are able to become really famous. A person who is intelligent, organized, diplomatic, honest, courageous, charismatic, persistent and hardworking is worth to be named a great person.
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