GIACOMO MANZU: Studies for "The Portal of Death"

March 18 - April 13, 1969

Checklist

Death of the Virgin (I). (1962)
Bronze
34 x 16 1/2"

Death of Christ. (1962)
Bronze
29 x 15"

The main change in the final version is in the different position of the body of Christ.

Death of Abel. (1963)
Bronze
35 3/4 x 23 1/4"

The composition, depicting mankind's first murder, was slightly altered in the final version.

Death of Saint Joseph. (1963)
Bronze
38 x 25 3/4"

The flowers on the staff were added when Pope John XXIII died. In the final version, the date of the death of the Pope -- 3-VI-63 -- is incised on this panel.

Death by Violence (II). (1963)
Bronze
37 1/2 x 26"

There are small changes between this study and the final version, particularly in the figure of the horrified woman spectator. The representation is said to have been prompted by the death of a partisan during the war.

Death of Pope John XXIII. (1963)
Bronze
38 1/2 x 26"

Manzù created the relief after the death of the Pontiff, discarding Death in Water originally planned for this position.

Death of Saint Stephen (II). 196-
Bronze
37 1/2 x 26"

The death of the first Christian martyr corresponds to the death of Abel, the first victim of murder. The date VI-63 commemorates the death of Pope John XXIII. (The change may have been made because "Guiseppe" was both the middle name of the Pope and the given name of Manzù's friend, Monsignor De Luca, to whom the Portal of Death is dedicated.)

(more)
The reformer Gregorius personifies those who are persecuted for their faith. The first sketch was inscribed, with the last words attributed to him: "I have loved justice and hated herefore I die in exile."

**Death in Space.** (Bronze 37 x 25"

**Death on Earth.** (Bronze 35 x 25"

**Opening of the Sec Council. (1962)** (Detail of Frieze de of Portal) Bronze 28 x 25"

The African prelate is here shown kissing the Pontiff's ring. He is the first Negro Cardinal of s and named by John XXIII in 1960.