

Karl Friedrich Schinkel, Design for a Monument to Arminius (c. 1814)

Abstract

After the defeat of Napoleon, nationalist fervor in Germany prompted artists and intellectuals to glorify ancient “Germanic” heroes like Hermann the Cheruscan (better known by his Romanized name, Arminius), legendary victor over the Romans in the Battle of the Teutoburg Forest in 9 CE. This design is from the Prussian architect and city planner Karl Friedrich Schinkel (1781-1841), who was instrumental in turning Berlin into an impressive capital city after the Napoleonic Wars. While Schinkel’s monument was never built, a famous monument to Arminius was eventually constructed near Detmold between 1838 and 1875, paid for by donations from patriotic Germans.

Source



Source: Karl Friedrich Schinkel, Monument for Hermann the Cheruscan, chalk on paper, c. 1814. Staatliche Museen Berlin Kupferstichkabinett. Photo: Wolfram Büttner. bpk-Bildagentur image no. 70388068. For rights inquiries, please contact Art Resource at requests@artres.com (North America) or bpk-Bildagentur at kontakt@bpk-bildagentur.de (for all other countries).

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Recommended Citation: Karl Friedrich Schinkel, Design for a Monument to Arminius (c. 1814),

published in: German History in Documents and Images,
<<https://germanhistorydocs.org/en/the-holy-roman-empire-1648-1815/ghdi:image-5294>> [July 16,
2024].