

Detroit Industry Murals Fact Sheet

- Created by Mexican artist Diego Rivera from 1932-1933.
 - Fresco cycle consisting of twenty-seven panels depicting the Ford Motor Company surrounding Rivera Court at the Detroit Institute of Arts
 - Considered by Rivera to be his most successful work
- The themes established on the east wall are continued on the west wall, where the technologies of the air (aviation) and water (shipping and pleasure boating) are represented in the upper panels.
- The half-face/half-skull in the central monochrome panel symbolizes both the coexistence of life and death as well as humanity's spiritual and physical aspects, while the star symbolizes aspirations and hope for civilization.
 - Introduces additional major theme of the cycle – the dual qualities of human beings, nature, and technology.
- Vertical panels on each side of the west entrance to the court introduce the automobile industry theme through the representation of Power House No. 1, the energy source for the Rouge complex.
- Provenance
 - 1933-present, gift to the Detroit Institute of Arts (Detroit, Michigan, USA)
- Credit Line for Reproduction:
 - Diego M. Rivera, Detroit Industry Murals, 1932-1933, frescoes. Detroit Institute of Arts, Gift of Edsel B. Ford, 33.10.