

From Vignette to Canvas: The Coronation of Josephine by Napoleon
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The Coronation of Josephine by Napoleon is a three-dimensional vignette given to the Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts, and it portrays tiny wooden figures positioned in lifelike postures believed to have been used by Jacques -Louis Davis' in the creation of his painting. The size of the vignette is about 40" wide and 24" tall, and it is believed that the figurines were created back in the 19th century. During the coronation ceremony Napoleon crowned himself and his wife Josephine, when at the time it was politically appropriate for the Pope to perform the coronation. The coronation of Josephine was significant because she became the first empress of France, and this essay will talk about the sensitive nature of the coronation, the significance of Josephine's coronation, and whether the painting followed the vignette.

How did Napoleon become such a significant figure? At a young age Napoleon demonstrated his interest and mastery of the art of using artillery in warfare, and after a year of attending military school Napoleon received the title of Second Lieutenant of artillery. His skills in artillery allowed him to excel in fighting with the Republic during the French Revolution and in other various wars, eventually earning him the rank of General. Following the French Revolution, Napoleon gained command of the French army in Italy, which allowed him to lead his men into various victories including the defeat of the Austrians and the Treaty of Campo Formio. Napoleon's popularity allowed him to become the First Consul, and in 1801 Napoleon was able to end the quarrel between France and the Roman Catholic Church. Three years later Napoleon crowned himself Emperor and made Josephine Empress of France in an extravagant coronation ceremony. Several important people attended the ceremony including Pope Pius VII,

came and posed individually for the painting. Davi

liberty. Napoleon's pursuit of the truth and liberty is what led him to his greatest achievements in his life starting with the French Revolution. Napoleon is a true demonstrator that anything can be achieved in life as long as there is a purpose.

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