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Famed Muralist to Create New Works in Downtown

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Kent Twitchell Gets Commission for Three Murals in Bob Hope Patriotic Hall

by Richard Guzmán, City Editor

Published: Monday, March 1, 2010 5:38 PM PST

DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES - Muralist Kent Twitchell will once again put his stamp on Downtown, with a trio of murals at the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall. It marks a reversal of fortune for the artist who several years ago saw one of his most famous creations destroyed.

According to the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Twitchell's murals will be painted inside the 1926 Patriotic Hall, at 1816 S. Figueroa St., which is undergoing renovations. The works will celebrate the murals by Helen Lundeberg, which were painted at the Hall in 1942 and removed in the 1970s and later lost, according to the Arts Commission website.

The Twitchell murals were commissioned under the Los Angeles County's Civic Art Program.

Born in 1942, Twitchell, a U.S. Air force veteran, is known for his massive photo-realistic murals of American icons that he has created throughout the city. He is responsible for the Downtown *Harbor Freeway Overture* mural which depicts several members of the Los Angeles Chamber Orchestra.

In 2006 Twitchell's 70-foot-tall *Ed Ruscha Monument* was painted over when the YWCA of Greater Los Angeles was readying the building at 1031 S. Hill St. for a new YWCA Job Corps Center.

Twitchell later won a \$1.1 million settlement with the federal government and 12 other defendants, including the YWCA of Greater Los Angeles.

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