ARTISTS IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION OF WIDENER UNIVERSITY

Biographical Notes

CORNoyer, PAUL (1864-1923)
After the Rain
(other title: City View)
oil on canvas, 32" x 36"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and
Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Cornoyer was born in St. Louis, Missouri. He was a pupil of
Lefebvre, Constant and Louis Blanc in Paris. His work is in the
collections of the Brooklyn Institute Museum; Art Association,
Dallas, Texas; St. Louis Art Museum, and the Newark Art Association.

Dali, Salvador (1904-    )
The Quest
hand-colored aquatint etching, 19 1/2" x 22"
224/300, signed lower right
Gift of Dr. Richard M. Siebold

Dali was born in Figueras, near Barcelona. The son of a
lawyer and much doted on by his mother, Salvador was a hyper-nervous
child. Barcelona, at the end of WWI, was influenced by Italian and
French art, and Dali encountered, successively, impressionism,
pointillism, and futurism, before he went to the Academy of Fine
Arts, Madrid, in 1921. He followed the normal academic training in
Madrid, but more important for his development was the discovery of
Freud, and his friendship with the Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca.
Between 1925 and 1927 he explored several styles from the cubism of
Picasso and Juan Gris to the realism of Vermeer. In 1928 he visited
Paris and met the surrealists; in 1929 he moved there and married
Gala Eluard, who has been the inspiration, and the model, for many
of his paintings and poems. In his first fantastic paintings he
introduced the microscopic realism of his developed style. He sought
to create in his art a specific documentation of Freudian theories
applied to his own inner world.

In 1941 came a transition in Dali's career. The apostle of the
irrational announced his determination to "become classic," and since
1950 his principal works have been devoted to Christian religious
art exalting the mystery of Christ and the Mass. Large examples now
hang in the National Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C. and New York's
Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Despite the controversy surrounding Dali - the impossible objects,
nightmarish films, eccentric behaviour - he is still an artist of
immense talent and imagination.
DAVIS, CHARLES H. (1856-1933)

Over the Hills
oil on canvas, 40" x 50"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and
Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Charles H. Davis was born in Amesbury, Massachusetts. He studied privately with O. Grundeman in Boston from 1876 to 1879. In 1880, like many artists of his generation, Davis went to France where he studied at the Académie Julian in Paris until 1881. He spent the next decade painting independently in France where he was undoubtedly brought into contact with the Impressionists. When he returned to the United States in 1891, he chose to settle in his native New England. He was elected to the National Academy of Design in 1906. His awards for painting include a Gold Medal, American Art Association, New York, 1886; Silver Medal, Exposition Universelle, Paris, 1889; Palmer Prize, Art Institute of Chicago, 1890, and the Lippincott Prize, Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia, 1901. He died in Mystic, Connecticut in 1933.

DIODA, ADOLPH (1915- )

Bull, 1959
sandstone, 12" x 17"
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Meyer Potamkin

Adolph Dioda was born in 1915 in Aliquippa, Pennsylvania. He has studied at the Cleveland School of Art, Cleveland, Ohio; the Art Students League, New York City; the Barnes Foundation, Merion, Pennsylvania; the Art School of the Society of Arts and Crafts, Detroit, Michigan; and at the Hobart Technical Society with Richard Stankiewicz.

Mr. Dioda's work has been included in numerous exhibitions and he has received many awards. His work is in private collections and in the permanent collections of the Philadelphia Museum of Art; Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh; Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, Philadelphia; Westmoreland County Museum of Art, Greensburg, Penn.; and the San Francisco Museum of Art, San Francisco, Calif. He has been a lecturer or instructor in sculpture at numerous Philadelphia and suburban area schools including Tyler School of Art, Temple University; Philadelphia Museum of Art; Haverford College, and the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts.

FARLEY, RICHARD BLOSSOM (1875-1954)

Incoming Mist, 1918
(other title: New Jersey Coast)
oil on canvas, 26" x 45"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and
Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Farley was born in Poultney, Vermont on October 24, 1875. He was a pupil of William Merritt Chase, Cecilia Beaux and James McNeil Whistler. A portrait and landscape painter, he was a member of the Philadelphia Sketch Club, Allied Artists of America and the Salmagundi Club. His awards included a Pennsylvania Academy of
Fine Arts Fellowship Prize, 1912; Gold Medal, Philadelphia Sketch Club, 1912; Silver Medal, Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, 1915. His work is in the collections of the Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.; Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, Philadelphia; and the Reading Museum, Reading, Pennsylvania. He lived at 1520 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

INNESS, GEORGE (1825-1894)

Woodland Scene
oil on canvas, 25" x 34"
Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Milton B. Parker

George Inness was born on a farm near Newburgh, New York, but grew up in New York City and near Newark, New Jersey. In 1841, he was apprenticed to Sherman and Smith, map engravers of New York City, but his interest soon turned to painting. He exhibited for the first time at the National Academy in 1844 and the following year at the American Art-Union. Though largely self-taught, in 1846 he studied briefly under Regis F. Gagnoux of Brooklyn. The following year he made the first of several trips to Europe. During the 1860's he lived in Medfield, Massachusetts and Perth Amboy, New Jersey. He was represented in the American Art section of the Paris Exposition of 1867 and elected Academician National Academy of Design, 1868. He painted in Rome, Paris, and Barbizon between 1870-74; and thereafter spent most of his time in New York City and Montclair, New Jersey. He died on August 3, 1894, during a visit at Bridge of Allan, Scotland.

ICART, LOUIS (1888-1950)

Two Women Before a Screen
colored etching, 16" x 19"
226/500, signed lower right
Gift of Colonel Joseph W. Koch

Louis Icart was born in Toulouse, France. He was a self-taught artist who at 17 years of age sold his first drawings to illustrated reviews, and held his first exhibition at age 20. He made several trips to the United States. His prints were regarded as status symbols here during the 1920s and 1930s and adorned the walls of many Beverly Hills mansions. The New York Graphic Society sponsored Icart prints in the United States and when a craze developed for his prints a Louis Icart Society was founded. Icart spent more than 40 years living and working in Paris until his death in 1950.

LIE, JONAS (1880-1940)

Winter Morning, c. 1917
oil on canvas, 50" x 60"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Jonas Lie was born in Moss, Norway. He came to the United States in 1893 and attended the Ethical Culture School from which he graduated in 1897. Soon after graduating he went to work as a designer of cotton fabric patterns and attended night classes in
New York at the National Academy of Design and the Art Students League. In 1906 he returned to Europe and was strongly influenced by Monet. He came back to the United States and in 1912 he became an associate member of the National Academy. He made a trip to Central America where he recorded the construction of the Panama Canal in a series of fifteen large paintings, thirteen of which are now at the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York. He was also one of the organizers of the Armory Show, 1913. In 1919, Lie led a revolt with several other artists protesting the Academy's selection procedures. As an alternative, they established a group called The American Painters, Sculptors and Gravers and accepted the artists who had been rejected by the Academy. Among those not accepted by the Academy but taken in by Lie and his associates were John Sloan, George Luks and Rockwell Kent. Ironically, Lie continued to be associated with the Academy. He was made a full member in 1925 and from 1934 to 1939 served as the Academy's president. He died in New York City in 1940.

NOYES, G. LOFTUS (1864-1954)
Marshes
oil on canvas, 33" x 35"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and
Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Noyes was born in Canada and studied in Paris with Courtois, Rixen, Le Blanc and Delance. He was a member of the Boston Art Club and was awarded a Silver Medal at the Panama-Pacific Exposition, San Francisco, 1915. His work is in the collections of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston; Des Moines Art Museum and the Utah State Museum.

REDFIELD, EDWARD WILLIS (1869-1965)
The River In Winter, 1916
oil on canvas, 38" x 50"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and
Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Redfield was born on December 18, 1869 in Bridgeville, Delaware. His art training included classes in Camden, New Jersey and at the Spring Garden Institute. He studied at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts from 1885-1889. When Redfield finished his studies at the Academy, his father agreed to finance a trip to Europe. He and his friends, Charles Grafly and Robert Henri, studied at the Julian Academy, Paris, and Redfield also entered classes at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. In 1892 he married Elise Deligant. The Redfields moved to a studio-house on the Delaware River at Center Bridge, Pennsylvania where he became noted for his large snow scenes and acknowledged as the central figure in the growing school of Pennsylvania Impressionist landscape painting. In 1953 Redfield stopped painting. His method of painting outdoors in the winter was becoming too hard on him (he was 84 years old in 1953). He also felt that he was repeating himself and was not painting as well as he had been. For that reason, in his later years, he tried his hand at early American crafts, making painted chests, toleware trays and hooked rugs. Except for one year in Pittsburgh, 1919, he lived at Center Bridge, Bucks County, until his death on October 19, 1965.
SPENCER, ROBERT (1879-1931)
Grey Mills, c. 1915
oil on canvas, 30" x 36"
Gift of A. Carson Simpson and
Mrs. Peggy Simpson Carpenter

Robert Spencer was born in Harvard, Nebraska. His family moved several times before settling in Yonkers, New York where he completed high school in 1899. After completing high school he began attending classes at the National Academy of Design in New York. From 1903-1905, Spencer attended classes at the New York School of Art where his instructors included William Merritt Chase and probably Robert Henri. From 1906 through 1910, Robert Spencer lived in different towns near the Delaware River, eventually residing in New Hope, Pennsylvania where he became an important member of the Pennsylvania Impressionist group whose leader was Edward Willis Redfield.

Spencer specialized in scenes of rural mills and tenements and dedicated his art to the day to day life of the working class. The following is taken from an exhibition catalogue written by Thomas Folk, Guest Curator for Robert Spencer: Impressionist of Working Class Life (New Jersey State Museum, Trenton, June 18-August 28, 1983).

Grey Mills is one of the finest examples in Spencer's mill series. It represents, as do most of Spencer's mill paintings, the William Maris Cotton Mill and Richard Heath's grist mill in New Hope, Pennsylvania. The building to the viewer's right is William Maris' silk mill. It was built in about 1813 by Maris. Originally, it was intended for use as a cotton yarn mill, but in 1896, Simpson and Company converted it into a silk weaving mill.

WYETH, NEWELL CONVERS (N.C.) (1882-1945)
If Christ Came to Sixth Avenue
oil on canvas, 26 1/2" x 25"
Illustration, American Magazine, December 1914
Purchase

N.C. Wyeth was born in Massachusetts. His early art training was at the Massachusetts Normal Art School and the Eric Pape School of Art in Boston. Two of his friends from the Eric Pape School, Clifford Ashley and Henry Peck, were studying with Howard Pyle in Wilmington, Delaware. They wrote such glowing reports that Wyeth applied for an interview with Mr. Pyle and was accepted as a student in the Howard Pyle School of Art. After starting his studies with Pyle, N.C. decided that he wanted to see the West. He took a trip to a Colorado ranch and tried his hand at cattle-raising. He also took a job as a mail-riding in New Mexico, all the while gathering information for the illustrations he would become famous for. In 1906, Wyeth married Carolyn Bockius and the couple settled in Chadds Ford, Pennsylvania. He built a large studio on the hill behind his house and started to work on the paintings that illustrated such classics as Kidnapped, Robin Hood, The Last of the Mohicans,
Robinson Crusoe and many more. He also illustrated numerous stories for magazines such as Collier's, Harper's, Saturday Evening Post, American, Ladie's Home Journal, Scribner's and Country Gentleman. Three of the Wyeth's five children became artists and studied with their father in his studio. His son Andrew, his daughter Carolyn, and his grandson Jamie still live and work near Chadds Ford today.

On October 19, 1945, N.C. Wyeth was killed when his car stalled in the path of a freight train at a grade crossing near his home.

New Acquisition

STUART, ALEXANDER CHARLES (1831-1898)

Storm Off Coast of Delaware
oil on canvas, 22" x 36"
Gift of Fine Arts Council

Alexander Stuart was born in Scotland in 1831. He received his early schooling in Glasgow, and later attended the Rugby School, England. He studied at the University of Edinburgh, receiving one degree in draftsmanship and one in medicine.

Afterwards, Stuart traveled extensively with the British Royal Navy, visiting Australia and all parts of Europe. In 1860 he came to the United States to join the Union Navy. When the Civil War ended, he was employed by the Harlan and Hollingsworth Company in Wilmington. He was a marine draftsman for this company, painting pictorial records of the vessels built by Harlan and Hollingsworth.

A member of the Philadelphia Society of Artists, his work was exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in 1881. Stuart's landscapes and seascapes are now among private collections and museums in the Philadelphia and Wilmington areas.

He spent his later years painting in and around Philadelphia and Chester until his death in August, 1898. Stuart is buried in Chester Rural Cemetery.