



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

Lizbeth C. Hunter (1868-1948)

Lizbeth Clifton Hunter was born in Gilroy, California to Lavinia and Marshall E. Hunter, a watchmaker and Civil War Veteran. Hunter was educated in Oakland's public high school¹ before moving east where she studied under artist Henry B. Snell (1858-1943).

At the turn of the 20th century Hunter resided in New York City. She began exhibiting regularly and was lauded for her floral works. In 1901, she contributed *Japanese Poppies* to the 12th Annual Exhibition of the Society of Woman Painters held at Clausen's Gallery. The *New York Times* said the work was painted, "...with all the sensitive love of flowers we expect in women."² In 1904, the *New York Times* noted that Hunter's paintings depicting nasturtiums and poppies in the 15th Annual Exhibition of the New York Water Color Club "are particularly good..."

In 1906, Hunter exhibited alongside notable artists Childe Hassam, William Trost Richards and Charles Warren Eaton at the annual exhibition of the Baltimore Watercolor Club. Her paintings of *Nasturtiums* and *Zinnias and Violin* caught the attention of the art critic for the *Baltimore Sun* who declared Hunter, "The apostle of "Still Life" and "Flowers" par excellence..."³ In 1907, Hunter exhibited at the annual exhibition of the Nebraska Art Association. The critic for the *Nebraska State Journal* noted Hunter's, "...marked advance in technique and in rendering of light and atmosphere." The critic further noted that Hunter's painting entitled *Across the Harbor at Polperro*, "radiates with sunlight and suggests that she may have been a pupil of Childe Hassam." The critic deemed Hunter's work worthy of study by aspiring landscapists.⁴

In 1908, the 20th Century Club held an exhibit of Hunter's pastels and watercolors many of which were painted in Europe. The critic for the *Boston Globe* described Hunter's small panel paintings of floral subjects as, "...delicious in their color and freshness."⁵ The same year, Hunter's watercolors were featured in a one-person exhibit at Ripley's Galleries. The critic for the *Hartford Courant* declared, "Every lover of flowers should see Miss Hunter's exhibit..." In 1909, the Cosmos Club held an exhibition of Hunter's watercolors and pastels.⁶ The same year, Hunter contributed to the 15th Annual Exhibition of the Baltimore Watercolor Club held at the

¹ "Promotions," *Oakland Tribune* (Oakland, California), Fri, May 29, 1885, 2.

² "Woman's Art Club," *New York Times* (New York, New York), Thu, Apr 25, 1901, 9.

³ "Water Colors on View," *Baltimore Sun* (Baltimore, Maryland), Fri, Feb 23, 1906, 9.

⁴ "Effective Landscapes," *Nebraska State Journal* (Lincoln, Nebraska), Fri, May 3, 1907, 6.

⁵ "Art and Artists," *Boston Globe* (Boston, Massachusetts), Sun, Feb 23, 1908, 41.

⁶ "Exhibition of Watercolors and Pastels," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Sat, Oct 30, 1909, 10.



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Maryland Institute. The exhibit included artists Henry B. Snell, Childe Hassam, Hobart Nichols and others.⁷

In 1911, the Rhode Island School of Design held an exhibition of Hunter's pastels in the Waterman Galleries. The exhibited work included interiors prominent homes and gardens including the Larz Anderson residence in Washington D.C. and the garden at Weld in Brookline, Massachusetts. Many of the interior scenes were painted during Hunter's several weeks stay in Washington in the spring of 1910.⁸ In 1913, Hunter was included in a two-woman exhibition with artist Maud M. Mason (1867-1956) at the Atheneum Annex Gallery in Hartford.⁹

Hunter contributed regularly to annual exhibitions of the New York Watercolor Club; the American Watercolor Society; and the Philadelphia Watercolor Club. Her paintings were reproduced in color in *Country Life* magazine in 1919 and 1920.

Lizbeth Clifton Hunter died in 1948. She was 80 years old.

⁷ "Preparing for Art Exhibit," *Baltimore Sun* (Baltimore, Maryland), Tue, Feb 2, 1909, 9.

⁸ "News and Notes of Art and Artists," *Evening Star* (Washington, District of Columbia), Sat, Nov 11, 1911, 23.

⁹ "Exhibition of Paintings and Porcelains," *Hartford Courant* (Hartford, Connecticut), Sat, Mar 22, 1913, 18.