



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

THOMAS MORAN (1837-1926)

Born in Bolton, Lancashire, England into a family of weavers, Thomas Moran and his family immigrated to Philadelphia in 1844, when Moran was seven years old. While he received almost no formal art training, Moran was apprenticed to a Philadelphia-based wood engraver during his teens. He also studied with his older brother Edward, a marine and historical painter with whom he would eventually share a studio. During the 1860s, Moran traveled to Europe, where he was very much influenced by both the highly atmospheric landscapes of J. M. W. Turner and the tonalist approach of Jean-Baptiste-Camille Corot.

Thomas Moran is most celebrated for his paintings of the American West. He was invited to participate in Ferdinand V. Hayden's 1871 Geological Survey Expedition to the Yellowstone Territory and would make seven additional trips to the West over the course of the following twenty years. The oil and watercolor paintings that resulted from these journeys were tremendously admired and made the artist truly famous. Mount Moran in the Tetons and Moran Point in Yosemite are named in his honor.

Moran exhibited with the National Academy of Design, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts, the Art Institute of Chicago, and the Boston Art Club, and the Paris Salon. He was awarded medals at both the Centennial Exposition of 1876 and the Pan-American Exposition of 1901 and received a gold medal from the American Art Society in 1902. Today, examples of his work are in the collections of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Gallery of Art, Art Institute of Chicago, Philadelphia Museum of Art, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and the White House, to name just a few.