



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

Edith Marian Mann (1893-1967)

Edith Marian Mann was born in Philadelphia to Marian Widdis and William Horace Mann. Mann attended the Philadelphia School of Design for Women which was headed by American artist Emily Sartain (1841-1927). As a student in 1904, Mann's painting of daisies won third place and a prize of \$25 in the H.H. Battles award for flower paintings in oil.¹ The following year she was won first prize and received \$50 for her postcard design.² In 1905, Mann graduated with a diploma from the School of Design. During the commencement ceremony she was awarded the Alumnae European Fellowship which was considered one of the greatest honors bestowed by the school.³

In 1909, Mann's oil portrait of her grand-uncle Colonel William B. Mann (1816-1896) was presented to the Law Association in Philadelphia. Col. Mann was a prominent member of the Philadelphia bar and heavily involved in politics.⁴ The portrait which "[had] a striking likeness of Colonel Mann" was hung in a gilded frame in the Library of the Law Association in City Hall.⁵ In 1914, the artist exhibited three works at the Pennsylvania Academy for the 12th Annual Philadelphia Water Color Exhibition.⁶

In 1916, Mann's painting entitled *Sunny Road* was shown at the 111th Annual Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy.⁷ Three of her works were also displayed in the galleries of the Sketch Club and the Plastic Club during the Annual Exhibition of the Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy.⁸ Her painting entitled *Flowers* was sold during the exhibit.⁹ The following year Mann

¹ "Schools Exhibition Event Of Art Week," The Philadelphia Inquirer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Sun, May 29, 1904, P 28.

² "Prizes for Post Cards," The Philadelphia Inquirer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Sun, May 28, 1905, P 9.

³ "Art Students to Graduate," The Philadelphia Inquirer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Sun, May 21, 1905, P 36.

⁴ "William B. Mann School Dedication on Tuesday," The Philadelphia Inquirer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Sun, May 3, 1925, P 8.

⁵ "Law Association Plans To Honor Col. W.B. Mann," The Philadelphia Inquirer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Sun, Dec 5, 1909, P 1.

⁶ *Catalogue of the Twelfth Annual Philadelphia Water Color Exhibition* (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1914).

⁷ *Catalogue of the 111th Annual Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts*, (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1916).

⁸ *Catalogue of the Exhibitions Combined in the Plastic Club and the Sketch Club Galleries*, (Philadelphia: Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, 1916).

⁹ "Art Exhibit Sales Announced," The Philadelphia Inquirer (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania), Sun, Feb 27, 1916, P 2.



HAWTHORNE Fine Art

contributed *An Old House* and *Autumn Flowers* to the Exhibition of the Fellowship of the Pennsylvania Academy held at the Woman's club on Market Street.¹⁰ In 1918, Mann exhibited with other well-known artists at the Century club in Scranton, PA. A critic for the *Scranton Republican* declared, "[the exhibition] should be seen by everybody in Scranton, for there are too few good pictures where they may be gazed upon at will."¹¹

In 1925, at the dedication ceremony for the William B. Mann School in Philadelphia an oil portrait by Mann of her grand-uncle was presented to the school.

Edith Marian Mann died in 1967. She was 74 years old.

¹⁰ "Famous Art Works Exhibited Here," *The York Dispatch* (York, Pennsylvania), Thu, May 10, 1917, P 3.

¹¹ "Fine Paintings Are Being Shown," *The Scranton Republican* (Scranton, Pennsylvania), Wed, Mar 20, 1918, P 4.