



HAWTHORNE Fine Art

FELICIE WALDO HOWELL (1897-1968)

Red Cross Parade, NYC, 1917

Oil on board

12 x 14 inches

Signed and dated 1917, lower right

Felicie Waldo Howell, born in Honolulu, Hawaii in 1897, was a painter of oil and watercolor coastal landscapes, shore scenes, Impressionist figures in nature, interiors, and marine scenes. Howell's early work was often interiors, and then she turned to landscape, shore scenes, and marine subjects. She was also a teacher of painting at the New York School of Fine and Applied Art.

Her first husband, George Mixter, was a yachtsman, and many of her marine scenes were painted along the New England coast with him aboard their schooner, "Teragram," including a 1937 series of the America Cup Races.

By 1910, Howell had moved to Washington DC where she was living in her parents' household, according to the 1910 census. Her father Warren E. Howell was a Seventh Day Adventist missionary and educator. From 1910 to 1914, she studied at the Corcoran School of Art with E.C. Messer. Then she enrolled at the Philadelphia School of Design for Women in Pennsylvania and studied with Henry Snell.

She was a member of many art organizations and won many honors and awards. Howell belonged to the National Arts Club, New York Watercolor Club, Society of Painters of New York, and Painters and Sculptors Gallery Association in New York City, as well as the Concord Art Association, Massachusetts. In 1922, she became an Associate of the National Academy of Design in New York City, and in 1945, a full Member.

In 1916, Howell won a prize at an exhibition of the National Association of Women Painters and Sculptors, and another in 1919 at the Concord Art Association. The year 1921 was a big one for Howell in terms of winning prizes. She received a Hallgarten Prize at the National Academy of



HAWTHORNE Fine Art

Design; a silver medal at the Society of Washington (D.C.) Artists, and another at the Washington (D.C.) Watercolor Club; and the Peabody Prize at the Art Institute of Chicago, where she exhibited in nineteen annual exhibitions as well as the same number at the Pennsylvania Academy.



Parade of Red Cross Nurses Down Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y., 1917. Collection of New York State Archives, NYSA_A3045-78_5424.



Red Cross Workers Parade in New York City, Oct. 4, 1917. Collection of National Archives and Records Administration at College Park, MD.

In *Red Cross Parade, NYC*, Howell captures the vibrant colors and bustling energy of the massive spectacle of more than 15,000 women marching along Fifth Avenue on October 4, 1917 to honor the Red Cross members serving abroad during World War I and to encourage donations and recruit volunteers for the organization's war efforts. Dressed in their iconic white uniforms, nurses from Manhattan, Brooklyn, the Bronx, Staten Island, Westchester County, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Washington all marched in the parade. According to the New York City Police Department, an estimated 300,000 New Yorkers came out to watch this spectacle of patriotism. One of the most famous boulevards in America at the time, Fifth Avenue was used for preparedness campaigns even before the United States entered the War. Following the entry of the United States into World War I, New York City's Fifth Avenue had become the site of several parades that were used to rouse patriotism and support the war, which led to it becoming known as the "Avenue of the Allies." A second Red Cross parade was held in 1918, which attracted approximately 75,000 American participants.



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

Howell's work is in the collections of the National Gallery, Smithsonian Institution and Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., and in New York City at the National Arts Club and Metropolitan Museum of Art.

Sources include:

Jules and Nancy Heller, *North American Women Artists of the 20th Century*; Paul Sternberg Sr., *Art by American Women* Peter Falk, *Who Was Who in American Art*; Additional information provided by Marisa Bourgoïn, Corcoran Gallery of Art. Information provided by AskArt.com.
Red Cross Parade information provided by the New York State Archives.