



# HAWTHORNE

## Fine Art

### **Edith Alice Scott (1877-1978)**

Edith Alice Scott was born in 1877 in Malden, Massachusetts to Mary F. Dorety and William Scott, a manufacturer of machine tools. She was educated at local public schools including Medford's Washington Grammar where she graduated in 1892.<sup>1</sup> She received her high school diploma from the Edward Everett School in Boston in 1895.<sup>2</sup>

Scott began her formal artistic training at the Boston Museum School in 1897 where she studied under Edmund Tarbell, Frank W. Benson and Philip Leslie Hale. She received a diploma in the Life Class in 1901.<sup>3</sup> Scott continued her studies at the school receiving an honorable mention for the Sears Prize in the Portrait Class in 1902<sup>4</sup>, and an honorable mention for the Ayer Prize in 1904.<sup>5</sup>

Scott was a resident of Boston's Fenway Studio Building as early as 1907. Located in the neighborhood of Backbay, the light filled studio building was built to accommodate the needs of artists. Other tenants included Philip L. Hale (1865-1931), William M. Paxton (1869-1941), George L. Noyes (1864-1954), and Alice Stackpole (1867-1949). She continued to live and work at Fenway until the age of 100.<sup>6</sup>

In 1908, Scott contributed her *Portrait of Miss C.* to the 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts.<sup>7</sup> In 1917, Scott exhibited *The Peddler* at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Exhibition of the Provincetown Art Association. She exhibited a work entitled *In a Greenhouse* at the 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition of the Pennsylvania Academy in 1918.<sup>8</sup>

Scott was the only artist to paint a portrait from life of famed American aviator Amelia Earhart (1897-1937).<sup>9</sup> In 1938, Scott's portrait of Earhart was exhibited at the Ninth Annual Exhibition of New England Artists held at the Jordan Marsh Company Annex.<sup>10</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> "Medford Graduates," *The Boston Globe* (Boston, Massachusetts), Fri, Jun 24, 1892, 2.

<sup>2</sup> "Happy Scholars," *The Boston Globe* (Boston, Massachusetts), Mon, Jun 24, 1895, 5.

<sup>3</sup> "School of Drawing and Painting at the Museum of Fine Arts," (Museum of the Fine Arts: Boston, 1901) 17.

<sup>4</sup> "School of the Museum of Fine Arts: Twenty-Sixth Annual Report," (Alfred Musge & Son: Boston, 1902) 12.

<sup>5</sup> "School of the Museum of Fine Arts: Twenty-Eighth Annual Report," (Alfred Musge & Son: Boston, 1904) 11.

<sup>6</sup> "Boston's Ideal Art Colony by the Fens," *The Boston Globe* (Boston, Massachusetts), Sun, Nov 24, 1907, 58.

<sup>7</sup> "Catalogue of the 108<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition," (The Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts: Philadelphia, 1913) 84, 155.

<sup>8</sup> "Catalogue of the 113<sup>th</sup> Annual Exhibition, February 3 To March 24, 1918," (Pennsylvania Academy: Philadelphia, 1918) 18.

<sup>9</sup> "House Call," *The Boston Globe* (Boston, Massachusetts), Sun, May 28, 1978, 204.



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Edith A. Scott died in 1978 at the age of 101. Today, Scott's portrait of Amelia Earhart can be found in the collection of the National Portrait Gallery in Washington, D.C.

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<sup>10</sup> "2000 View N.E. Artists' Exhibition At Jordan's," *The Boston Globe* (Boston, Massachusetts), Mon, Apr 25, 1938, 4.