



# HAWTHORNE

## Fine Art

### **Annie Campbell (1862-1951)**

An artist and teacher, Annie Campbell was a founder of the Dayton Art Institute. She was born in West Virginia and raised in Dayton, Ohio. Her father, James A. Campbell, was the first superintendent of Dayton public schools.<sup>1</sup> He helped establish Van Cleve Park by purchasing a strip of land across from his home on Monument Avenue for the city with the stipulation that it would remain a park.<sup>2</sup>

Campbell was educated in Dayton public schools and at the Dayton Normal School. She began her career in 1881 as an assistant principal at the Huffman School. In 1898, she began teaching English at Steele High School. She took a two year leave of absence to study art at Chicago University and at Columbia University Teachers' College under artist Arthur Wesley Dow.<sup>3</sup> In 1906, she established the art department at Steele High School. Under Campbell's leadership, the department grew from 100 students to over 300.

While Campbell was working in education she was also building a career in art. In 1891, she exhibited in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Exhibition of the New York Watercolor Club held at the Fifth Avenue Art Galleries.<sup>4</sup> In 1904, Campbell contributed works to the Exhibition of Arts and Crafts held at Dayton's Fifth District School Building. The exhibit was comprised of Dayton area artists, student work from the Cincinnati Art Academy, paintings from the Cincinnati Art Museum, and work from artists in the cities of Boston and New York.<sup>5</sup>

Campbell was a founding member of the Dayton Art Association. Established in 1912, the association was the precursor to the Dayton Art Institute. Campbell was elected secretary at the inaugural meeting in Memorial Hall.<sup>6</sup> In 1914, she exhibited two watercolors with the

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<sup>1</sup> "Miss Annie Campbell, 90, Dies; Former Teacher In Dayton," *The Journal Herald* (Dayton, Ohio) Fri, Mar 30, 1951, 11.

<sup>2</sup> Rosamond McPherson, "Will these Early Dayton Homes Make Way for Development?," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio) Sun, Oct 14, 1945, 43.

<sup>3</sup> "Art Instructor at Steele Resigns After Long Work," *The Dayton Herald* (Dayton, Ohio) Fri, Jun 12, 1925, 32.

<sup>4</sup> *Catalogue of the Second Annual Exhibition of the New York Water Color Club* (New York: New York Water Color Club, 1891) 13.

<sup>5</sup> "An Exhibit of Arts and Crafts," *The Dayton Herald* (Dayton, Ohio) Tue, Apr 8, 1902, 7.

<sup>6</sup> Penelope Perrill, "Since Art Found a Home in Dayton," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Sun, Oct 26, 1919, 57.



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association beside fellow Daytonian artists George K. Compton, Otto W. Beck, and Hugo Froelich at Memorial Hall.<sup>7</sup>

In 1915, Campbell gave a lecture on the topic of 15<sup>th</sup> century Florentine painters in the auditorium of Steele High School. Campbell illustrated the lecture with slides she had made for the occasion as well as slides sent from the Metropolitan Museum of Art.<sup>8</sup> In 1916, Campbell contributed a drawing of St. Joseph's church to an exhibition of the Art Association.<sup>9</sup> In 1917, Campbell was secretary of the Dayton Art Association. During a meeting of the Woman's Club, she spoke on the topic of "Art in Dayton" and discussed the first painting acquired by the Art Association and the, "[hopes it] may form the nucleus of a collection at some distant date."<sup>10</sup> The painting referenced was a landscape by Chauncey F. Ryder which along with a work by Charles W. Hawthorne comprised the collection of the Dayton Art Association which bought a property in 1919 on East Monument Avenue that would later become the Dayton Art Institute.<sup>11</sup>

In 1918, Campbell along with artists Martha Shauer and Isabelle Woodall exhibited collage works during an exhibition at Memorial Hall. The artists studied the art of "cut out and pasted paper" under Ralph Johonnot in Chicago during the previous summer. Campbell also exhibited two landscape paintings.<sup>12</sup> In 1919, Campbell was elected trustee for three years and served as secretary of the Dayton Art Museum.<sup>13</sup> In 1920, an exhibition of Chinese and Japanese art at the museum was made possible by Campbell and several other Dayton women who loaned works from their personal collections.<sup>14</sup>

In 1925, Campbell retired from her position at Steel High School so that she could travel. In 1927, Campbell gave a lecture on "Amsterdam as an Art Center" sponsored by the Dayton Art Institute. Held at the Engineers club, the lecture was attended by women of the industrial,

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<sup>7</sup> "Art Exhibit has Many Fine Works by Local Talent," *The Dayton Herald* (Dayton, Ohio) Tue, Oct 6, 1914, 5.

<sup>8</sup> "Florentine Art Will Be Subject of Lecture by Miss Annie Campbell," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Sun, Dec 5, 1915, 16.

<sup>9</sup> "Art Exhibits Are Attracting Many," *The Dayton Herald* (Dayton, Ohio), Fri, May 5, 1916, 32.

<sup>10</sup> "Society," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Tue, Nov 13, 1917, 5.

<sup>11</sup> "Art and Artists," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Sun, Jan 12, 1919, 31.

<sup>12</sup> "Art Exhibit," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Fri, Jun 14, 1918, 15.

<sup>13</sup> "Arts Museum Holds Election; Plans Future," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Tue, Apr 29, 1919, 9.

<sup>14</sup> "Ironies of Nature Revealed by Artist," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Sun, May 9, 1920, 21.



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mercantile, and business clubs of the Y.M.C.A.<sup>15</sup> Campbell discussed Dutch masterpieces found in cities including London and Paris.<sup>16</sup>

Campbell was a member of the Dayton Woman's Club, a member and honorary chairman of the Dayton Society of Painters and Sculptors and served as a vice president and director of the Dayton Art Museum.<sup>17</sup>

Annie Campbell died at the age of 90 in 1951.

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<sup>15</sup> "Wind, Water, Work and Determination used by Holland," *The Dayton Herald* (Dayton, Ohio) · Tue, Feb 22, 1927, 9.

<sup>16</sup> "Art and Artists," *Dayton Daily News* (Dayton, Ohio), Sun, Feb 20, 1927, 36.

<sup>17</sup> "Miss Annie Campbell, 90, Dies; Former Teacher In Dayton," *The Journal Herald* (Dayton, Ohio), Fri, Mar 30, 1951, 11.