



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

OTTO BIERHALS (1879-1944)

Otto Bierhals was a painter, illustrator and painting instructor who was born in 1879 in Nürnberg, Bavaria, Germany, but his parents were both Americans. He lived the majority of his life in Tenafly, New Jersey and in Woodstock, New York.

Bierhals studied painting at Cooper Union; the National Academy of Design; the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, Philadelphia, in Paris and in Italy and with Herman Gröber in Munich. Although he was a proficient academic painter he preferred impressionism and worked energetically to create masterfully handled landscapes animated with figures. He was an active member of the Woodstock Artists Association and the Allied American Artists, New York City.

Bierhals exhibited at the American Association in Philadelphia, where he won a medal in 1900; the Monclair, NJ Museum of Art (where he was awarded a medal of distinction); the Ogunquit Art Center (prize, 1935); and with the Salons of America and the Society of Independent Artists.

Bierhals was an avid illustrator who earned a lucrative living working for Street & Smith magazines and McFadden Publications as a pulp illustrator. He died in 1944.?

Sources:

Who Was Who in American Art, volume 1, p. 313

Clark Marlor, *The Salons of America*

Woodstock Artists Association files

Biography Courtesy of Askart