



HAWTHORNE

Fine Art

ALFRED T. BRICHER (1837-1908)

Alfred T. Bricher was born to Elizabeth Muir and William Bricher on April 10, 1837, in Portsmouth New Hampshire, though he grew up and attended school in Newburyport, Massachusetts. By 1858, Bricher announced himself a professional painter, though he was mainly self-taught, and set up a studio for himself in Newburyport. Within a year, he had relocated to Boston.

Bricher's subtle and serene style classified him as a premier painter of seascapes and ranked him among such other notable luminists as Martin Johnson Heade (1819-1904)—with whom he shared a studio building in Boston—and John Frederick Kensett (1816-1872). Bricher was known especially for his coastal scenes painted in Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island and Long Island between 1870 and 1890. In 1868, Bricher moved with his new wife to New York City, where he exhibited for the first time at the National Academy of Design. As he gained a foothold in the New York art scene, Bricher exhibited regularly at the National Academy (elected an Associate in 1879), the American Society of Painters in Water Colors (of which he became a member in 1873), and the Brooklyn Art Association. During his lifetime, Bricher also exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts, The Art Institute of Chicago, the Boston Athenaeum, and the Boston Art Club, among others. Today, one can see paintings by Bricher at such institutions as the Metropolitan Museum of Art.