



# CLIFF HOUSE

MAINE

## THE GALLERY AT CLIFF HOUSE MAINE ARTIST BIOS

### CHARLES WOODBURY (1864-1940)

Born in Lynn, Massachusetts, Mr. Woodbury while a young undergraduate at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, became the youngest member of the Boston Art Club. From January to June 1891 he was a pupil of the Académie Julian in Paris, after which he went to Holland, where he studied the techniques of the modern Dutch painters. Upon his return to New England he settled in Boston for his winter studio and spent his summers in the small fishing village of Ogunquit, Maine. There he founded one of the most successful of the summer art colony schools where he was one of the most sought after teachers of his generation. Woodbury maintained a strong and consistent vision in his more than fifty years of professional life and became a master of compositions of the coast and sea. His many on-the-spot sketches and etchings produce a sense of motion through quick, sure-handed strokes, many which he transfers to canvases. Seeing and understanding movement was fundamental to his art and teaching, and is reflected in his own maxim: "Paint in verbs, not nouns." He died on January 21, 1940 in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Woodbury engaged in over 100 solo exhibitions throughout his career, and was included in all of the major invitational and juried shows throughout the country. His work may be found currently in The Art Institute of Chicago, The Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, and New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art among many others.

### EDWARD BETTS (1920-2008)

Born and reared in Yonkers, New York, Mr. Betts is regarded as one of the greatest artists of his generation. His paintings have been collected by virtually every major museum in the U.S. and have been widely exhibited internationally. He was a lifetime summer resident of Maine. A respected professor *emeritus* from the University of Illinois, Betts's work has constantly garnered critical acclaim. He is the author of several books on techniques in "water media" including noteworthy *Master Class in Watercolor*. Throughout his life he painted in two separate styles. His abstract work mostly being shown in New York and his traditional, yet equally complex compositions in watercolor exhibited primarily in Maine.

### ANNE CARLETON (1878-1968)

Ms. Carleton was born in Atkinson, New Hampshire and was educated at the Mass Normal Art School in Boston, Vesper George School of Art, and Harvard University. Wanting to remain modern and current in her artwork, she believed in constant learning. She studied with Charles H. Woodbury in Gloucester, MA in 1915 and Ogunquit 1927-29. She also studied sculpture at the *Ecole d'arts* in Paris and took private lessons from Bernard Karfiol and Carl Nelson in 1931. At the end of her career she was called an Abstract Expressionist painter. She is best known for her beach and WPA scenes in Gloucester, Rockport, Ogunquit and Portsmouth, NH. The artist was a member of the Boston Society of Independent Artists, Art Students League (NY), American Artists Professional League (NY), Boston's Copley Society, Massachusetts Art Alumni, Marblehead Art Association (MA), and Ogunquit Art Association (ME).

### **GEORGE CARPENTER (1928-2006)**

Living most of his life in Maine, Mr. Carpenter was an Impressionist-style landscape painter who was known primarily for his work with watercolors and to a lesser extent with oil medium. His work largely depicts maritime and woodland themes. Carpenter moved to Ogunquit in 1963 and opened his own gallery in Perkins Cove in 1983 where he became part of the historic art community. He was seen painting outside his studio regularly and was a fixture in The Cove until his death. His work reflects a deep love and appreciation for New England and the Maine shore. Carpenter was a prolific painter and an active member of the Rockport Art Association and the American Watercolor Society. He has been exhibited widely in the U.S. and Canada.

### **CLARENCE KERR CHATTERTON (1880-1971)**

Mr. Chatterton was born in Newburgh, NY and studied at the New York School of Art. As a student Chatterton was heavily influenced by his teacher artist Robert Henri. From 1915-1948 Chatterton was Professor Emeritus of Art and artist-in-residence at Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY where he was responsible for introducing an avant-garde curriculum. Chatterton worked often in watercolors and gouache media, and was known for a genre of portraits, landscapes, and harbor and seascape scenes. He painted mostly in the Hudson River Valley and in Maine. The artist has been exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, National Academy of Design, Rochester Memorial Art Gallery, Brooklyn Museum, Rhode Island School of Design, World's Fair, Chicago Art Institute, Corcoran Gallery, Washington, DC, Golden Gate Expo., San Francisco.

### **JAY HALL CONNAWAY (1893-1970)**

A native of Indiana, Mr. Connaway studied early in his career at *the* Art Institute of Indianapolis and at the Art Students' League with William Merritt Chase. After WWI, he studied in Paris at the Julia Academy and L'Ecole des Beaux Arts. Returning to the US, Connaway spent several years painting on Head Harbor Island, Maine learning to paint the sea. Connaway moved his family to Monhegan Island. Eventually he received the praises of art critics being called "the master sea painter of his generation." During this time, he also founded Connaway's Monhegan School of Art. After many years on his beloved island he moved to Dorset, Vermont in 1947 where he painted and taught until his death. Connaway's works may be found in the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, The Portland Museum of Art, and the Farnsworth Art Museum.

### **PANOS GEORGE GHIKAS ( 1924-2012)**

Born in Malden, Massachusetts, Mr. Ghikas was educated at Yale University where he received BFA and MFA degrees. As a Fulbright Fellow he studied art at the Akademie Der Bildenden Kunste in Stuttgart, Germany. A recipient of several important awards for his art, Ghikas also was an educator at many prestigious institutions including the Museum School, Massachusetts College of Art, Brown University and the Rhode Island School of Design. Though his preferred medium in executing his modernist imagery paintings was egg tempera, Ghikas was also a master gilder particularly famous for a mural in gold leaf executed for the legendary restaurant Windows on the World atop the fated New York World Trade Center. He lived and worked in Boston for 50 years before moving to in Maine where recently he died in Cape Neddick.

### **YASUO KUNIYOSHI (1980-1953)**

Mr. Kuniyoshi, born in Japan, he came to the United States in 1906, where he attended the Los Angeles School of Art. In 1910, he moved to New York where he attended the National Academy of Design, the Robert Henri School, the Independent School, and the Art Students League with Kenneth Hayes Miller. Later he became a teacher at the League. At the invitation of artist Hamilton Easter Field, (1876-1922) he spent several summers in Ogunquit, Maine where Field was the founder of a Perkins Cove art school. Primarily known as a "modernist" artist, his works were often based upon imagery and symbolic motif. His depictions were often somber landscapes and sensuous depictions of female human figures. Kuniyoshi exhibited in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and New York City (Whitney Museum) before his death. His artwork can be found in prominent public and private international collections.

### **JOHN LAURENT (1921-2005)**

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., Mr. Laurent grew up surrounded by great art and famous artists. No stranger to the southern Maine coast as his father, sculptor Robert Laurent, helped establish the Ogunquit School of Painting and Sculpture in the first decades of the last century. Through his father, he also knew American Modernist painters Marsden Hartley and Walt Kuhn, who later became his mentor. After studying at Syracuse University (BFA) and Académie de la Grande Chaumière in Paris, Laurent received his MAT degree from University of Indiana in 1954. Laurent was an instructor of art from an early age having taught at the Ogunquit School in Perkins Cove during summers of 1946-1960. He was also a mentor and an inspiration to generations of University of New Hampshire students where he was a popular art professor for thirty years.

### **RICHARD LAHEY (1893-1978)**

Mr. Lahey was known as a versatile painter. He studied at the Art Students' League in New York under Robert Henri, a member of the "Ash Can School." Lahey originally entered the professional art field by cartooning and drawing Caricatures of famous contemporaries. He was a successful free-lance artist for the old New York World Sunday Magazine and for the New York Times. Teaching always accompanied his painting career. In 1921 he joined the faculty of the Minneapolis School of Art. Two years later he was appointed to teach at the Art Students' League, a position he held until he became the fifth principal of the Corcoran in 1935. In 1937, Lahey began a 23-year affiliation with Goucher College as a professor of fine arts. Lahey's work has been featured at art museums in New York, Boston, Baltimore, Brooklyn, Toledo, and Detroit, and at the Library of Congress.

### **JON ALLAN MARSHALL**

Born in Quincy, Massachusetts in 1964 and educated at the Massachusetts College of Art, Mr. Marshall works primarily in oils in the "classical tradition" inspired by 17th century Dutch landscape, still life, and portrait painters. His mastery of landscape and seascape painting progressed after his move to Maine in 1993 to areas close to mountains and seacoast where he receives constant inspiration for his work. The artist lives with his family in the Maine village of Denmark. Recognized for his ability at an early age, Marshall was one of the youngest ever Copley Master honored by Boston's Copley Society of Art. A recipient of many awards for his work, the Alden Bryan Memorial Award for traditional landscape in oil from the CSA among others. A serious and productive artist, Marshall's works are widely exhibited throughout the United States.

### **REUBEN TAM (1916-1991)**

Born in Hawaii, Mr. Tam was an American landscape painter, educator and graphic artist. He earned a BA from the University of Hawaii, and also studied at the California School of Fine Art, at Columbia University and at the New School of Social Research in New York City. He taught over 25 years at the Brooklyn Museum Art School and also spent many summers painting on Monhegan Island, Maine. Upon retirement in the 1970s, Tam returned to Hawaii where he died after a long illness. Tam's work is extensively found in numerous public collections including Hirschhorn and the Smithsonian American Art Museum in Washington, D. C. and the Whitney Museum of American Art in New York City.

### **WILLIAM THON (1906-2000)**

Born in New York City, Mr. Thon was an American artist noted for abstracted landscape paintings. He joined the Navy and after WWII he won the *Prix de Rome*, a fellowship in Rome to the American Academy, which he later served as trustee. In 1947, the year-long study at the American Academy proved highly influential on his career. In 1949 he was voted into the National Academy of Arts. In 1951, Thon received a grant from the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He also taught painting at Ohio University. After extensive travel, he made his home in Port Clyde, Maine. The award winning artist is represented in over 60 museum collections including The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Brooklyn Museum, The Hirschhorn Museum, The Columbus Museum of Art, and in Maine, The Farnsworth Art Museum, The Portland Museum of Art, and The Ogunquit Museum of Art.