

Marsh, Reginald (1898-1954)

Born Paris, France; Raised in Nutley, New Jersey

EDUCATION/INFLUENCES

- Self-taught caricaturist/cartoonist-contributed to Yale Record while student at Yale. Worked free-lance as illustrator/caricaturist for NY newspapers, magazines (New Yorker), designed stage sets.
- Studied with Luks, Sloan at Art Students League, formal study at Whitney Studio Club (later Whitney Museum).
- Influenced by great masters-Delacroix, Rembrandt, Rubens, Titian. Also influenced by Thomas Hart Benton.



KIA/MI CONNECTION: Donald Gilmore, childhood friend of Marsh. 7 of 15 Marsh works in KIA collection from Gilmore and Marsh families.

BIG IDEAS/THEMES

- Classified as Realist, Urban Realist, Satirical Realist-rejected Modernism/Avant-Garde/Abstraction.
- NYC was his inspiration but wanted to show a world more gritty, colorful and exciting than reality. Was always sketching.
- Used lots of figures that rarely interact with each other creating a sense of loneliness and isolation.
- Marsh Girl-classically proportioned but not idealized-sexy, unapproachable and smart.

KIA WORK-*Swing Chairs*, watercolor, ink and oil on board, 1951

- See process from sketch to painting-slightly unfinished look. Captures speed/motion of swings-exaggerated figures enhance feeling of movement.
- Picture balanced by arrangement of figures and color. Diagonal enhances motion and point of view reminds of Italian ceiling frescoes.