

William Louis Sonntag

(1822-1900)

Landscape painter associated with the Hudson River School
Noted for his romantic renditions of American landscape and idealized visions of classical
Italian ruins.

Place of Birth

East Liberty, PA (near Pittsburgh)

Education/Training

Cincinnati Academy of Fine Arts, early 1840's
Florence Italy, 1855

Influences

Thomas Cole and the Hudson River School
18th Century neoclassical tradition of English painting and literature
Barbizon School, in later life

Career

Commissioned by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to paint a series
of views along its route, 1846
Studio in Cincinnati, 1840's - mid 1850's
Studio in New York City, 1856 - 1900
Associate member (1860) and an Academician (1862) of the
National Academy of Landscape Design in N.Y.C.
Exhibited at the Centennial Exhibition in Philadelphia, 1876

Work in KIA Permanent Collection:

"Landscape", date unknown, oil on canvas; more muted colors and
mist in background suggests this work was done later in his career

Public Collections

Peabody Institute, Baltimore
Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington D.C.

Principal Works

"Classic Italian Landscape with Temple of Venus"
"Morning in the Alleghenies"
"Sunset in the Wilderness"
"Spirit of Solitude"
A panorama of Milton's "Paradise Lost and Paradise Regained"