





EDMUND HENRY WUERPEL

EDMUND HENRY WUERPEL, Director of School of Fine Arts; First Sellew Medal, Manual Training School; Secretary (1891-1893), and honorary member (1894), American Art Association, Paris; Recording Secretary, Paris Advisory Committee, Columbian Exposition, Chicago, 1893; member of Jury of Selection, American Section, Universal Exposition, Paris, 1900; member of Jury of Selection and Jury of Awards, Louisiana Purchase Exposition, St. Louis, 1904; active member and Vice-President Society of Western Artists; President St. Louis Artists' Guild, 1907-1908; President 2x4 Club, 1905-1907; Silver Medal, Louisiana Purchase Exposition, 1904; Silver Medal, Lewis and Clark Exposition, Portland, 1905.





EDMUND HENRY WUERPEL, Director . . . . .	Lecturer, and Instructor in Composition and Artistic Anatomy
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## Art School Sketches



THE Art Students have the reputation of being very strange people. The mere mention of our name calls up visions of Bohemianism, of youths and maidens with unkempt hair and outlandish clothes. Yet, we are not as queer as folks would have us. When we go up to visit you who live on the hill above us, we realize how stately are your towers, how lofty is your reason. When you come down into the garden where we live we wish you to see in us something better than jolly, rollicking, care-free Art Students, most of whom wear very dirty aprons, old automobile coats preferred. We wish to show you that we have high ideals, that we are really sincere in our work. Sincere, because we would rather be Art Students than anything else in this whole world.

You ought to hear about our ideals. Some of us intend to be illustrators, others decorators, still others master painters. Indeed, we have students working for most every aim in art, from those who go about dreaming of Velásquez and Titian, to those who would be followers of Remington. There are among us, people who live in hope of invading Europe some day, of swooping down upon the galleries of Spain and France and carrying off the secrets of the great painters. These students torment the unfortunate keepers of old book-stores by insisting upon rooting around among their magazines, burrowing after old prints, looking perhaps for a reproduction of the famous "La Infanta" or for a couple of treasures from Jules Guérin. Then we have a few little cow-boy artists. Perhaps you have seen them swaggering about your fields. They wear slouch hats with rattle-snake bands and about their throats gorgeous bandanas. 'Tis a secret, but we know that they carry loaded pistols in their belts, and now and then "pick" a pigeon or two off your roof, just to keep in the practice of sharp shooting. They worship horses and were even known to make a drawing without a broncho in the composition.

This band of idealists have organized among themselves a club for Art and Art Students alone. Have you heard of the P. S. U.? Now, most outsiders are very curious to find out just what the letters "P. S. U." mean, but we members are not allowed to tell that. Would it be well

to offer a few hints, to say that our club was begun for the purpose of improving its members by promoting sociability in the school? Toward that improvement we have done little as yet, 'tis true, except that we have collected enough dues to support a pianola and to keep the Lecture Hall floor so smooth and glassy that visitors, who come on Tuesday to hear our lectures and see our lantern-slides, do some fine slipping and, to keep from falling, much groping in the dark for chairs. We have had one party, one truly pleasant dance, and have planned the most wonderful masquerade.

In all this, our work and our play, we have been trying, as dutiful Art Students, to do our best. Indeed, we believe firmly that in our play we have excelled the records of former art school years. Students of by-gone days may extol their treats and kettle-rollings, but they never dreamed of spreads as sumptuous as ours, or of such pitch-battles as we have in subduing and starving back antiquers. It would be gratifying if we could say that in our work we had made an improvement over other years. To intimate this would be very conceited and not true, perhaps. But we believe that in a sense we have raised the standard of the school, if not by our direct achievements, by the general spirit toward work. The majority of students have come to know more about true Art, and to appreciate better all things artistic. For this enlightenment we have, of course, to thank our good instructors, who have labored so earnestly that we might not go astray. But all of us, teachers and students alike, realize that much of it is due to our environment. We appreciate the fact that every beautiful thing about us, from the flowers that grow in our own gardens to the cultured presence of the University, have inspired us to greater efforts.

—V. M.