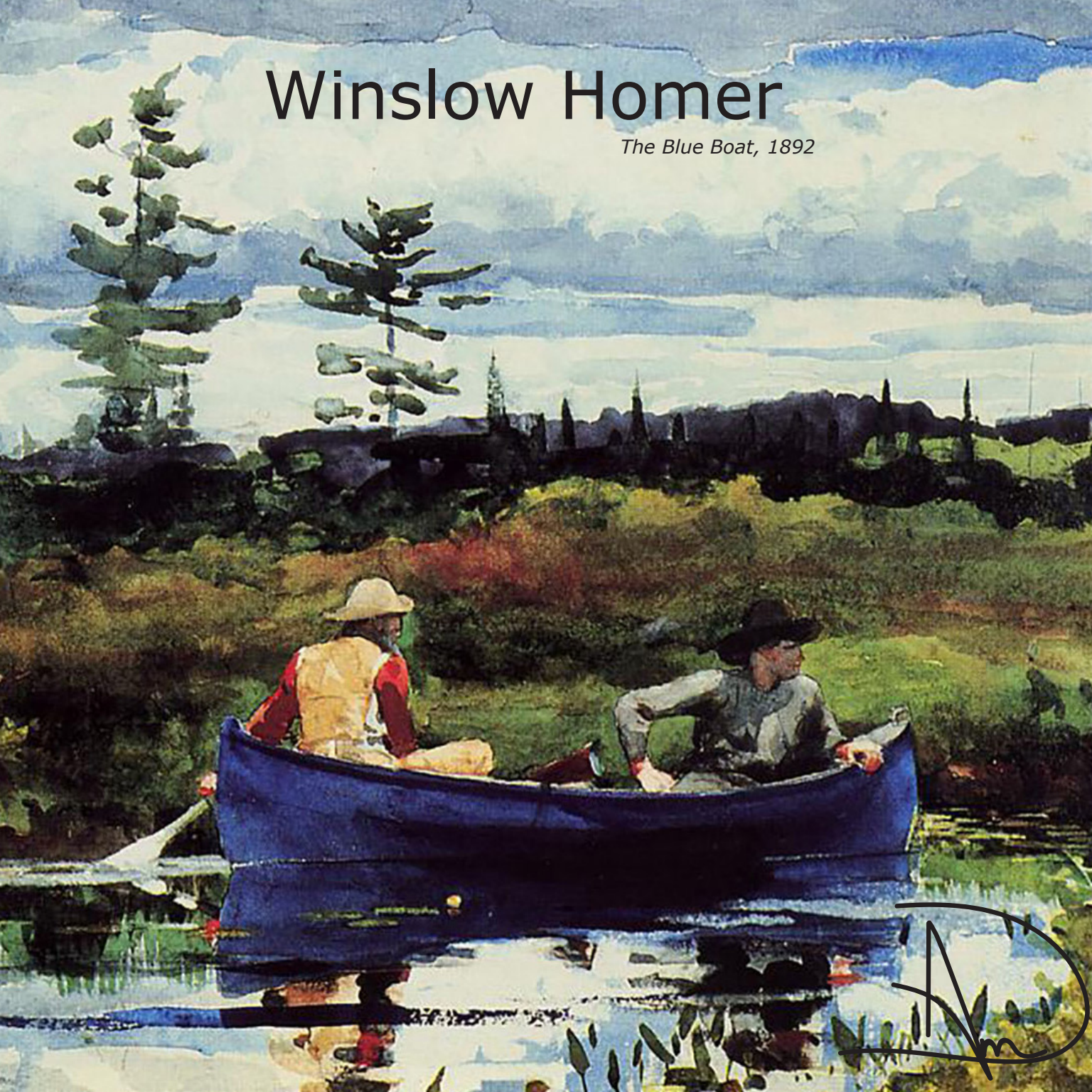


Winslow Homer

The Blue Boat, 1892



Winslow Homer was born in Massachusetts on February 24, 1836. Homer got his artistic knack from his mother Henrietta who was a watercolorist and his first teacher. Just like his mother throughout his life he was very strong-willed, sociable, and a dry-sense of humour. Homer was not the best in school but his art was always on display from a very young age. When he graduated from high school his father saw an ad in the newspaper and got Homer an apprenticeship in Boston. His apprenticeship was what he called a "treadmill exercise" where he worked on sheet music covers and other commercial work for two years. In 1857 he turned down an offer to work with the staff at Harper's Weekly and started a freelance career instead. Homer thrived with freelance and was an illustrator for 20 years. When his career began illustration was on the rise, giving him jobs in magazines such as Harper's Weekly and Ballou's pictorial. His work in this time surrounded urban and country social scenes, he always created them with clean lines, simple forms and dramatic contrast. Homer's quick success was not only due to the demand of his line of work but his strong understanding of graphic design and being able to adapt his work into wood engravings.



Rowing Home depicts two sailors sitting in a small vessel, on their way home after a long day of fishing. They are surrounded by mildly volatile waves and a beautiful sunset.

"From the time I took my nose off that lithographer, I have had no master, and never shall have any"

-Winslow Homer

Rowing home, Winslow Homer, 1890



Maine Coast, Winslow Homer, 1896

Sunday: 10am-4pm

Monday: Closed

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: 10am-4pm

Thursday: 10am-4pm

Friday: 10am-4pm

Saturday: 10am-4pm

Website: <http://www.worcesterart.org>

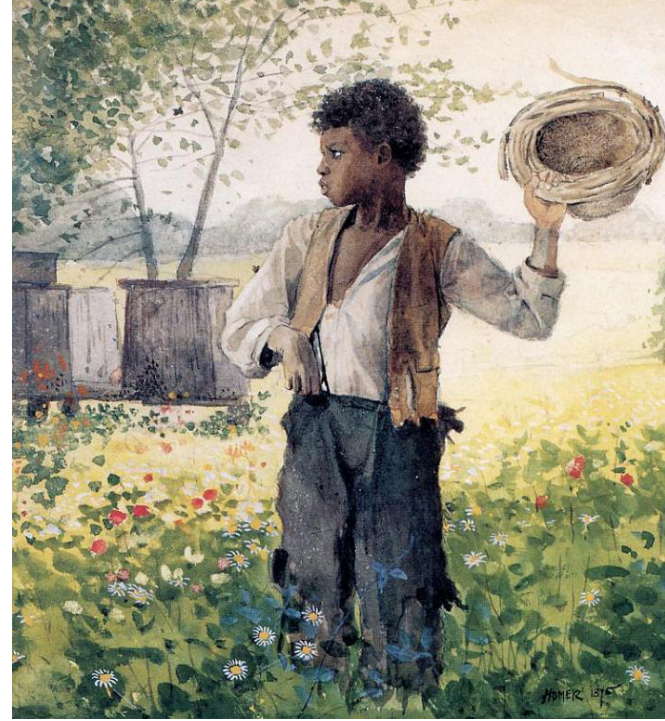
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The busy bee was painted when Homer went on a trip to the south, where he painted many subjects from plantations. In this painting the young boy is looking for a flower to give to his teacher.

In 1859 Homer opened his own studio in Tenth Street Studio Building, NYC. During his time in New York he was studying at the Academy of Design and briefly with Frederik Rondel to learn the basics of painting until around 1863. He was doing well with his paintings and his family was trying to raise funds for him to go to Europe but instead he was sent to the front lines of the American Civil War. Throughout his time in the war he would sketch scenes of battle and camp life. He was sketching the quiet moments of the war and the murderous ones too. His sketches did not gain popularity but they are a huge visual in his progress from an illustrator to a painter. Winslow Homer went back to his early career and sketched urban scenes and his subjects became mostly women during the war showing the effects of war on not only the front line but the home front. When he returned from the war and regained his strength he re-focused his artistic vision. He started a series of work that focused on the war sketches he had created. He quickly got these works into an exhibit and it's critical reception



The busy bee, Winslow Homer, 1875

caused it to sell rapidly. After he finished with his war series, Homer started to focus on women and children reflecting a simpler time. Homer was an extremely talented artist by the age of 27 showing maturity, depth of perception and mastery of techniques in his paintings.

"When you paint, try to put down exactly what you see. Whatever else you have to offer will come out anyway."

-Winslow Homer