

# PETER VILHELM ILSTED

SAKSKØBING 1861 – COPENHAGEN 1933

*Peter Ilsted was apprenticed to an artisan painter in 1877; in 1878 he began training at the technological school and later went on to study at the Academy of Fine Arts in Copenhagen. He served at the academy from 1893 to 1915 as an assistant teacher. While still quite young, he traveled throughout Europe visiting other art schools and museums and in the late 1880s visited the Middle East; in 1913 he visited England.*

*His earliest works were oil paintings of the domestic genre and portraiture, but after 1909, he focused intensely on etchings and hand-colored mezzotints, returning often to his favorite theme of domestic interiors.*

*Ilsted's work was in demand for exhibitions throughout Denmark and Europe for most of his life. He first exhibited at Charlottenborg in 1883 and regularly thereafter. Americans were exposed to his painting at the Chicago World's Fair in 1893. Among his professional recognitions were an honorable mention from the Paris salon in 1889 and the Eckersberg Medal at the academy in 1890 for a painting called Cupid and Psyche.*

LITERATURE: S. Clod Svensson in *Samlaren*, 1933, pp. 49–56; Aksel Jørgensen (foreword), *Peter Ilsted, Maleren, Grafikeren, Mennesket*, Copenhagen 1945; Theodore B. Donson, *Peter Ilsted, Sunshine and Silent Rooms*, New York 1990; Jens Peter Munk in *Weilbach*, vol. 3, Copenhagen 1995; Joan Abdy, *Peter Ilsted, Exhibition at Lumely Cazalet*, London 1999.

B.H.