



Inv. no. B 329

PETER HANSEN (1868–1928)
A PAINTER AT HER EASEL, UNDATED
OIL ON CANVAS

64 X 52 CM

In the foreground of the picture a painter stands before an easel, holding her palette in her hand. A summery landscape unfolds in front of her: a lush garden, a glinting field, a green forest edge and the luminous sky with heavy clouds. The scene probably originates from Skovkrogen, a property near Haarby on Funen where Peter Hansen's family stayed for several summers from 1909 to 1914.¹ The painter in the picture is Peter Hansen's stepdaughter, Elisabeth Neckelmann (1884–1956).

Elisabeth Neckelmann showed interest in the art of painting from a very young age. She was personally acquainted with several of the Funen Painters, and her father Peter Hansen both inspired and guided her. She received drawing lessons from Fritz Syberg over the course of one winter, but other than this she was self-taught.² Her favourite subjects were still lifes, landscapes, and portraits, and much of her work is clearly influenced by the Funen Painters.

Elisabeth Neckelmann was particularly acclaimed among the women artists on the Danish art scene, partly because she was actively involved in the struggle for equality. She was chair of The Danish Women's Artist Association from 1924 to 1954. In her efforts, she particularly focused on women's right to be full-time artists on an equal footing with men and on securing better representation for women on the Academy Council, on juries and on exhibition committees.³

¹ See Peter Hansen's letter to Mads Rasmussen, dated 4 July 1914 in *Kilder til Dansk Kunsthistorie, Fynboerne*.

² Eva Pohl: *En plads i solen – kvindelige danske kunstnere født mellem 1850 og 1930 / A place in the sun – female Danish artists born between 1850 and 1930*, Copenhagen 2007, pp. 121–122.

³ Lisbeth A. Lund: 'Elisabeth Neckelmann (1884–1956)' in *Dansk Kvindebiografisk Leksikon*.

Published in:

Lisbeth A. Lund: "Elisabeth Neckelmann (1884-1956)" in *Dansk Kvindebiografisk Leksikon*, Kvinfo's online database:

<https://www.kvinfo.dk/side/597/bio/860/origin/170/>;

Erik Zahle: "Malerisamlingens vækst" in *C.L. Davids Samling, Tredie del*, København 1958, pp. 129, 175;

Grete Zahle: *Dansk Kunst 1885-1915*, Kunstforeningen, København 1976, cat.no. 92, p. 76;

Grete Zahle: *Peter Hansen 1968-1928*, Faaborg Museum, Faaborg 1993, cat.no. 135, p. 29;