

Axel Johansen

Axel Johansen (1872-1938) was one of the leading Danish painters of his time and exhibited regularly at the Danish equivalent of the Royal Academy.

He was born in Roskilde Denmark 23rd January 1872. He served his apprenticeship with the then well-known restoration painters: Mollmand & Co. in Copenhagen. It was here that he was recognized as being a very talented artist and craftsman.

He later studied at the Royal Art Academy in Copenhagen for four years and from that point never looked back. In 1905 he traveled to Italy, 1912 he was in Germany, and in 1921 he went to Italy again and France. In 1909 Johansen experimented with coloured cement on "Sonnes Frieze" at Thorvaldsens Museum, Copenhagen. He developed a technique, which was to be the foundation for the complete restoration of the Frieze which he was commissioned to do in 1936.

His paintings cover a whole range of subjects, especially reflecting his love of the sea and ships. The majority of his works are of Copenhagen scenes, in particular of the harbour and the sea. He was also a very fine portrait painter.

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