

Charles Wimar

Wimar began painting in oil when he was 12 in Cologne. In 1843, he immigrated to St. Louis with his mother to join his stepfather who had established an inn. Near an Indian camping ground, the shy Wimar sought out Indians rather than American boys. At 18, he was apprenticed to the ornamental artist Leon Pomarede. In 1849, Pomarede joined in the battle of the St. Louis panoramas, taking Wimar with him to make sketches up the Mississippi by Steamboat to the Falls of St. Anthony. After the panorama was completed, Wimar established a studio with Edward Boneau in 1851. Few paintings of this period survive.

In 1852, Wimar went to Dusseldorf Academy, the leading school of the day. For four years he was the pupil, first of Josef Fay and then of Leutze. The style was romantic realism, with a full-scale and detailed preparatory cartoon for each painting. Apart from forgeries that appeared in St. Louis after the Civil War, there were only about 60 known paintings by Wimar, 17 being in Dusseldorf where he was known as the Indian painter. His paintings of dramatic Indian scenes from history and the books of James Fenimore Cooper were sent back to St. Louis for sale, one bringing as much as \$300.

When Wimar returned to St. Louis in 1856, his style was immediately freer and fresher. He took a six-month trip up the Missouri and Yellowstone in 1858, sketching and making some of the earliest Indian photographs. Wimar himself resembled an Indian, dressed in buckskins with straight black hair to his shoulders and high cheekbones. He made a two-month trip up river in 1859. The result was mature and authentic depiction of the Indian and buffalo in prairie life. These paintings were successful for exhibition but for financial support Wimar was required to paint portraits as well and to do decorative work. He died from tuberculosis while painting courthouse materials.

Copyright Notice: This document was generated on [ArtRev.com](https://www.artrev.com) on 6/24/2021 5:30:15 PM (U.S. Eastern Time Zone) - Copyright 2021 ArtRev.com, Inc. All Rights Reserved. The entire contents of this brochure is the property of ArtRev.com and/or its content suppliers. You may not modify, copy, reproduce, republish, or distribute any portion of this brochure without the prior express written consent of ArtRev.com, Inc.

Authenticity & Price Match Guarantee: Shop with confidence. ArtRev.com is proud to be the first online art retailer to offer a "[lifetime authenticity guarantee](#)" with every limited edition or original work of art. Most limited edition and original artworks ship with a Certificate of Authenticity free of charge. This certificate is an official and valuable document that most insurance companies require in order to insure artworks against damage or theft. ArtRev.com will make every possible attempt to match or beat the advertised price of any major Internet competitor, art gallery, or frame shop; given that they are authorized to sell the item from the publisher or artist, and have the exact item in stock available for immediate sale.

Disclaimer: The biography shown in this brochure is not meant to be a complete and comprehensive exploration of the life of the featured artist and is not guaranteed to be up-to-date. While information provided about each artist is carefully studied and reviewed prior to publishing; ArtRev.com assumes no liability for the content provided on this page. Biography Last Updated on 5/22/2009 3:05:56 PM. Please [let us know](#) if any information is out-of-date or inaccurate.