

Abram Tromka - 1886-1954

Abram Tromka (Trompka through 1930) was born in Poland and came to America when he was 7. His formal schooling ended at 6th grade, Tromka left home and found Settlement House where he worked with artists there. When he was 17, he illustrated *House on Henry Street*. An early edition of the SURVEY GRAPHIC published a feature article about him, including illustrations, calling him "The Rembrandt of the East Side." Before he started painting, his etchings and drawings were included in many museum exhibitions throughout the country. Julius Rosenwald purchased a number of them and presented "The Sweet Potato Vendor" to the Metropolitan Museum. His work also appears in *Portrait of America*, *30 American Artists*, and *100 American Jewish Artists*. Among his most prized works were his seriagraphs, particularly those done for the WPA.

His first one man exhibit was at the Brooklyn Museum in 1932. He had fourteen one-man shows at the ACA Gallery from 1933 to 1961 and others at the Union of American Hebrew Congregations and the Harbor Gallery.

Permanent Collections: The Met, Brooklyn, Smithsonian; Library of Congress; Corcoran Museum; Carnegie Institute; City Art Museum of St. Louis; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; Butler Art Institute; Norfolk Museum; U.S. State Department; Federal Arts Project, WPA; Tel Aviv & Ein Harod Museums, Israel; Biro Bidjan Museum, USSR; Boston Public Library, Newark Public Library; Iowa State College; Brandeis University; Syracuse University Museum; University of Massachusetts and Michigan and many private collections.

Major Exhibitions & Prizes: Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts; John Herron Art Institute; American Artists Congress; Brooklyn Museum, 2 prizes; Travelling Exhibition, USSR; Whitney Museum; Corcoran Museum; Fine Arts Society of San Diego; Art Institute of Chicago; American Water Color Society; Carnegie Institute; Virginia Museum of Fine Arts; Metropolitan Museum of Art; De Young Memorial Museum; A. Albright Gallery; College Art Association Travelling Exhibition; Riverside Museum; Library of Congress; Los Angeles Museum of Art; National Academy of Design; Albany Institute of History & Art; Butler Institute of Art, (prize); Philadelphia Art Alliance; State Museum of Trenton; Newark Art Museum; Wichita Art Museum; Springfield Museum of Art; George Smith Museum of Art; UNESCO; Long Island Arts Festival (prize) Circulating Exhibition to Birmingham Museum of Art, Dayton Art Institute, Columbia Museum of Art, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, High, Hunter Gallery, Norton Gallery, Delgado Museum of Art.