Jasper F. Cropsey

“America’s painter of Autumn.”

1823 - 1900
Agenda

- **Motto/Logo:** (Dana Yodice)
- **Thesis:** (Group)
- **Biography:** (Dana Yodice)
- **Historical Context:** (Tessa Carpico)
- **Overall Influences:** (Jenn Rickerd)
- **Hudson River Valley Influences:** (Jen Rickerd)
- **Slide Show of Works:** (Megan VanDervoort)
- **Place:** (Jenn Rickerd)
- **Lesson Plan:** (Jenn Rickerd, Tessa Carpico, Dana Yodice)
- **Conclusion:** (Megan VanDervoort)
- **Itinerary:** (Group)
- **Website:** (Dana Yodice/Jen Fowler)
Known as “America’s painter of autumn,” Cropsey was most inspired by the Hudson River Valley and its scenic fall foliage. His paintings portrayed the vibrant changing colors of the trees and the reflection of the mountain ranges in the Hudson River. Because of this inspiration, Cropsey was best known as “America’s painter of autumn”.
• Born in 1823

• Received early training as an architect & set up his own office: 1843.

• National Academy of Design: 1844

• Hudson River School

• Traveled in Europe from 1847 to 1849

• Founded the American Society of Painters in Water Colors

• Exhibited at:
  • National Academy of Design
  • Boston Athenaeum
  • Royal Academy in London

• Died in 1900
**Historical Context**

- **Monroe Doctrine**
- **& Cropsey's Birth**
- **California Gold Rush**
- **slavery outlawed**
- **Cropsey's Death**

**1823**
- 1830's
- civil unrest in south
- strikes in industrial north

**1849**
- 1861
- Civil War

**1865**
- 1898
- Spanish American War

**1900**
Victorian Era: Romanticism

• Post civil war
• Preoccupation with:
  • nature
  • beautiful things
• Panoramic imagery
• Ignored industrial setting
• Aesthetic symbols
• Romantic realist
Overall Influences

• Architecture

• Reverence for Nature

• Landscape paintings by
  • Thomas Cole
  • Claude Lorrain

• Trips to Europe

• Philosophers and Aestheticians:
  • Ralph Waldo Emerson
  • Sir Joshua Reynolds

“To the dull mind all nature is leaden. To the illuminated mind the whole world burns and sparkles with light.” - Ralph Waldo Emerson
• Setting Sun on the Hudson River
• Autumn and vibrant colors of deciduous trees
• Greenwood Lake 1844
• Landscapes of the Hudson River Valley

"Cottage on Upper Greenwood Lake"

"Sunset, Hudson River (near Hastings-On-Hudson) 1897"
The Works Of Jasper Cropsey

• Unique autumn motif
• Realistic paintings
• Vibrant colors
• To create his works, Cropsey used several mediums:
  • Water colors
  • Oil
  • Pencil
  • Pen
Showcase of Cropsey's Works
“Catskill Mountain House”

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1855, Oil on Canvas

- Realistic detailing
- Muted colors
- Foliage
"Springtime on the Hudson"

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1856, Oil on Canvas

- Differing hues
- Coloring of animals
- Depiction of water
"Artist Painting the Hudson"

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1872, Oil on Canvas

- Use of water
- Brighter colors
- Majestic overtones
"Spring in England"

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1860, Oil on Canvas

- Use of colors
- Small detailing
- Depiction of water
"Evening on the Hudson"

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1885, Watercolor

- Use of water
- Darks & lights
- Majestic overtones
Jasper F. Cropsey, 1886, Watercolor

- Muted colors
- Minimal detailing

"Hudson River Near Hastings"
“Boats on the Hudson”

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1888, Watercolor

- Contrasting colors
- Creation of waves
- Random Brightness
“View of Hudson with Piermont Pier”

Jasper F. Cropsey, 1898, Watercolor

- Vivid Colors
- Distant Background
Jasper F. Cropsey, undated, pencil on paper
- Light detailing
- Focus on larger pieces
“Detached Residence- Aladdin (Warwick, NY)”

Jasper F. Cropsey, (undated), pencil, pen, and watercolor on wash paper

- Precise detailing
- Focus on structure
Place: Ever Rest

- Cropsey Residence
- Purchased in 1885
- Located in Hastings - On - Hudson, N.Y.
- Art Studio
- Inspiration for paintings

Ever Rest House: rear view

Ever Rest House

Dining Room

Parlor
Attractions:

• Jasper Cropsey Home & Studio – 49 Washington Ave.

• Cropsey Gallery of Art – 25 Cropsey Lane
Location: 49 Washington Avenue

- Sawmill Parkway to Exit 12 - Stay on Farragut until the first traffic light. Take left at the light onto Main Street.
- At the end of Main Street take a right onto Warburton Avenue.
- Take the first left (about 200 yards) onto Spring Street
- At the end of Spring Street (about 100 yards) take a left and go down the hill
- Turn left onto Cropsey Lane and continue till gate house where the guard will instruct on parking.

Landscape:
- Front: shrubbery, flowers, small trees
- Rear: wooded area, river view, defined shrubbery
Welcome to Ever Rest

**Occupants** – Jasper Cropsey & Maria Cooley
- Hudson River Valley Painter
- Married Maria Cooley in 1847
- Sold “Aladdin” in 1884
- Bought house in 1885
- Built studio in 1885
- Lived there until his death in 1900

**Significance**
- Residence of Jasper Cropsey
- Contains original sketches and art collection
- Inspirational location
Welcome to Ever Rest

Architecture

- Victorian Style
- Interior reflects Hudson River Valley atmosphere during the 19th century
- Interior contains:
  - period furniture
  - sketches by Cropsey
  - 19th century artwork and
- Preserved in original condition
Welcome to the Cropsey Art Gallery

Location & Landscape:

- Newington Cropsey Foundation: 25 Cropsey Ave.
- Completed in 1994
- Wooded area to emphasize yellow color

What is Here?

- Best pieces of artwork by Jasper Cropsey
- Contemporary galleries
- Conference rooms
- Administrative offices of the Jasper Cropsey Foundation
- Tour guides
- Exhibits and art shows
Welcome to the Cropsey Art Gallery

Architecture:
- Rotunda with 30 foot high hand painted ceiling
- Inlaid terrazzo floor
- Octagonal room in the Gothic style
- Designed similar to "Aladdin" and "Ever Rest"
- Embodies a nineteenth century parlor
- Main staircase in the center of the gallery

Significance:
- Houses permanent collection of Jasper Cropsey’s works
Trip Itinerary

✓ 9:30 A.M. - Arrive at Ever Rest in Hastings - On - Hudson

✓ 9:45 A.M. - Meet tour guide at Ever Rest - overview of Jasper Cropsey
  * Note: - life in the Hudson River Valley & travels to Europe

✓ 10:00 A.M. - Begin tour of Ever Rest
  * Note: - art studio - period furniture & décor - artwork & sketches

✓ 10:45 A.M. - Tour grounds of Ever Rest
  * Note - wooded surroundings & landscaping

✓ 11:00 A.M. - Hike to MacEachron Waterfront Park
  * Note - inspirational view of the Hudson River

✓ 11:15 A.M. - Picnic lunch at MacEachron Waterfront Park
11:45 A.M. – Walk to the Cropsey Gallery of Art

12:00 P.M. – Arrive at the Cropsey Gallery of Art & begin tour inside the gallery

* Note: architecture of gallery – painting style, technique, and types – best works by Cropsey including:

- "Landscape in Early Fall"
- "An English Roadside Scene"
- "European Scene"
“Days of Elizabeth”

Allegory

“Study of a Shepherd”

Oil

“Artist Painting on Hudson”

American Views
1:00 P.M. – End of Tour

1:15 P.M. – Optional Historic Walk of Hastings - On - Hudson
NYS Learning Standard 1: Research and analyze the major themes and developments in NYS and United States History.

Objective: Students will evaluate the works of Jasper Cropsey to gain an understanding of his life.

Materials:
- Paper
- Art Textbook
- Paint Brushes
- Art History Textbook
- Internet Connection

Learning Styles: Visual - Spatial
- Auditory
- Bodily - Kinesthetic
Lesson Plan Procedure

Pre-Lesson
• Research life and works of Cropsey using:
  - Textbooks
  - Online Resources
• With this information students will create a passport to Ever Rest that includes:
  - biography
  - pictures
  - influences

During Lesson
• Students will tour Ever Rest and view:
  - The art studio
  - Surrounding landscape
  - Inside of the home and artifacts
• Students will then create an image reflecting their view of the Hudson River Valley as Jasper Cropsey would have seen.
Post - Lesson

• Students will share their paintings with the class, and discuss how Jasper Cropsey’s life and works influenced their paintings.

• Students will create their own art gallery with their works in their classroom called “Just like Jasper”

Evaluation

• Students will be assessed informally on:
  - participation and interest during fieldtrip
  - class discussion and relation of their painting to Jasper Cropsey’s life and works.
Conclusion

After learning about the life and works of Jasper F. Cropsey, one can see how significant his works have been on the Hudson River Valley. During a time when ideals of the Romantic Movement were being embraced by his contemporaries, Cropsey focused more on natural beauty, and is undeniably portrayed in the Hudson River Valley. During its peak season of autumn, Cropsey used his skills and insight, which he developed from the influence of the Hudson River School Painter Thomas Cole, to find the essence of the area and truly capture its beauty. In enjoying his beautiful paintings, one can see Jasper Cropsey justly earned his title of “Americas painter of autumn”.
Bibliography

The Newington Cropsey Foundation:

www.newingtoncropsey.com/default.htm

White Mountain Art & Artists:

http://www.whitemountainart.com/Biographies/bio_jfc.htm

Timken Museum:

http://gort.ucsd.edu/sj/timken/t-crpsy.html

Jasper F. Cropsey


150 Years of American Painting:

http://www.byu.edu/moa/exhibits/Current%20Exhibits/150years/830025900.html
Antiques and Fine Art:

http://www.antiquesandfineart.com/articles/article.cfm?request=438