

## **Thomas Doughty**

**Dates:** 1793- 1856

**Residency:** Philadelphia, New York, and Boston

**Bio:** Thomas Doughty was born in Pennsylvania in 1793. He started working as a leather carrier but decided to paint the American landscape in 1820. Like most Hudson River Painters, Doughty hiked and painted the northeastern America, gaining recognition primarily in Boston. He lived in New York City, Newburgh and western New York before his death in 1856. Doughty brought a new sense of commitment and vision to his paintings that would spark the Hudson River School of Painting. He was inspired by the writing of James Fenimore Cooper. His devotion to accurate detail, idealized mood, and ordered composition was seen as revolutionary by art critics, but was ignored by the public. Doughty's works were admired by a young Thomas Cole when they were exhibited at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in 1823. His influence was significant in the establishment of the Hudson River School.

**Major Achievements:** Although his work is not widely known, Doughty's appreciation for nature and artistic vision was extremely influential in the founding of the Hudson River School.



*Denning's Point, Hudson River, c. 1839*

Oil on mounted canvas, 24 X 30" (60.96 X 76.20 cm.)

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