

Marine Arts Gallery

Presents

A.E. BACKUS



Palm Trees and Surf

Oil, 24x36

Albert Ernest "Beanie" Backus was an American artist famous for his vivid Florida landscapes. Beanie was mostly self-taught, although he did enjoy two summer stints at the Parsons School of Design in New York City in 1922-23. At Parsons he learned the academic principles of symmetry and design that he had previously explored instinctually. Backus always earned his living through his artistic talent, first as a commercial artist painting signs, billboards and theater marquees, and later encouraged by Dorothy Binney Palmer, his first true patron, to pursue his landscape paintings as a full-time occupation. He painted vivid Florida landscapes, 1950's kitsch images of the ubiquitous hibiscus and other tropical flowers, the beautiful Florida sunset, beach and river scenes and the spectacular vistas of the Everglades.

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