



## George Bellows

Topic Guide for Chronicling America (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov>)

### Introduction

American artist George Bellows (1882-1925), born in Columbus, Ohio, was an internationally exhibited painter who gained critical acclaim for his realistic portrayal of urban life and landscapes in New York City at the start of the 20th century. Withdrawing from courses at Ohio State University in 1904, Bellows moved to New York to perfect his technique and solidify his perspective as an artist. He believed that an artist's work has intrinsic value as a narrative on the truth of life from the artist's viewpoint, if executed with integrity, and described the techniques of artistry as the language with which the artist communicates that narrative.

### Important Dates

- August 19, 1882: George Bellows is born in Columbus, Ohio.
- 1904: Bellows moves to New York City to study under artist Robert Henri.
- ca. 1907: Bellows produces a series of paintings portraying the excavation of Pennsylvania Station.
- 1909: Bellows exhibits oil painting "Up the Hudson" at the Venice International Exposition.
- 1912: Bellows shows a selection of paintings at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C., a show attended by President and Mrs. Taft.
- 1914: Bellows is chosen as a judge of admissions to the 1915 Panama-Pacific Exhibition in San Francisco.
- 1921: Bellows wins a silver medal and \$500 for "Old Lady in Black" at the Chicago Art Institute.

### Suggested Search Strategies

- Try the following terms as an "any" word search in combination with the phrase "George Bellows": artist, award, New York, Pennsylvania Station, exhibit, exhibition, painting, realism, review, Robert Henri, studio.
- Bellows became famous after his relocation to New York City in 1904. Limit the year range to 1904-1922.

### Sample Articles from Chronicling America

- "[Academy Exhibition](#)" *Sun* (New York, NY), December 23, 1907, Image 4, col. 5-6.
- "[America at Venice](#)" *New-York Tribune* (New York, NY), March 27, 1909, Image 10, col. 6.
- "[Art of the Insurgents: Paintings Exhibited by the Independent Artists](#)" *Sun* (New York, NY), April 10, 1910, Image 35.
- "[Art Exhibit Opens To-Day](#)" *Washington Herald* (Washington, D.C.), December 16, 1912, Image 2, col. 3-4.
- "[Big Art Show Planned](#)" *Evening Public Ledger* (Philadelphia, PA), November 16, 1914, Night Extra, Image 5, col. 6.
- "[George Bellows, N.A., Paints 'The Call of the City'](#)" *Sun* (New York, NY), December 26, 1915, Image 55.
- "[Stucco and Tint Transform Sedate, Brownstone New York into Studio-Dotted Bohemia](#)" *Evening World* (New York, NY), January 03, 1921, Final Edition, Image 3, col. 2-3.
- "[New Yorkers Win Three Art Prizes](#)" *Evening World* (New York, NY), November 03, 1921, Racing Final, Image 2, col. 8.