EXHIBITION OF SCULPTURE

EMIL ZETTLER
1878-1945

January 9 to February 16, 1947

THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO
EMIL ZETTLER (1878-1945)

Emil Zettler was a richly gifted man absorbed in such a variety of activities that even those who knew him well were constantly surprised at some new evidence of his very extensive knowledge. Thinking only of the glorious possibilities of each new problem, it is little wonder that lazy students seeking short cuts to glory sometimes found him something less than sympathetic, but those who were seriously interested never exhausted his patience and enthusiasm.

He loved music, and always an eager participant, he played the flute, studying it seriously. A consummate craftsman, he was also ambidextrous, and with a tool in either hand would carve from wood or stone. Like all good sculptors, he experimented with painting. Those who knew him well enjoyed a great privilege.

"We shall not gaze upon his like again."

Charles Fabens Kelley
Assistant Director

Emil Zettler was a sound and experienced craftsman who had a thorough understanding of materials and the tools best suited to manipulate them. He worked in a variety of mediums and was keenly aware of the most suitable way in which to handle each of them. When modeling in plaster, he kept in mind the texture of bronze in which the piece would ultimately be cast; his terra cotta pieces, on the other hand, have a rougher surface suitable to unglazed baked clay. In direct carving he brought out the translucent quality of marble, the soft mat texture of Caen stone, or the beautiful grain of mahogany. Perhaps his most outstanding pieces were compositions in wood, such as DR. S. or TED WAGNER, where he seemed to be completely at ease in creating from the raw material something not only of character and beauty, but also of solid, well balanced forms which is the very nature and essence of good sculpture.

Frederick A. Sweet
Associate Curator of Painting and Sculpture
**CATALOGUE**

1912  **Head of David** (white marble)  $1,000.
1912  **Head of T.S.** (gray marble)  1,000.
1916  **Figure of Job** (plaster)  500.
1918  **Head of Dr. S.** (walnut)  500.
1920  **Torso** (plaster)  350.
1922  **Torso** (Caen stone)  1,000.
1923  **Bronze torso** (bronze, black marble)  350.
1923  **The Refugees** (bronze relief on wood)  150.
1924  **Portrait bust of Dr. Frederick Stock** (bronze)  1,500.

About

1925  **Ted Wagner** (mahogany)  
*Lent by the Brooklyn Museum*

1936  **Head of Gregory** (plaster)  Not for sale.
1939  **Composition in Heads** (walnut)  150.
1940  **Head of T. E. Donnelley** (bronze)  
*Lent by Mr. T. E. Donnelley*
1941  **Tree of Life** (cherry)  350.
1941  **Reclining Figure** (white marble)  1,000.
1942  **Self-Portrait** (mahogany)  Not for sale.
1943  **Minister of Chartres** (walnut)  150.

**MEDALS**

1916  **The Mr. and Mrs. Frank G. Logan Art Institute Medal**
1918  **Chicago Florists Club Medal**
1933  **The Official Commemorative Medal for A Century of Progress Exposition**