



MUSÉE DES BEAUX-ARTS DE MONTRÉAL
THE MONTREAL MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

J. W. WATERHOUSE

THE GARDEN OF ENCHANTMENT

CHRONOLOGY

1849

John William Waterhouse (nicknamed “Nino”) is born in Rome to British parents, both painters. Family returns to London five years later.

1857

Mother dies of tuberculosis. Father remarries in London and starts another family. Attends a school in Leeds, Yorkshire.

1870

Admitted to Royal Academy Schools (London) first as a probationer, then as a full student in sculpture. Exhibits paintings at Society of British Artists (London).

1874

Exhibits a painting at Royal Academy of Arts. Does so every summer until his death, except 1890 and 1915.

1877

Visits the ruins of Pompeii in Italy.

1883

Marries the flower painter Esther Maria Kenworthy (1857–1944). Starts renting a flat in Primrose Hill while working at the studio nearby. *The Favourites of the Emperor Honorius* becomes Waterhouse’s first painting to enter a museum collection (Art Gallery of South Australia, Adelaide).

1885

Elected an Associate of Royal Academy of Arts after *St. Eulalia* is acclaimed and purchased by the sugar manufacturer Henry Tate.

1886

The Magic Circle is acquired for the national collection (now at Tate) through the Chantrey Bequest, a fund dedicated to the purchase of British art.

1887

Begins teaching part-time at Academy Schools and does so intermittently until 1908.

1888

Exhibits his first treatment of *The Lady of Shalott* (now at Tate), still Waterhouse's most famous work and the one most closely connected to *plein-air* practices.

1889

Mariamne wins a medal at Paris' world's fair, then others in Chicago in 1893 and Brussels in 1897.

1890

Father dies. Does not exhibit at the Academy, probably due to extended travel in Italy.

1891

Ulysses and the Sirens and *Circe Offering the Cup to Ulysses* open a new phase of interest in classical myths.

1895

Elected a full Academician after *St. Cecilia* is acclaimed.

1900

Waterhouses move to larger studio-house in St. John's Wood, northwest London.

1909

Rose E. D. Sketchley publishes, in the Christmas issue of the *Art Journal*, the longest essay about Waterhouse prepared during his lifetime.

1917

Dies of liver cancer at home, aged sixty-eight