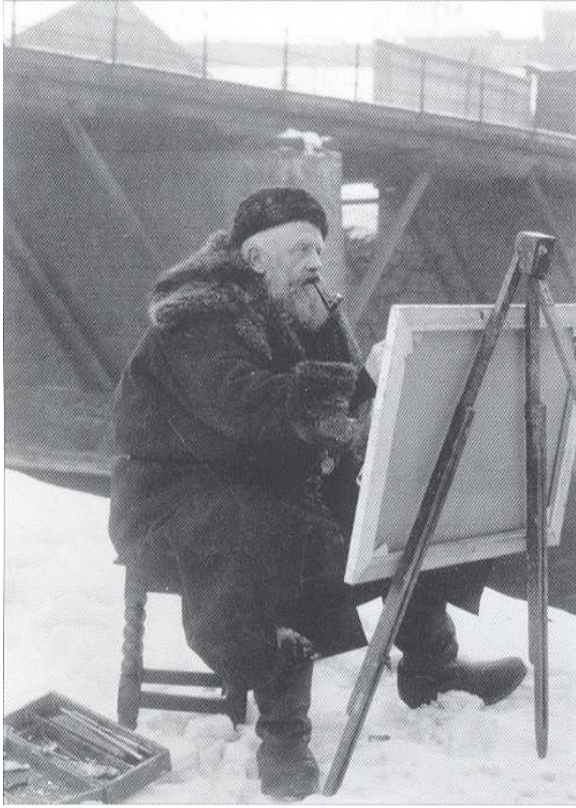


Norway: On the Trail of Frits Thaulow 2012

A Proposal



Frits Thaulow (1847–1906) was a Norwegian citizen and an international painter. He traveled widely throughout Europe and the United States. He is known for his paintings of the rivers of Europe and the small villages and factories that lined their banks. His paintings of Norway show a nation of small towns and fields, rivers and stone-lined streams with buildings built in a human-scaled size.

I would like to discover his Norway of stone and water, wooden buildings and humans carving a place for themselves out of nature. I would like to see first-hand the inspiration for his narratives of human triumph in a cold and unforgiving world. I would like to see how Norway has changed in the last century and, taking what I have learned from Thaulow's paintings, look at a modern Norway with my American eyes and paintbrush.

I am asking for your investment in my painting.

Your investment will fund my travel to Norway in 2012 for the purpose of landscape sketching and photography. In return, you will receive one or more oil paintings of Norway one year later in 2013.

Inspired by Frits Thaulow, I will paint landscape paintings of Norway during the following year based on the sketches and photos from my travel.

I am a landscape painter in St. Paul, Minnesota. My paintings are realistic and impressionistic works of the Midwest.

I would like to become, like Frits Thaulow, an international painter and bring back to the Twin Cities the landscapes of the world. I would like to start with a trip to Norway to uncover Thaulow's roots in the areas where he lived: Oslo, Lillehammer, and islands off the coast of Bergen.

My goal is to raise \$10,000 by March 1, 2012. This will pay for my trip to Norway and all necessary painting supplies. My trip to Norway will take place in 2012, contingent upon fundraising success.

If you choose to invest, your payment will be due by March 1, 2012.

Your investment will purchase one or more paintings of your choice at an invitation-only event in St. Paul one year later in 2013.

Supporter	\$25	1 sketch
Friend of the Artist	\$250	1 painting
Art Patron	\$500	1 painting
Benefactor	\$900	2 paintings
Connoisseur	\$1200	3 paintings

A Friend of the Artist will receive a painting measuring 16 x 20 inches.

Art Patrons and above will be able to freely choose among a variety of sizes from 18 x 24 up to 30 x 40. I will also paint in panoramic sizes up to 48 inches wide to fit over Midwestern fireplaces.

The paintings will be oil paintings on archival wood panels. They will be ready for framing.

You may see examples of my artwork at my website: www.pauldamonlandscapes.com.

What if I change my mind and want out of the agreement?

Because the money is being used to buy tickets and other necessities of foreign travel, it will not be refunded after March 1, 2012. Before that date 100% of the money will be refunded.

How will we choose our paintings?

You may view the paintings on my website, www.pauldamonlandscapes.com, as they are completed. There will be a showing of the paintings at my house, 355 Cleveland Ave. North, St. Paul, MN, in 2013. You may choose your painting at that time. Connoisseurs will have first choice, followed by Benefactors, Art Patrons, and Friends of the Artist, in that order. Sketches may be chosen by Supporters at any time.

May I specify a certain size beforehand?

Yes, within limits. It must fit through my house's doors. Custom sizes will have an extra fee.

What is the deadline for investing in your trip?

All monies must be received by March 1, 2012.

When will your trip take place?

I will travel to Norway in 2012, contingent on fundraising success.

Will your paintings be done on site in Norway?

My paintings will all be painted in my studio in St. Paul in the year following my travel, based on the sketches and photos taken in Norway.

What if you don't raise enough money for the trip?

If I don't raise enough money by March 1, 2012, and am unable to go to Norway, then 100% of the money will be refunded.

Paul Damon

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Bachelor's degree 1981. Biology /
Chemistry.

Army Sergeant. Infantry, 101st
Airborne Division.

Married 1988. She's a lawyer, native
plant gardener, peace activist and
yogi.

Master of Landscape Architecture
degree 1993.

Partner in Damon and Nadenicek,
Landscape Design, St. Paul,
Minnesota.

Project Designer, Moriarty/Condon,
Landscape Architects and Planners,
Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Taught design, drawing and drafting
at the University of Minnesota until
1996.

Taught myself to paint by
researching traditional methods in
the University library.

Painting and working part-time at
Wet Paint, an art supply store, ever
since.

No kids. Small bungalow in St. Paul,
Minnesota.

Don't own a television. Detest pop
culture.

Believe the purpose of life is to
contemplate beauty.

. . . and go fishing.

I specialize in painting the Midwestern landscape
in oil and watercolor. I try to bring to my paintings
the understanding that landscapes are the result of
human intervention and the creation of places
meant for human activities.

I am heavily influenced by the Scandinavian and
Russian landscape painters of the late nineteenth
and early twentieth century, who fathered the way
that human-derived landscapes are represented in
paintings, often portraying human endeavors
immersed in natural beauty with narratives of
isolation and stoic survival

The Midwest is blessed with an agricultural
bounty, expressed physically in the farm fields and
grain elevators, and a connection to the native
habitats expressed in our many parks, refuges, and
pristine waters.

I paint realistically because I believe that art should
be accessible. The world contains a visual
vocabulary of physical forms that are meaningful
precisely because they are part of our shared
human experience. I want my work to be
appreciated for its appeal to the senses and the
intellect, not one or the other.