
LASTING
IMPRESSIONS
PEDRO *de* LEMOS

About the Artist

One artist, many art forms. Pedro de Lemos (1882–1954) was an art teacher, museum director, editor-in-chief, advocator for indigenous arts, traveler, building designer, and more. He was head of the Stanford University Art Museum (now the Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Center for Visual Arts) and Thomas Welton Stanford Art Gallery for almost thirty years. There, he organized popular exhibitions of indigenous American Indian and Mexican arts that brought new awareness to these art forms. Between 1919 and 1950 he served as Editor-in-Chief of *SchoolArts* magazine and became a leading figure in art education, design, and applied arts. He displayed his prints and pastels across the United States, where he received numerous awards and great public acclaim for his originality and sensuous colors. His favorite subjects were on the Monterey Peninsula, San Francisco Bay Area, American Southwest, and New England.

The Monterey Peninsula

Look for unconventional colors in de Lemos' Monterey Peninsula landscapes such as purple trees, yellow skies, and green seas. De Lemos believed that the "beauty of color contrasts, beauty of color forms and arrangement of parts, far surpassed the mere need of matching nature colors."

He made regular summer trips to Carmel with his family throughout his life, saying "Carmel offers a greater range of landscape compositions and color variations than any other location, and time will develop Carmel as America's artists' home center." De Lemos was frequently seen sketching throughout the Monterey Peninsula where he drew inspiration from the coastal scenery with its knotty Cypress trees and whimsical architecture.

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The Art Teacher

As an art educator and editor of *SchoolArts* magazine from 1919-1950, Pedro de Lemos had an illustrative approach to teaching art. His step-by-step diagrams teach fundamental art concepts in an accessible way intended to inspire confidence in one's own ability to artistically express themselves. Visit our stations, then go upstairs to the Printmaking Studio to create your own poster, using Pedro's teachings to guide you.

Pedro de Lemos and the Foundation of Drawing

Drawing was fundamental to de Lemos' art. Since the Renaissance, "drawing" refers not just to the literal process, but to the conceptual origins of a work of art—from sketches to finished works. Drawing includes many media: pencil, graphite, charcoal, even watercolor. While pastels share many features with drawings, they are traditionally considered paintings. Many of the printmaking techniques de Lemos mastered are also connected to drawing, particularly lithography, literally "drawing on stone."