

The Artist's Studio
Frederick Bazille (1841-1870)



The Den of Fallen Heroes

Someone once wrote,
He who honors me I will honor.
Not with medals and decorations,
But with tributes and sentiment.

Some were born artists.
Others instead became soldiers.
For those who followed both paths,
The future seemed as uncertain as the next hour.

For a young would-be doctor turned artist,
The isolated skirmish of a Burgandy winter marked his end.
Friends in high places not enough to quench,
The war machine that robbed him within sight of his 30th year.

A library of friends and colleagues is all that's left.
An erstwhile group of comrades named Renoir, Monet, Pissaro,
Left to mourn their friend.
Placing him alongside them in his tapestry.

J. Fischer

About the Artist

Frederick Bazille had every intention of being a medical doctor. Finding however, that he had less of a facility with medical terms than with originality of color and design, he turned to painting.

Part of a close knit group of friends from Monet to Pissaro and Renoir, he became a key contributor to the impressionist period.

An ardent French nationalist, Bazille enlisted in August of 1870, in support of France's declaration of war against Prussia. In late November of that year, he was killed in combat somewhere in Burgandy. He was 29 years old.