

Albert Anker – Biography

1831	Born on April 1 in Ins as the second of three children to the veterinarian Samuel Anker and Marianne Elisabeth Gatschet. Attended schools in Neuchâtel.
1845-48	Privat lessons in drawing with Louis Wallinger (1819-1886).
1847	Death of his brother Rudolf and his mother.
1849-51	Attended a humanistic high school in Bern. University entry qualification. Began to study theology at Bern University. In September 1851 went on his first trip to Paris.
1852-54	June 1852 Death of his sister Luise. Continued studying theology at Halle University in Germany. Studied art with the Waadtland classicist painter Charles Gleyre (1806 – 1874).
1855-60	Attended the Ecole Impériale et Spéciale des Beaux-Arts.
From 56	Onward participated in the rotating art exhibitions of the Swiss Arts Society.
1859-85	Participated in the Paris Salon.
1860	Father died. From now on Anker regularly stayed in Ins in summer and in Paris in winter.
1861	First trip to Italy together with his friend François Ehrmann.
1864	Married Anna Ruefli (1835-1917) from Biel. Six children issued from the marriage: 1865 Louise / 1867 Rudolf (†1869) / 1870 Emil (†1871) / 1872 Marie / 1874 Moritz / 1877 Cécile.
1866	Awarded a gold medal in the Paris Salon.
1870–74	Member of the greater council of the Canton of Bern, supported the construction of the Kunstmuseum Bern.
1878	Appointed Knight of the Legion of Honor.
1889	Together with Frank Buchser, Arnold Böcklin, François Bocion et al. was elected to be a member of the Confederated Commission for the Fine Arts.
1890	Gave up his domicile in Paris. Began with the illustrations for the Gotthelf edition. Went on repeated trips to Emmental.
1891-01	Member of the Confederated Commission of the Gottfried Keller Foundation.
1900	Doctor honoris causa of Bern University.
1901	Suffered a stroke late in September. His right hand was partially handicapped. Gave up oil painting almost completely.
1910	Anker died on July 16 in Ins.

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