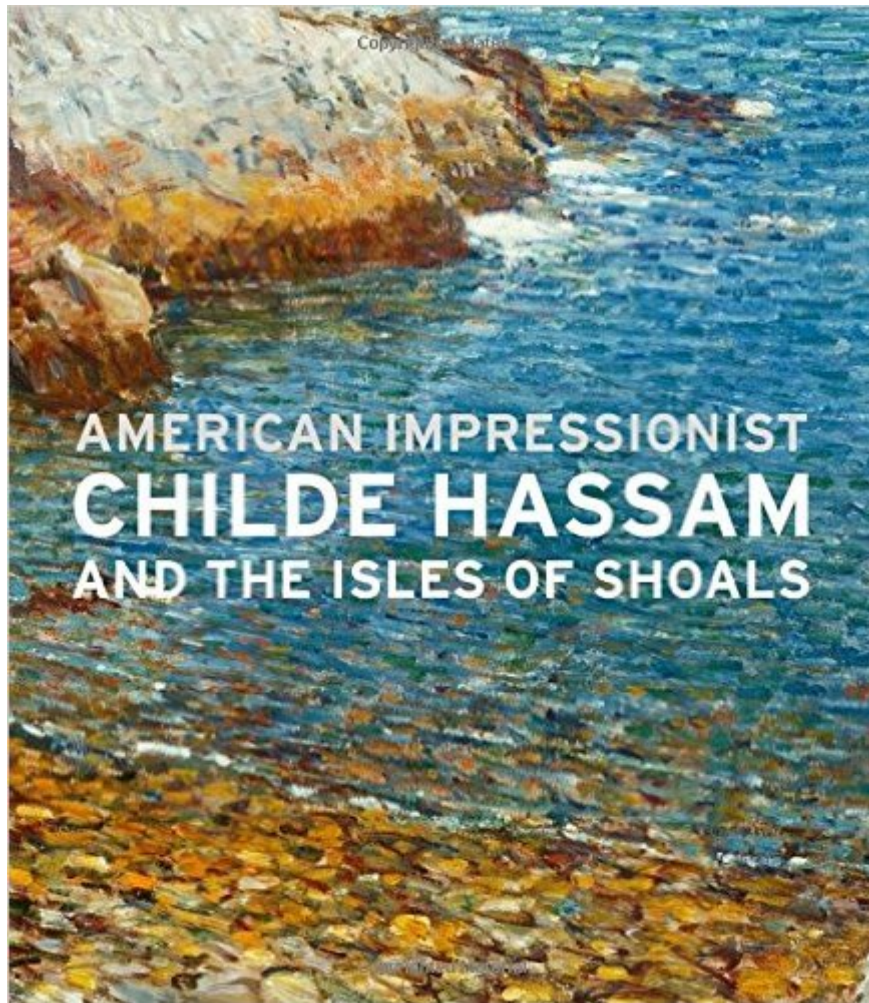


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# American Impressionist: Childe Hassam And The Isles Of Shoals



## Synopsis

An exploration of the fascinating connections between the Isles of Shoals and the beautiful paintings that Childe Hassam created there. Childe Hassam (1859–1935) was the foremost American impressionist of his generation. Prolific in oil paintings and watercolors, he found his native New England to be a touchstone for his art. Hassam had a fascination with Appledore, the largest island of the Isles of Shoals off the coast of Maine and New Hampshire, and he traveled there almost every summer for thirty years. This fascinating book traces Hassam's artistic exploration of Appledore and reveals a complex portrait of the island created over time. John W. Coffey, working with the marine biologist Hal Weeks, revisits Hassam's painting sites, identifying where, what, and how the artist painted on the island. Kathleen M. Burnside considers the range of the artist's stylistic responses to the island's nature. A photo essay by Alexandra de Steiguer reveals Appledore's enduring beauty.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 124 pages

Publisher: Peabody Essex Museum (April 5, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0300217315

ISBN-13: 978-0300217315

Product Dimensions: 11.7 x 10.4 x 0.7 inches

Shipping Weight: 2.6 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars – See all reviews (4 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #92,953 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in Books > Arts & Photography > Individual Artists > Monographs #75 in Books > Arts & Photography > Collections, Catalogs & Exhibitions #242 in Books > Arts & Photography > History & Criticism > Criticism

## Customer Reviews

This wonderful catalogue and exhibition highlight Childe Hassam's exceptional talent at the forefront of American Impressionism. Curators John Coffey & Austen Barron Bailly have produced a fitting tribute to Hassam's work at the Isles of Shoals beginning with his first visit in 1882 and extending through 1916. Coffey & Bailly collaborated with Hal Weeks, Assistant Director of Shoals Marine Laboratory to document located scenes on Appledore Island and the surrounding isles off the coast of the Maine/New Hampshire border. The blue coves and barren ledges of the Isles of Shoals have suited artists since before the Civil War with many artists (musicians, poets, writers) visiting Celia

Thaxter's Salon on Appledore during the late 19th Century, making for one of America's first art colonies. The composer Edward MacDowell conceived of the MacDowell Colony (in Dublin, NH) after visiting Thaxter at Appledore. Childe Hassam worked at the Shoals with his fellow Impressionists Olaf Brauner (who went on to found the Fine Arts Department at Cornell), John Appleton Brown and Ross Sterling Turner. They were often photographed together and enjoyed a sense of fellowship on Appledore. William Morris Hunt made his final trip to visit Celia Thaxter, tragically passing in a pool adjacent to her house. Other well known artists to have painted at the Shoals include William Trost Richards, AT Bricher, Harry Neyland, William & Mauritz de Haas and Arthur Quartley. The unique island light represented by Childe Hassam's works remains to this day, and while the Isles of Shoals are not easily accessible, the catalogue and exhibitions make them more so. The Hassam Exhibition which has opened at the North Carolina Museum will come to Peabody Essex Museum for Summer 2016. Be sure to take it in.

Excellent catalogue of a truly fine exhibition. This publication does duplicate material from other sources, but is useful and well illustrated.

Book is in very nice condition!! Interesting story of artists life.

It's great.

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