

## Civil War-Era Landscapes on View at Driscoll Babcock Galleries, NYC Jeffrey Carlson



Fitz Henry Lane, "A Storm Breaking Away, Vessel Slipping Her Cable," 1858, oil on canvas, 24 x 36 1/4 in. Driscoll Babcock Galleries

In advance of an important museum exhibition on Civil War-era art in New York, Driscoll Babcock Galleries is hosting its own show of landscapes from this infamous moment in American history.



John Frederick Kensett, "Path Over the Field," 1852, oil on canvas, 30 x 45 in. Driscoll Babcock Galleries

Driscoll Babcock Galleries, New York's oldest art gallery, presents "Refuge and Remembrance: Landscape Painting in the Civil War Era." This exhibition of paintings profoundly influenced by the Hudson River School opens May 16 and runs through June 22.

The artists featured in this exhibition responded to the tumultuous social atmosphere that characterized the mid-19th-century United States by turning to landscapes. Some depicted bucolic scenes that served as a respite from the churning tensions of a nation facing civil war. Others imbued their paintings with symbolic meaning,

employing motifs like the oncoming storm to suggest America's dark future. All were part of, or profoundly influenced by, the movement known as the Hudson River School. These masters developed a technique of painting the natural environment in realistic detail, foregrounding elements of light and color, and suggesting the transcendent significance of their subjects. Some of the finest painters from the period, including Ralph Albert Blakelock, Asher B. Durand, George Inness, John F. Kensett, and Fitz Henry Lane, will feature in the exhibition.



Ralph Albert Blakelock, "A Sawmill in the Woods," ca. 1870, oil on canvas, 23 x 40 in. Driscoll Babcock Galleries