

BIOGRAPHICAL DATA - GUY ROWE

Born - Salt Lake City, 1894

Schooling - Formal schooling ended around the fifth grade; since the age of ten, has worked for a living.

Youth - Mother, Gertrude Dewey Rowe, a direct descendant of the pioneer Thomas Dewey. Father, Edward Everett Rowe, lawyer, mining engineer, and inventor of the Rowe Vowel Shorthand System; for ten years manager of the country's largest copper mine at Bingham, Utah.

Lived on cattle ranch in California; then in Kalamazoo where Mr. Rowe Sr.'s brother operated a newspaper. Father opened shorthand school. Guy, at the age of 12, as a demonstrator of his father's system, made a record transcription of 167 words a minute.

Family then moved to Detroit; Guy became a railroad baggage handler, sold newspapers and worked as a tailor's assistant. In spare time practiced acrobatics under tutelage of old circus performer.

Went into vaudeville as top man in acrobatic team; later shifted to chalk drawing and was billed as "a boy wonder" artist specializing in portraits of Presidents Taft and Theodore Roosevelt as well as William Jennings Bryan. While participating in an actors' guild benefit, was advised by a well-known artist to seek training for his unusual talent.

Mr. Rowe then obtained employment in an automobile factory and studied art at night in Detroit.

Soon set out on a cross-country sketching trip. Worked in Oregon as a lumberjack; met a scenic designer there who gave him employment in a Portland studio; then returned to Detroit to study several more years under John P. Wicker, who regarded him as one of his outstanding students.

When Rowe decided to come to New York, fellow students auctioned off one of his paintings to finance the trip.

Professional Career - Worked as an artist for the National Biscuit Company in New York; did fashion drawings and book jackets. Commissioned by Vanity Fair, Vogue, and Harper's Bazaar to do some modern paintings, and by a food company to do some special work. Did portraits of key figures in the recent Roosevelt administration; these are now in private collections.

Was engaged as a cover artist by Time magazine and had held that post for four years when he went to work on "In our Image". Is currently doing work again for Time.

Signs paintings "Giro". Intensely interested in artistic experimentation, he has evolved an improvement on ancient Egyptian encaustic process which involves painting in wax and grease on an acetate sheet (protectoid).

Family - His wife, Corinn, and son are artists in their own right. The Rowe Home is at 40 West 64th Street, New York, N.Y.