

Peter, George, b. 11-14-1859 in Vienna, d. 6-26-1950 in Milwaukee. The son of a tailor, peter began studying art when he was seventeen and soon won a three-year scholarship to study at the Imperial Art School in his native Vienna. Later, before coming to the United States, he also studied at the Munich and Karlsruhe academies. After his association with the American Panorama Company, he worked as a scenery painter for the Pabst Theater and at the turn of the century returned to panarama painting. In 1898 he worked with Heine and Rohrbeck on a Spanish- American War panorama in San Francisco and in 1903 he went to Jerusalem with Heine to work on a panorama exhibited the following year at the St. Louis Exhibition. He had previously exhibited large paintings at the 1893 Chicago Worlds Fair and at the 1901 Pan American Exposition in Buffalo. For several years he had a studio in the Birchard Block on Grand Ave. where Michalowski and Schade also had studios. He sometimes painted landscapes during this period and also did mural decorations for several local restaurants. Some paintings he did with Schade can still be seen in the restaurant of the Turner Hall in Milwaukee. Like Heine he was a member of the Schlaraffia. In 1912 he began a long association with the Miwaukee public Museum, where he became chief artist in 1923. His specialty there was painting backgrounds for the many large dioramas in the museum. Before retiring in 1940 he participated in numerous museum expeditions abroad.²³
