

(Reprint from "The New York Evening World
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"THE MAN IN BLACK," ETERNALIST, MAKES A VILLAGE EXHIBIT

By W. G. Bowdoin.

In Greenwich Village there is a man named M. Clivette, with a sobriquet of "The Man in Black." He is the most talked of artist in the world. He says so himself and he ought to know if any body does.

M. Clivette is an eternalist (whatever that is), and has painted 1,000,000 pictures. (Average time thirty minutes). He knew the great Whistler, who was astonished with certain of his achievements in color harmonics and so expressed himself, which was unusual with Whistler, who was, as everybody knows, rather timid about expressing an opinion.

Otherwise, it may be said of "The Man in Black" that he has written himself down upon the map of Greenwich Village, where he and Mme.

Clivette conduct the Art Mecca, at No. 1 Sheridan Square, right near the Greenwich Village Theatre. M. Clivette has a personality and is a well-known globe trotter and literary man. He has written forty-five books. He has a reputation as a palmist, a prestigitator, and an astrologer. He has read the horoscopes of Europe's greatest rulers. He is thus equipped for the practice of his art and the window artist who formerly painted pictures while the gapping crowds looked wonderingly on had nothing whatever on M. Clivette.

His present exhibition at the Art Mecca consists of a gathering of Village Vamps (they're still wet). These paintings are quickly produced. They are intended to show the soulful side of their subjects, which are vampires (not firemen, as you might be led to suppose from their titles).

One of the girlies is painted in cobalt, as indicative of her mood, to say nothing of her tense.

The pictures are nailed to the walls of the exhibition gallery somewhat after the fashion followed by holders of Confederate bonds or investors in certain mining shares, which went down, down to infinity until they could be used as wallpaper and for nothing else.

They show the emotional side of the village life, and Mary, Jane, Fanny, Louise, Rose, Kitty, and a whole flock of other girls enter into the showing at \$500 per.

Some of Mr. Clivette's paintings of the western country are listed at \$3,000 each, and he says he sells a lot of them to the swell visitors that crowd his Mecca, convoyed thither from the buses that carry the sight-seers.

One of the small galleries of the Mecca is filled with pen and ink sketches of the village notables and of the various visitors that have shed white lights upon the place, and that on going away have left only gloom behind. The influence of the Mecca upon various temperaments is religiously (?) registered, and the range of psychology is shown to be both wide and deep.

A visit to the Art Mecca is really needful if one wishes to be liberally educated, and besides the shades of Thomas Paine, Edgar Allan Poe, Nathaniel Hawthorne and O. Henry constantly hover over the place—and there you are.

Among the other paintings is one of Rodin, which is alone worth a trip to the Art Mecca.

(Reprint from "The Guide of New York
After Dark)

GREENWICH VILLAGE

Next we come to Greenwich Village, a sort of Latin Quarter, a page of New York's yesterday, where the streets run crazy breaking themselves into irregular squares and winding lanes. It is now the haunt of artists and authors; here may be seen many quaint shops and eating places. A stop is made in the Heart of the Colony to visit the "Art Mecca, Home of the Soul Light Shrine." This house is 165 years old and the basement leads to underground passages and a dungeon where, according to M. Clivette the proprietor, slaves were held awaiting sale in the Anti-Bellum days.

M. Clivette is an artist, author and traveller. As a globe trotter he has collected many paintings and novelties which are on exhibition. On the second floor is a collection of sketches from local models which he terms "The Greenwich Village Nuts" also numerous paintings including "The Satyre and the Nymphs." In the garret one comes to the little room where Thomas Paine did much of his literary work and where many other men including Edgar Allen Poe and O. Henry have written. In the dungeon is the "Soul Light Shrine" of Hindoo origin, the mystery of which is explained by the gifted lecturer, Mme. Clivette.

THE ART MECCA

HOME OF THE SOUL LIGHT SHRINE

No. 1 SHERIDAN SQUARE

1919