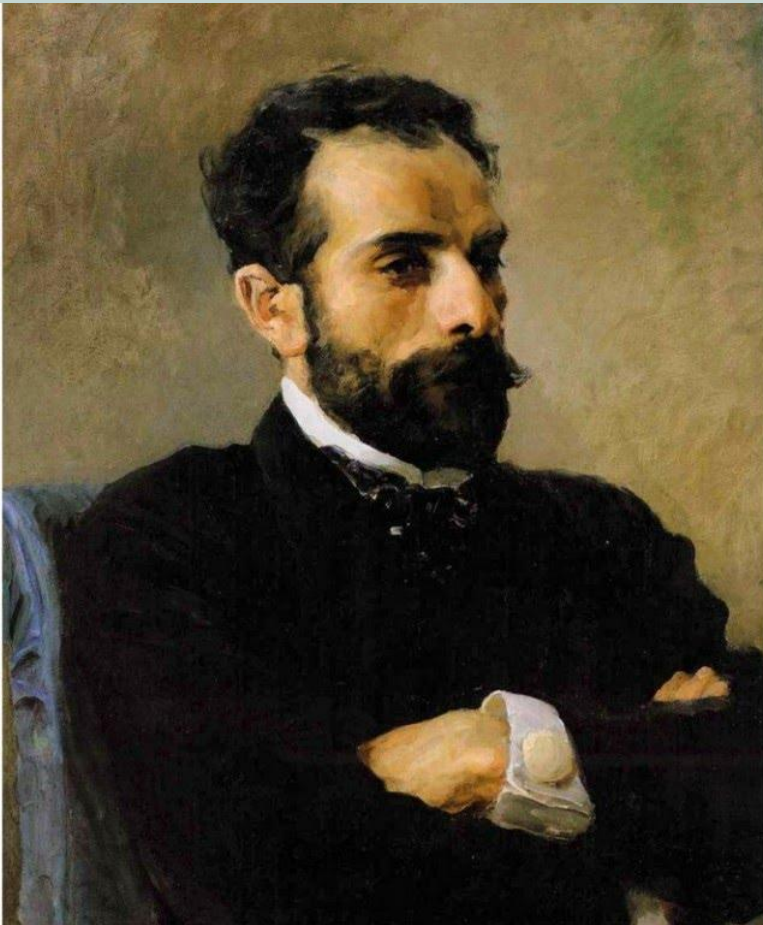


Isaac Ilich Levitan
(1860-1900)-Russian artist,
master of "mood landscape".



Origin.

Levitan was born in the town of Cybarth, Mariampolsky County, August Province, in an educated, impoverished Jewish family. In addition to Isaac, three more children grew up in the family: brother Abel Leib (later took the name Adolf), sisters Teresa and Michle.

Station Kybartai, Lithuania. Here was the childhood of Levitan.



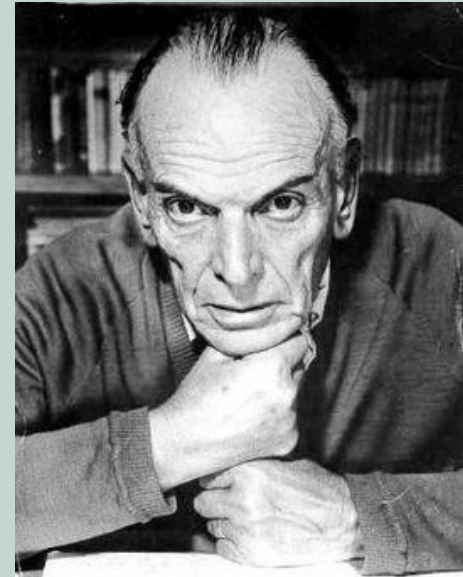
Early years.



**Moscow School of Painting,
Sculpture and Architecture
at Myasnitskaya.**

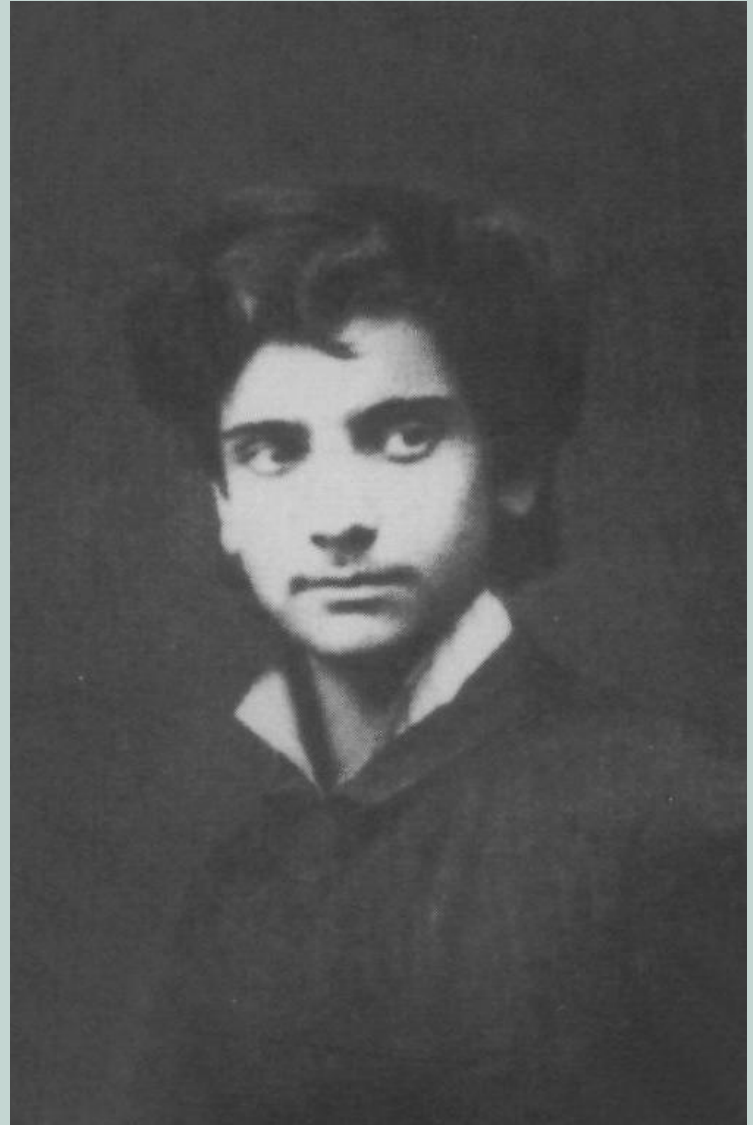
Levitan's father, seeking to improve his financial situation and educate his children, moved with his family to Moscow in the early 1870s. In 1871, Isaac's elder brother, Abel Leib, entered the Moscow School of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture. In the autumn of 1873 thirteen-year-old Isaac entered the school.

“Levitan was given everything easily, nevertheless, he worked hard, with great endurance”-recalled his comrade, the famous painter Mikhail Nesterov.



“A talented Jewish boy annoyed other teachers. The Jew, in their opinion, should not have touched the Russian landscape. It was a case of indigenous Russian artists”- wrote Konstantin Paustovsky.

In the spring of 1885, at the age of 24, Levitan graduated from college. He did not receive the title of the artist - he was given a diploma of a penmanship teacher.



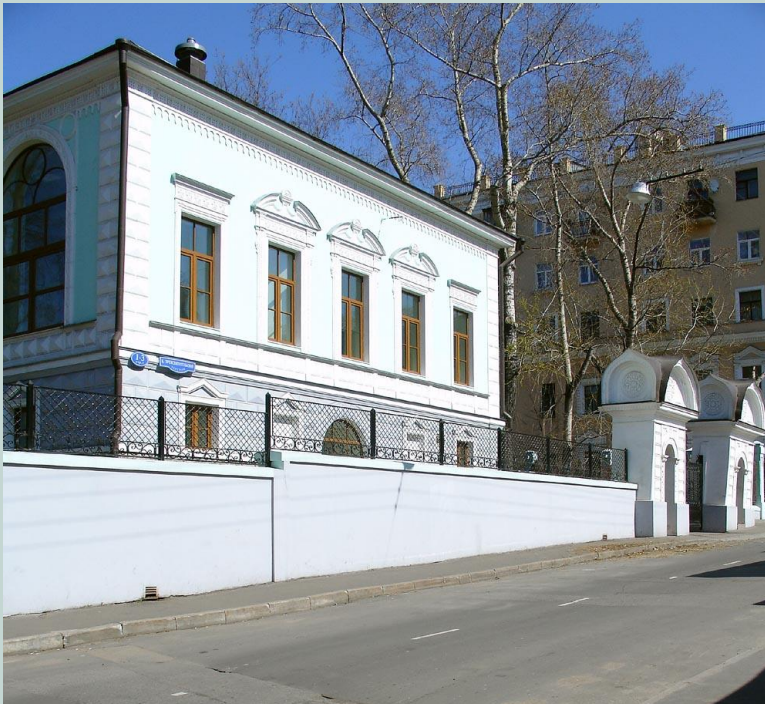
Becoming an artist.

Levitan left the Moscow School of Painting and Sculpture without a diploma. There was no money. In April 1885, he settled near Babkin, in the remote village of Maksimovka. In the mid-1880, the material situation of the artist improved. However, a hungry childhood, hectic life, strenuous work affected health - his heart disease sharply worsened. A trip to Crimea in 1886 strengthened her strength. Upon his return, Levitan organized an exhibition of fifty landscapes. In the late 1880s - early 1890s, Levitan headed the landscape class at the School of Fine Arts of artist-architect AO Gunst.





In March 1891, Isaac Levitan became a member of the Association of Traveling Art Exhibitions. Moscow philanthropist Sergey Morozov, who was fascinated by painting and was friends with Levitan, provided the artist with a very convenient workshop in Trisvyatitelsky Lane.



By the spring of 1892, Levitan completed the painting “Autumn” and exhibited it at the XX Mobile Exhibition along with three more paintings: “At the Whirlpool”, “Summer” and “October”.



"At the Whirlpool"



"Autumn"



"Summer"



"October"



In 1892, Levitan as "the face of the Jewish religion" was forced to leave Moscow and lived for some time in the Tver and Vladimir provinces. Then, thanks to the efforts of friends, the artist "as an exception" was allowed to return. This period is his canvas "Vladimirka", which shows the road along which the convicts were driven to Siberia.

In August, Levitan wrote "Nenuphars", and in the fall on the Szhezha River half a kilometer from the manor - "Golden Autumn".



"Nenuphars"



"Golden Autumn".

Also in 1895, Levitan rewrote the painting “Fresh Wind. Volga.”





The house-workshop of the artist I. I. Levitan in the Three Saints Lane.

In 1898, Levitan was awarded the title of academic landscape painting. He began to teach in the very school in which he studied himself. The artist dreamed of creating the “House of Landscapes” - a large workshop in which all Russian landscape painters could work.

July 22 1900, at 8 hours 35 minutes, Isaac Levitan died. He did not live quite a bit before his 40th birthday. About 40 unfinished paintings and about 300 etudes remained in his workshop. His last work, “The Lake,” also remained unfinished.

He was buried on July 25, 1900 in the old Jewish cemetery, next to the Dorogomilovsky cemetery.



