

Vasily Dmitrievich Polenov





Vasily Dmitrievich Polenov was a Russian landscape painter associated with the Peredvizhniki movement of realist artists. His vision of life can be summarized as following: “Art should promote happiness and joy”.

As a native of St. Petersburg, he grew up in a wealthy, intellectual and artistic family. The painter's dad, Dmitri Polenov, was a well-known archaeologist and bibliographer. His mother, Maria Alekseevna, was a portrait painter. His younger sister, Elena, was also an artist.



Maria Alekseevna Polenova



Elena Dmitrievna Polenova

Polenov's grandmother, Vera Voeikova, was also very important to the painter during his childhood. She received an excellent education as a young girl, knew French and Russian literature.



Spending time at Vera Voeikova`s estate Olshanka in the Tambov province was one of the brightest memories of Vasily`s childhood. He was growing up surrounded by the beauty of the estate, so he was always highly sensitive towards nature and its powerful charm.



«Pond in the park. Olshanka» by Polenov was created in 1877. It is one of the most famous paintings. The painter created a wonderful view thanks to an excellent composition and a successful use of colour and light. The painting is so clear and simple, and it seems that everything is seen through the eyes of a child. Now this masterpiece can be found at the State Tretyakov Gallery in Moscow.

