



GEORGE J. ILLIAN

GEORGE J. ILLIAN begann seine künstlerische Laufbahn mit der Absicht, Porträtmaler zu werden. Erst nachdem er seine Studien, die er in seiner Heimatstadt Milwaukee, in Chicago und später in München betrieb, fast beendet hatte, kam er von der Porträtmalerei ab.

Leben und Leute seines Zeitalters durch das Mittel der Illustration und der angewandten Kunst darzustellen, erschien ihm wichtiger und interessanter, als sich in die für den Porträtmaler notwendige konventionelle Laufbahn drängen zu lassen. Er stellt sich nun die Aufgabe, eine Art bildlicher Chronik seiner Zeitgenossen zu entwerfen.

IT is interesting to know that George J. Illian started his artistic career with the idea of becoming a portrait painter. It was not until he had practically finished his art education—he studied in Milwaukee, his native city, in Chicago and later in Munich—that he lost interest in the portrait field. It seemed to him more important that he should depict the life and people of his generation through the medium of illustration and commercial work than that he should follow in the conventional path which a portrait painter must follow. Thus his present work is a pictorial record of his generation and so his theme is necessarily a modern one.

Robert Frank