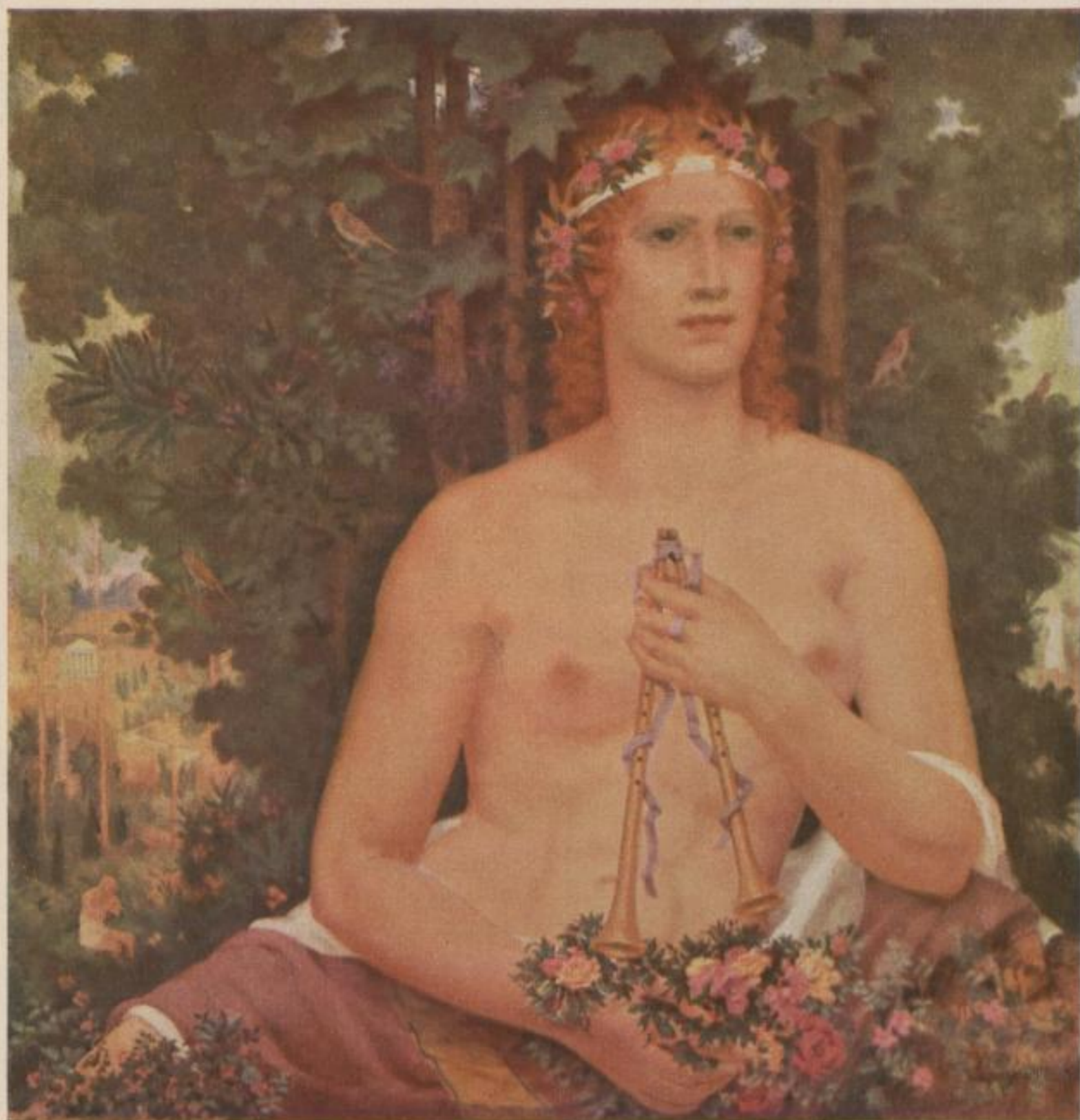


„Euterpe“  
Ölgemälde  
Oil painting  
1940



J. V. CISSARZ

The 70<sup>th</sup> birthday of J.V.Cissarz, painter and graphic artist was chosen as a fitting occasion for publishing a selection of his work in the current issue. Preparations for the same took place during the artist's last serious illness which resulted in his death on December 22, 1942. And so instead of the proposed appreciation of this artist's work as a birthday honour we publish a commemorative article thus employing the sad occasion to do full justice to a true German artist's life work that extended over nearly half a century. Johann Vincenz Cissarz who was born in Danzig in 1873 entered the Dresden Academy as a student in 1896 where he achieved his first pronounced success as a designer of posters. The book-jacket for Rilke-Wildberg's "Wegwarten" published in 1896 was his first effort in book art

which he himself has called an "incunabula of modern book art". Eugen Diederichs, Jena, Callweg, art publishers, Munich and various other publishers engaged the young Dresden academician for the lay-out and illustrations of their publications. Anyone who remembers the revival of German book culture in those days knows full well the enormous significance of publications like "Der Kunstwart" whose striking signet was designed by Cissarz, or "Der deutsche Spielmann". Under the same heading are various books published by Eugen Diederichs who engaged Cissarz's services for the entire lay-out. Thanks to his success in this field of activity Cissarz was invited to take up work in the Grand Duke Ernst Ludwig Artist's Colony at Darmstadt. Here he found ample scope for his activities in the