

	Object:	The Painter in Front of a Burning House
	Museum:	Magyar Nemzeti Galéria Szent György tér 2. 1014 Budapest (20) 439 7325
	Collection:	Festészeti Gyűjtemény
	Inventory number:	FEO_67.233T

Description

At the end of the 1930s, the system of symbols that Imre Ámos used in his paintings, nourished by Hasidic Jewish culture, began to take on new meaning through his childhood experiences. The increasingly menacing events of history affected the artist directly when he was called up for compulsory “labour service”. In his diary he wrote about how the painting was made and how he tried to block out the disastrous situation around him. Working in the idyllic realm of his garden in Szentendre, the artist is surrounded by symbolic motifs. Tongues of flame spurt from the roof of the house, but the ladder stands empty, and even the angel turns away. There is a look of incomprehension on the face of the abandoned figure, and dramatic tension is conveyed through the restrained contrast of sombre tones. The last set of paintings that Ámos produced in the next few years contained increasingly dark, apocalyptic visions that foretold the impending destruction.

Basic data

Material/Technique:	canvas / oil
Measurements:	90 × 68.5 cm

Events

Painted	When	After 1940
	Who	Imre Ámos (1907-1944)
	Where	

Keywords

- Painting
- festészet