

ALTMAN Natan (1864-1929), artist and painter. He was born in the village of Gliny (registered in the Pławno records), the son of Jakub (1830-1922), a trader, and Zelda (1841-1925) née Grosberg. His parents married in Pilica and settled down in Pławno. They later moved to Siewierz, Konopiska and Poczesna. In 1880, they settled permanently in Częstochowa. They spent the rest of their lives here, living at al. Kościuszki 2. (They are buried in the local Jewish cemetery; his mother's grave is No.1941 I).

He was probably educated in Częstochowa at the local government high school. After graduating, he studied at Wojciech Gerson's drawing school in Warsaw, then in Vienna and until 1895, at the Munich Academy. He lived in Łódź from 1895 until 1904, when he left permanently for Berlin.

He was a respected portrait artist, but he also created landscapes. He was also known as an excellent copier (mainly copying the works of Rembrandt and Rubens). He presented his own works at an exhibition in Warsaw, at the Society for the Promotion of Fine Arts (TZSP), in 1893, 1897, 1901, 1902, 1910/11, 1913/14, 1924, 1925) and at the Krywult Salon in 1898, 1901, 1902. He took part in painting competitions (among them, in 1898, organised by the TZSP).

He died in December 1929 in Berlin. His funeral took place on 11th December Berlin Weissensee cemetery. He left around 100 paintings which, at the end of December 1929, were transported to Warsaw. Two of his portraits of the Braun couple (from 1900) can be found in the collection of the Jewish Historical Institute.

Kempa, Szukalak, *Żydzi dawnej Łodzi*, Vol. II, p. 12; Paszkowski, *Cmentarz żydowski*, Vol. I, p. 19 (regarding his mother); SAP, Vol. I, p. 25. – "Express Częstochowski" 1929, No. 289, p. 2 (posthumous memoirs). - Materials (excerpts from registers) in ODDC.

Wiesław Paszkowski