

Raphy Dallèves (1878–1940)

CV and exhibition history

Valais painter of the École de Savièse, a "modern primitive" (F. Elsig, 1999). Compiled by the Dallèves family after Elsig's chronology. English version, July 2026.

CONCISE BIOGRAPHY

1878	Born 26 January in Sion, son of Raphaël Dallèves, State Chancellor of Valais, and Marie Cropt.
1890–1898	Collège de Sion; first training under Joseph Morand (1865–1932).
1899–1905	Paris: Académie Julian (1899–1900), École des Beaux-Arts (1901–1905). Marked by the 1900 Exposition Universelle and Japonisme; a regular visitor to the Louvre's Italian galleries.
1903	Co-founds the Société des Traditions valaisannes and the Savièse section of the SPSAS, alongside Ernest Biéler. <i>Elsig's chronology (1999) gives 1905.</i>
1906	Settles permanently in Valais (Sion, Mayens de Sion, Évolène).
1913	Elected associate member of the Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts, Paris (12 June 1913).
1937	Appointed to the Cantonal Commission for Historic Monuments.
1940	Dies 6 July in Sion. Bequeaths the bulk of his œuvre (c. 200 works) to the City of Sion and the State of Valais; the bequest founds the Musée cantonal des beaux-arts du Valais (1947).

EXHIBITIONS DURING THE ARTIST'S LIFETIME (selection, Elsig chronology)

1905	Munich
1907	Paris, Salon de la Société Nationale des Beaux-Arts
1909	Munich, Glaspalast · Sion, Cantonal Exhibition
1911	Rome · Berlin · Zurich
1913	Zurich · Munich (Swiss representation, with Hodler, Amiet and Giacometti) · Paris
1916	Zurich, Helmhaus, "Walliser Maler" (with Edmond Bille and Verheun), 7–25 March
1917	Lausanne (Bille–Dallèves exhibition)
1918	Zurich · Basel · La Chaux-de-Fonds
1921	Zurich, Zunfthaus zur Waag
1926	Sion
1928	Sierre, Cantonal Exhibition
1931	Sion
1932	Winterthur
1934	Sion, Casino hall (last exhibition in his lifetime)

POSTHUMOUS EXHIBITIONS (SELECTION)

1947	Sion, opening of the Musée cantonal des beaux-arts : two rooms devoted to Dallèves.
2006	Vevey, Musée Jenisch, "Collection d'été 06" (École de Savièse alongside Hodler, Steinlen and Balthus).
2012–2013	Sion, Musée d'art du Valais, "L'École de Savièse. Welcome to Paradise!"
2020–2021	Sion, Musée d'art du Valais, "My Pleasure! Donations, etc. 2000–2020" (the Dallèves bequest as the museum's founding narrative).

PUBLIC COLLECTIONS

Musée d'art du Valais (Sion) · Aargauer Kunsthaut · Swiss National Museum, Château de Prangins · Commune de Sion · Cantonal Library of Valais · Bishopric of Sion · Federal Tribunal, Lausanne · Banque cantonale du Valais (corporate collection) · listed in the Musée d'Orsay artists registry (notice 127859).

ESSENTIAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

Frédéric **Elsig**, *Raphy Dallèves. Un primitif moderne*, Éditions du Verseau, Denges, 1999.

Frédéric **Elsig**, "Raphy Dallèves (1878–1940), un 'primitif moderne'", *Revue suisse d'art et d'archéologie*, 55, 1998, pp. 41–44.

Louis **Buzzini**, *Raphy Dallèves*, Lausanne, 1941.

William **Ritter**, "Raphy Dallèves, pittore vallesano", *Emporium*, 54, 1921.

Bernard **Wyder**, "L'École de Savièse ou le centenaire d'une appellation controversée", *Vallesia*, 46, 1991, pp. 155–167.

A contemporary of Cubism who chose the Quattrocento.

Dallèves family · raphydalleves.com · Individual object files available on request