

Biography

Andreas Ruud Larsen was born on January 21st, 1876 in the county of Hedmark in Norway. He was trained as an interior designer, but later moved to Nuremberg, Germany to study painting, drawing and design. Larsen also lived for a period in France before moving to New York in 1903.

In 1909, Larsen was hired to head the art glass department of the Minneapolis glass and paint company Forman, Ford and Company. He worked there for fourteen years before deciding to establish his own company with Edward Gertsch in 1923. While working for Forman, Ford and Co. Larsen remained involved in the Minneapolis art community. Several of his paintings were featured in local and national exhibitions between 1911 and 1925.

Larsen's stained glass work was distinctive among his contemporaries due to his habit of creating smaller scenes constructed of small sections of colored glass, often with red and blue dominating his color scheme. This practice had fallen out of favor among many of his contemporaries both in the U.S. and in Norway, but experienced a revitalization around the same time that Larsen was creating his commercial work. His work has similar influences to the work of Louis Tiffany (1848-1943). He also had a professional association with the most famous stained glass maker of the time, Mr. Charles J. Connick (1875-1945) of Boston, MA.

Larsen ran the Andreas R. Larsen Stained and Leaded Glass Company successfully until his death on December 15, 1942. His was survived by his wife, Sigrid, who sold a number of sketches, drawings, books, pictures and samples of Mr. Larsen's work to the Athenaeum in 1943.

In 2000, some of Larsen's sketches were selected for exhibition by the Minnesota Historical Society for their exhibit *Vandring: Norwegian-American Painters in Minnesota, 1870-1970*. This exhibition took place from April 1, 2000 until October 15, 2000 at the James J. Hill House Art Gallery.

Collection Description

The collection consists of four boxes and a map drawer. Box 1 contains biographical information and documents about the stained glass windows as well as the use of the sketches in an exhibit in 2000. Box 2 and 3 contain sketches of stained glass windows. Box 4 contains small pieces of stained glass. The map drawer contains oversized sketches of stained glass windows.

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

Nov. 6 - 27

Rev. P. Zwicki
10 - Eleventh Ave. W.
Duluth.

Dear Rev.

You will please pardon my delay
in answering your letter of Oct 27th
as I have been compelled to stay at home
ever since the beginning, or early middle part
of the week, but happy to report back
at work to morrow morning.

Your window were ready for shipment
when your letter arrived, but we changed
the union according to your order and I
now understand it is in Duluth.

Will you please see that the scaffold is
there when my union comes up to
install the window; I think we will be
there in middle of week (will notify you tomorrow)

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

This man is an expert at his work
but he needs one of your men to give
him a lift getting things up and down.

I hope you like the window as we
have great hope for it to be very
satisfying when in its place. I am
glad to see the prospect of more windows.
I will be in Duluth in end of the week
to look over the big window and shall
be pleased to see at that time.

Sincerely yours

Andreas R. Larsen

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

November 7, 1927.

Father B. Zucchi
St. Peter's Catholic Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

Our man will arrive
in Duluth on Thursday morning to install
your window. I hope everything will be
ready so he can go right to work with the
setting.

Very sincerely yours,

A.F.L/G

Andreas R. Larsen

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

November 22, 1927.

Father B. Zucchi
St Peter's Catholic Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

I am sure that by this time you have the sketches, which I by mistake stated were enclosed in letter, but were mailed under separate cover. The dimensions of the lanterns will be 14" by 24". We will mail you today under separate cover a tracing of shape of lantern, and also a piece of the glass that is to be used.

One of the small square panels will be hinged, so you can replace bulbs if necessary. To get these lanterns out on time, it will be well to order them as soon as possible.

I am on jury duty this week, and have hardly no time to do things I want to do in the business. I find it impossible to come around and see clients, and make necessary collections this week, and if it is possible for you to mail me the remainder of the pay for the big window, it would help me wonderfully. If not possible, please let me know, so I may try to make other collections.

Very sincerely yours,

A. R. Larsen
Stained & Leaded Glass

A. R. Larsen

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.

Minneapolis

December 5, 1927.

Father B. Zucchi
St. Peter's Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

I have your letter of December 3d for which I thank you. I shall be glad to do my best in following your instructions as far as possible with the Resurrection window. I have been on jury duty for the last two weeks, and could be in the office but very little; for that reason, I wrote you regarding the check for \$200.00 due from the big window, and as I understood from your letter you would mail it to me last week, I depended on that and am now up against it. You mention a term of three months for the last window. That is impossible - I made a price so low on these windows that I cannot wait for my money. There is no glass house in the U.S. or Canada that gives terms of three months anymore unless prearranged - thirty days is the limit. Don't you see I must pay for the glass in thirty days, labor is paid cash every Saturday. How then can I wait three months for my returns? I am giving you this work at such close margins that when I am through with the whole thing I have not enough left to pay interest on the money I must borrow in order to wait three months for my pay. I am better off doing nothing than that.

We are coming fine with your window, and in order to get these two windows cut on time, have started the borders on the second window. You will find copy of inscriptions for Resurrection window - if not correct, please notify.

MPS. ROCHELE PICHETTI

IN MEMORY OF LOUIS J. PICHETTI

Sincerely yours.

Andreas R. Larsen

AFL/G

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

April 14, 1928.

Rev. B. Zucchi
St. Peter's Catholic Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

I have your letter of
April 12th with enclosed check. Thank you.

We shall start the cartoon for the
Visitation window, and bear in mind your
remarks. When spring comes, and I can make
a trip to Duluth, I shall look over your
windows and see if anything can be done
with the Resurrection window. If you are
coming down to the City, I shall be glad
to meet you and take you around.

Very sincerely yours,

arl/g

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

May 18, 1928.

Rev. B. Zucchi
Saint Peter's Catholic Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

We have been working on a job which has required a great deal more work than we ever anticipated, and as it is a contract job, we have been working day and night to get it out on time. As a result of this, we have had very little time to work on anything else, but we are now ready to go to work on your window and hope to have it ready for you soon.

Very sincerely yours,

arl/g

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

June 1, 1928.

Rev. B. Zucchi
St. Peter's Catholic Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

We are now working on the Visitation window for your Church, and are getting along fine. We have the size of the ventilator for the center panel as ten inches, but do not know if this is the size of the glass or the ventilator. If this is the glass size, will you please send us the measurement of the ventilator ?

Could you also let us know the size of the stop that separates the leaded glass from the storm glass. Thanking you, we are

Very sincerely yours,

A.R. Larsen,
Stained & Leaded Glass

eg.g

Edw. Petros (Sept.)

Duluth, Minnesota.
June 16th, 1928.

Andreas R. Larsen,
3005 Hennepin Ave.,
Minneapolis, Minn.

My dear Sir :-

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of June 14th, 1928, regarding ventilator for stained-glass window which you are furnishing for our Church.

We have gone over this matter thoroly and have decided that we do not desire the double ventilator. Therefore, kindly furnish the single ventilator as shown on our tracing, which we enclose herewith. Please note that we have checked the dimension questioned by your Company.

As the doner of this window has called several times offering payment for the window, we would be pleased to have you rush same, that it may be installed at the very earliest date possible.

Thanking you for your sincere interest in this matter,

Yours very truly,

Pastor,

Architect.

PS/c.

Encl- Tracing.

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-7 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

February 19, 1929.

Reverend B. Zucchi
Saint Peter's Catholic Church
Duluth, Minnesota.

Dear Father Zucchi:

We wish to thank you for your order for the Ascension Window. In order to assure you of its installation before Easter, we have already started on the detail drawings, according to your instructions, and feel sure that we shall be able to make you a beautiful window from this.

Very sincerely yours,

ARL/g



Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-7 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

May 31 1929.

Rev. B. Zucchi
St. Peter's Church
10 Elevent Ave. W.
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Father Zucchi:

You will please find under separate cover two sketches, one for each of the two windows you ordered on May 21th. I thank you very much for the order and if we have not quite reached what you had in mind please give instructions. You may have an idea for the tops of these windows, the two small panels in each window. I do not know if we have quite reached what I would like to see in there.

I have not had time to go to Duluth yet but expect to be there next week, but do not wait for me with the sketches because we need all time we may have for the execution of the work.

Very sincerely yours,

Andreas R. Larsen

KEN. 6343

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

SOLD TO
St. Peter's Italian Church
Duluth, Minn.

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE Aug. 14, 1929

Invoice March 27, 1929

\$ 7, 50

Part in bill for 27. 1929

KEN. 6343

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

SOLD TO
St. Peter's Italian Church
Duluth, Minnesota

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE Aug 14, 1929

Two Memorial Windows \$250,00 each

Net \$ 500,00

Part in bill for 27- 1929

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

May, 21, 1930

Rev. B. Zucchi
10 Eleventh Ave. W.
Duluth.

Dear Father Zucchi:

We mailed you a few days ago a couple of sketches for the Baptistery but forgot to let you know how much you would have to pay for them. We will make these windows for you for \$ 75.00 each, \$150.00 for the two windows, It is no use to tell you that this is a exceptional low price because you will say it is to high anyhow, but never the less that is what it is. Your big window is coming along fine. Please let me know about these small windows so we may be able to set them at the same time we install the the big window.

Sincerely yours,

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

June 2, 1930

Rev. B. Zucchi
10 Eleventh Ave. W.
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Father Zucchi:

The window is now ready for shipment as soon as we get the Ventilators from Chicago, but I would like to ask you to be kind enough to check over again the size of the long panels, the other large window above the altar were 100" long and you gave us a size of 98" long We can be prepared to change it up there, but if it is possible to avoid so doing it will be a lot better, may be the front window is shorter. Will you kindly answer at once because we expect to be able to have the window in this week.

Very sincerely yours,



Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

SOLD TO
St. Peters Italian Church
Eight Ave. W. and Th 1rd Street
Duluth, Minn.

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE April 11, 1930

Four windows installed in St. Peters Italian Church a \$250.00 for each window
Four double double Ventilators installed for \$ 12,00 each

\$1000,00

48,00

\$1048,00

350.00

698.00

*Received April 14-1930
Andreas R. Larsen*

Account Due

Per [Signature]

300.00

Balance: 898.00

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

SOLD TO
St. Peters Catholic Church
8 Ave. W. 3rd Street
Duluth.

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE June 9, 1930

One big window above entrance
Two D. D. Ventilators 14,00 each

\$ 500,00

28.00

\$ 528,00

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis
SOLD TO St. Peters Church
Duluth, Minn.

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE July 14, 1930

Bill rendered April 11th 1930	\$ 1048.00
Received April 15th	350.00
" June 17th	300.00
Balance due	\$ 398.00

Received July 15. 1930

<i>225.00</i>
<u><i>1730.00</i></u>

Andreas R. Larsen
Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis
SOLD TO St. Peters Church
Duluth Minn.

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE July 31, 1930

For two windows in Baptistery	\$ 150.00
\$ 75.00 each	

KEN. 6348

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-3007 Hennepin Ave.
Minneapolis

SOLD TO St. Peters Catholic Church
Duluth Minn.

JOB NO.

YOUR ORDER NO.

DATE Oct. 4, 1930

Balance of Invoice June 9, 1930

		301.00
Received	Oct 23 30	→ 200.00
Balance due		→ 101.00

I would be glad to receive
the little glass you promised for
our bazaar
To Zuesche

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-7 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

Nov. 26, 1930

Rev. B. Zucchi
10 Eleventh Ave. W.
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Father Zucchi:

It is allready over a month since I received your last check for \$200.00 and with the request for the small plaque for your bazaar, I should have mailed you one long ago, but we are very busy with a job that got to be ready in the Church by Dec. 7th and I had in mind to make you a little plaque, but you may want to use it now before Christmas so I am sending you one under separate cover; this one is sold for 15.00 never less, if we can not get that we keep them for they are very much in vogue now incerted in leaded glass in finer homes, if we make one of this separate for hanging in window we get 20.00 a piece. I give you the price on this so you have a guide for pricing it at the Bazaar. I will probably give you another later for an other bazaar if this one goes good.

If it is posible for you to mail me your check for the remaining part, deducting your express bill I shall appreciate it greatly. I have a lot of work under construction right now but am absclutely up against it with money to cary on the work so I am asking all hwere I have a few dollars coming and am in hope it will be posible for them to respond.

Very sincerely yours,

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-7 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

Jan. 27. 1931

Rev. B. Zucchi
10 Eleventh Ave. W.
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Father Zucchi:

Hope you are enjoying the same fine summer weather we are having here and that this year will bring you a lot of good.

In going over the books I find that I have not carried on the books the two baptistry windows which were installed in the end of July, but I gave you a bill for them for 150.00, so the remaining part you owe me now is 251.00 less the fright bill you have against me. If it is possible for you to do something for me this week it will be greatly appreciated and if it is impossible for you to do anything please let me know so I may see what I can do somewhere else before Saturday. If the weather ceeps up this way for a while longer I may go to Duluth and if so will call on you.

Following is the list we billed you for last year:

April 11th 1930	4 windows a 250.00 each	1000.00
	4 Ventilators	48.00
June 9th "	1 big window	500.00
	2 Ventilators	28.00
July 31st	2 Baptistry Windows	150.00

Total 1726.00

Received from You:

April 15th 1930	350.00
June 17th "	300.00
July 16th "	225.00
Aug. 1st "	200.00
" 13th "	200.00
October 23rd "	200.00

1475.00

1726.00
1475.00

251.00

Balance due now

W. 175.00
W. 76.00
251.00
151.00
11.42
139.58
151.00

aug. 31 - 1931
151.00
11.42
139.58
151.00
151.00
151.00

in full
aug 31 - 1931

Andreas R. Larsen

part in full aug. 31 - 1931

Andreas R. Larsen

Stained and Leaded Glass



3005-7 Hennepin Avenue So.
Minneapolis

Aug. 4, 1931

Rev. B. Zucchi
10 Elevent Ave. W.
Duluth, Minn.

Dear Father Zucchi:

How are you in these warm Summer days, I was in Duluth a Cuple of weeks ago and stept in to say halloo, but you had gone up to the Iron Range for the day, We had been up to Two Harbors and came back again ~~thru~~ thru the Sweet Clover field Valley and had a most delightful trip.

How is everything in Duluth, would it be posible for you to help me out with something for Saturday, if you can i will appreciate it very much, please write me anyhow because I must make some arrangements for the end of the week, how I am going to I dont know. We have work, but every thing is tyed up in half done work and in such shape that I can not go and ask for ~~for~~ any money on any of it for a couple of weeks yet.

Please see what you can do ,if you cant it can not be helpt, but it would dc me a lot of good right now.

Sincerely yours,