

## Who Am I?

Born in a kingdom within an empire,  
I was destined to set the world on fire.

Unusual subjects I did seek,  
Altaica found at the very peak.

Gathering photos for my success,  
I travelled the roads of the rural US,  
I took the city's transportation,  
And to the dead of a foreign nation.

A Patee exhibit in '72  
Put me on the list of Who's Who.  
For my solo show attention swirled,  
Raising flags around the world.

A retrospective in '09,  
Works by six others - a tribute so fine.  
At a gallery in The Big Smoke,  
Big trucks and art and uppity folk.

Photos and sketches lined the walls,  
A model of my early work was installed.  
How I became famous is a mystery to me,  
But there was my life, for all to see.

Alas, I was taken far too young,  
Sadly, my career had just begun.  
A tragedy that blew up in my face,  
While on assignment in a peculiar place.

I came from nothing, but my fate was sealed,  
It was in Columbia that I was revealed.  
Around the world I am now renowned,  
And even my name has become a noun.

Don't you believe all that you see.  
1850 was a birthplace for me.  
What's written here is just a start.  
Discover my name for the other part!