

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ASSELIN, Jean-François

Roncey 1771 – St Petersburg 1803

Pastel portraitist from a family of artists from Coutances; he and his father François-Jacques were pupils of Robert Bichue (1705–1789). It is said that he worked in the royal porcelain factory in Paris (Sèvres?) around 1790. He emigrated during the Revolution and lived in Dresden until 1801, where he copied pastels by Mengs (his *Amor* was described as “voll Kraft und Leben”) and exhibited two of his own pastels which demonstrated “Weichheit und gefällige Behandlung”. He returned to France before settling definitively in St Petersburg, where he married a Russian princess shortly before his death.

Bibliography

AKL; Bénézit; Campe 1833; Füllli 1806; Jean-François Hamel & René Gautier, *Dictionnaire des personnages remarquables de la Manche*, II

Pastels

AUTO PORTRAIT, pstl (desc.: family PC). Lit.: Bénézit
~cop. (Countances, musée)
François-Jacques ASSELIN (1741–1813), père de
Partiste, pstl (desc.: family PC). Lit.: Bénézit
~cop. (Countances, musée)
Amor, m/u, a/τ Mengs, Dresden 1800
Zwei Portraits, pstl, Dresden 1800