

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ALLAIS, Mlle Catherine-Élisabeth

fl. Paris 1759–87

Daughter of the sculptor Jean-Louis Allais, and pupil of Aved, she took part in the Expositions de la jeunesse from as early as 1759, with a large portrait of *Une dame travaillant à de la tapisserie* (medium unspecified, but presumably in oil), which she exhibited again the following year, to the irritation of the critic in the *Avant-Coureur*. Ten years later, Mme Durocher wrote to Marigny on her behalf (24.VI.1769), requesting her admission to the Académie and mentioning Chardin, Pajou, Pierre, Lagrenée and Vien as referees; Marigny (9.VII.1769) refused to intervene. The following year, she was in court, seeking payment for a portrait of a M. Petit which, in its unfinished state, was valued by Lefèvre at 30 livres.

In 1779 a Mlle Allais exhibited a pastel at the Salon de la Correspondance, from rue des Fossés Saint-Germain, à côté de l'horloger du Roi; it is by no means clear that this is the same person.

Wildenstein (1922) reproduces a painting (no. 149) from the Doistau collection (Paris, 9–11.VI.1909, Lot 1) which is not by Aved, but which he speculates could be by his pupil; it does not have much in common with the only pastel we have seen, which shows distinctive parallel hatchings on the coat, following the fabric rather than the light.

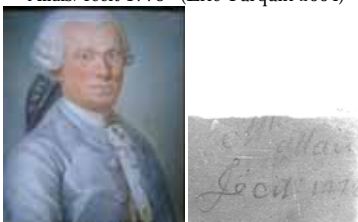
Bibliography

Archives nationales, Maison du roi, *Correspondance général, beaux-arts*, Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Wildenstein 1921, p. 99; Wildenstein 1922

Salon critiques: Salon de la Jeunesse 1760

Pastels

Homme en habit bleu, pstl/ppr, sd “Mlle Allais/fecit 1778” (Eric Turquin 2004) **Φ**



Homme qui s'occupe des sciences et des arts, au moment où il réfléchit sur quelque chose qu'il vient de lire, pstl, Salon de la Correspondance 1779