

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

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AUFFDIENER, Mme Joseph Aglacé, née Marie-Antoinette May

fl. Portugal 1794

The French engineer and freemason baron Joseph Auffdiener (1760–1811) was the son of Louis Auffdiener, contrôleur des droits du roi à Versailles, and his wife, née Geneviève de Rémusat (an aunt of the émailleur Pierre-Charles Auzou). He was educated at the École des ponts et chaussées in Paris until 1789 when at the request of the Portuguese ambassador he was sent to join the Portuguese service where he served as colonel of engineers; his surviving maps and plans indicate that he was a talented draughtsman. Best known for his second wife (whom he married in Porto, 4.X.1806), the writer Caroline Vuïet (1766–1835), his first wife, Marie-Antoinette or Maria Antonieta May, appears on the army records for their son Louis-Auguste, born in Viana do Castelo, 4.II.1794. A second child, Emilia Antonia, married João de Roure; their daughter Sophia, born in 1821, was a noted poet. Joseph Auffdiener was imprisoned and died in Portsea, Hampshire during the Franco-Portuguese war (buried there 27.II.1811). Antoinette Auffdiener's amateur pastel, much in the manner of Pillement (who perhaps taught her), is dedicated to Maryanne Parminter, Mme George Frend (1752–1805), who had married a merchant in Porto in 1778. Although the inscription on her pastel is in French, it is possible that Antoinette was related to the family of Joseph May of the British Factory in Lisbon, who, with his wife Mary Coppendale and their six children, was portrayed by Angelica Kauffman after their return to Hampshire in 1775.

Bibliography

A. A. de Fonseca Pinto, *Parnaso mariano*, Coimbra, 1890, p. 291; Carlos Henrique de Moura Rodrigues Martins, *O Programa de Obras Públicas para o Território de Portugal Continental, 1789–1809*, Tese de doutoramento, Universidade de Coimbra, 2014 [on Joseph Auffdiener]

Pastels

[J.1161.101](#) Rustic scene, cr. clr, inscr. “Dédié à Mme Frend par son amie M. A. May Auffdiener” (National Trust, A La Ronde, Devon. Mme Frend; her sister, Jane Parminter; desc.) ø

