

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

AVRIL, Marie-Victoire d'

f. Paris 1780–1800

Portrait painter in oil, pastel and miniature; she exhibited at both the Salon de la Correspondance (where her portrait in miniature by Mlle Frémy, *q.v.*, was also shown) and the place Dauphine in 1783. Vincent left the self-portrait of his wife Mme Labille-Guiard (*qq.v.*), Mlle Avril's teacher, to her: "Cet ouvrage dans lequel brille un talent aussi délicat que spirituel, ne peut, j'en suis assuré, qu'être précieux à Melle d'Avril puisqu'il lui rappellera les traits de l'amie qui lui fut si chère à tant et de si justes titres." She is described as Marie-Victoire Davrel in documents in the Archives nationales describing the purchase of a house at Pontault-en-Brie by Mme Labille-Guiard and Vincent jointly in 1792; of the 30,000 livres price, some 4000 was provided by Mlle Capet and d'Avril, living in the rue de Richelieu. The arrangement was finally unwound in an 8. It seems very likely that she was the daughter of the engraver Jean-Jacques Avril (1744–1831), a pupil of Wille, whose son of the same name was also an engraver; one of them engraved Mme Labille-Guiard's portraits of Brizard and Ducis.

Bibliography

Doria 1934; Greer 2001; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Passez 1973; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Wildenstein 1966, pp. 79f

Pastels

AUTO PORTRAIT, Salon de la Correspondance, .VII.1783, no. 193