

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BARBIER, Nicolas-Louis

Paris a.1719–11.VI.1779

Peintre de l'Académie de Saint-Luc from 1751, rue Beaurepaire; conseiller, 1775, rue de l'Égout-Saint-Martin. From the registres de tutelles for his cousin Jean-Philippon Jolyot (AN Y4713, 7.XI.1751), we learn that he was the son of Denis-Charles Barbier, maître couvreur à Paris, and his wife, née Marie Delaunay (the document bears his signature, as N L Barbier). Marie Delaunay died in 1744, and Nicolas-Louis is not mentioned in the tuition for a daughter, implying that he was then over 25 and possibly away from Paris at the time. On 5.II.1755 (by contract of 2.II.1755), in Paris, Saint-Sauveur, he married Marie Verlinden Letellier in Paris. A receipt for rent (AN MC/ET/XXX/401) shows him still in the rue Beaurepaire in 1767. He was listed as a painter in gouache in the 1776 *Almanach*, and in 1774 he exhibited religious pictures after drawings by Cochin and landscapes in this medium (the *Mercur* review, 1.X.1774, noted that the former were “rendus avec beaucoup de soin & d'intelligence”, while the latter confirmed the artist's talent in gouache). His death in the rue Saint-Martin is recorded in the index des scellés (AN Y11). The only suggestion that he may also have worked in pastel is in his posthumous sale, which took place in Paris under Joullain (making a not inconsiderable sum of 5493 livres 9 sols) and included a good many drawings by Boucher and others, two drawings by Huet heightened with pastel, and a single sheet copied by the artist after Boucher.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Guiffrey 1915; Sanchez 2004

Pastels

J.1252.101 Autre [académie], pstl, a/r Boucher, par L. Barbier (Barbier; vente p.m., Paris, Hôtel d'Aligre, Joullain, 19.VII.1779 & seq., Lot 30 part, 20 livres 19; Leroux)