

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## **BEAUVAIS, Simon**

*fl.* London 1761–1784

Foskett gives an excellent account of the evidence for one or two miniaturists of the name of Beauvais active in London, John or Simon. A bequest in the 1784 will of the art collector, John Barnard the younger, to “Mr Simon Beauvais, miniature painter in Market Street, St James’s” seems to correspond with the artist who advertised in the *Public advertiser*, 9.IV.1782:

### MINIATURE PAINTING

Mr BEAUVAIS, at Mr Mapleson’s, Peruke-Maker, No. 12, in Market-street, St James’s Market, well known to the Nobility and Gentry, for taking off a striking Likeness in Water Colours, or India Ink, or Crayons etc.

Earlier versions of this advertisement (from c.1762) omit crayons, evidently a later accomplishment. That in the *Public advertiser*, 24.IV.1762, mentions that he is “from” Tunbridge-Wells, Brighthelmstone and Bath. He was presumably a descendant of the Huguenot watchmaker of the same name (whose will of 1707 names his grandsons as Louis Paul and Paul Beauvais), and may be the Simon Beauvais born 4.III.1715, baptised the following day at St Martin-in-the-Fields to Paul and Anne; three other brothers also mentioned in Paul’s will of 1745 were Lewis, an enameller, Isaac and Florimond Beauvais. Lewis’s son, Louis Beauvais, who died in 1796, was a wine merchant in Jermyn Sreet.

### **Bibliography**

Foskett 1987; McKechnie 1978; W. L. Rutton, “Two lord mayors of London”, *The home counties magazine*, XI, 1909, p. 6f