

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## **BERNARD, Isaac**

Saint-Lô p.1721 – Caen p.1764

Little is known about Isaac Bernard whose name (although the first part is difficult to read) appears on a 1758 pastel which however shows signs of later restoration. In the same year an Issac Bernard, peintre, was registered as an élève in the Académie royale in Paris, under the protection of Hallé, living “ché son pere rue de La Harpe ché M. Pomier vis-à-vis le Passage des Jacobins”. He must be artist of whom the following notice (describing a rather unusual working practice) appeared in the *Annales, affiches et avis divers de la Haute et Basse-Normandie* (1764, p. 278):

Le sieur Isaac Bernard, peintre, natif de la ville de Saint-Lô et établi à Caen, a fait le portrait de la feue dame Briant, épouse du receveur de la Romaine du Havre, morte il y a quelque temps. Il ne l'avoit jamais vue et il n'a travaillé que d'après ce qui lui a été dit. Ce portrait parfaitement ressemblant est admiré de tous ceux qui le voient et qui ont connu ladite dame.

He was evidently the “Isaac Bernard peintre” whose son, Morice-Isaac-Charles, was baptised in Caen, Saint-Pierre, on 11.VI.1758; his wife was Marie-Anne Duhamel. They had married in Saint-Lô, Saint-Thomas, 13.I.1746; he, a minor (so born after 1721), was the son of Jean Bernard, maître tailleur in the town, and his wife, Catherine Noel.

### **Bibliography**

*Bulletin de la Société de l'histoire de Normandie*, XV, 1935, pp. 23f

### **Pastels**

J1462.101 Jeune femme, pstl/ppr, 69.5x58, sd “[Isaac] Bernard/Pinxit/1758” (Bordeaux, mBA, inv. Bx M 365, Bx E 1432. Legs Demons 1922). Lit.: Birot & al. 2014 φv

