

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BONSTETTEN, Johann Karl von

Bern? 1761–1838

The signature on the 1799 pastel (a work of exceptional quality for an amateur) is indistinct but appears to spell out the name of an important Swiss family which included a pastellist who exhibited as an amateur at the 1804 exhibition in Bern, where he was described as “Herr von Bonstetten, von Signau. Dilettant”. He was evidently Johann Karl von Bonstetten, officier au service des Pays-Bas 1768–78, membre du Grand Conseil de Berne 1795, and bailli of Signau in 1803 (in 1800 he purchased the Schloß Sinneringen). His eldest son was the painter Abraham Sigmund August von Bonstetten (1796–1879).

Pastels

Paysage animé, pstl, 57x73, sd ✓ “Bons... 1799” (Paris, Tajan, 11.V.2011, Lot 89 repr., est. €600–800) ♪



Eine italienische Gegend, beym Sonnenaufgang, pstl. Exh.: Bern 1804, no. 323

Verklärung einer im Wochenbett verstorbenen Mutter mit ihrem Kind, pstl, a/r Bartolozzi. Exh.: Bern 1804, no. 324