Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

BOUNIEU, Michel-Honoré

Marseille 1740 - Paris 29.III.1814

Genre and history painter and engraver; pupil of Pierre; agréé at the Académie royale in 1767, he was never reçu, but taught drawing at the École des ponts et chaussées. In 1792 he was made conservateur of the Cabinet des estampes at the Bibliothèque nationale. Most of his paintings were in the manner of Chardin or Lépicié; he engraved a number of these in mezzotint. The portrait of Mirabeau mentioned by Ratouis de Limay is in fact a chalk drawing corresponding to an engraved physionotrace by Chré after Fouquet (it also appears to relate to the Bonvallet engraving said to be after "mlle Boze"); it was attributed to Bounieu because it had once belonged to him. It is not clear if he ever made pastels. He signed the petition to have Vigée Le Brun's name removed from the list of émigrés (1799), described as a "peintre d'histoire". On 9.V.1767 in Paris, Saint-Roch, he married Françoise Fournier. Their daughter and pupil Émilie-Gabrielle (c.1775-1830, Mme Antoine-Remy Raveau) was a miniaturist, exhibiting at Salons from 1793; she was listed in the Almanach du commerce de Paris in 1805, rue du Faubourg Saint-Denis, 56; she was his heir.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Blanc 2006; Ottawa 2003; Parrocel 1890, II, p. 221; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Saur

Portraits in other media

Honoré-Gabriel Riqueti, comte de MIRABEAU (1749–1791), pierre noire, reh. cr. clr, Ø34.5 rnd., 1789 (Versailles MV 6359. Bounieu; sa fille, Émilie, Mme Raveau. Charles Vatel, Villepreux). Exh.: Paris 1878, no. 422, as pstl. Lit.: Ratouis de Limay 1946 [?attr.; cf. Fouquet]

~grav.: Chrétien

~grav. ?L. Bonvallet a/r ?Ursule ou ?Fanny Boze, 1791–92. Exh.: Boze 2004, no. 56, repr.

~dessin, lavis gris, 13.2x9.8 (Versailles, musée Lambinet, inv. 696. Don Vatel). Exh.: Versailles 1981, no. 38 repr., attr. Moreau le jeune