

Online edition

**CASSANÉA DE  
MONDONVILLE, Maximilien-  
Joseph**

Paris 10.III.1749– Charenton, Saint-Maurice  
26.V.1809

Identified from the inscription on the back of this pastel, the artist was the 20-year old son of the famous composer and violinist Jean-Joseph Cassanéa de Mondonville (1711–1772), and his wife, the amateur pastellist Anne-Jeanne Boucon (*q.v.*). They were the subject of pastels by La Tour which belonged to the son in 1782. The sitter in the 1768 pastel was a friend of the father.



Maximilien-Joseph was a contrôleur des rentes de l'hôtel de ville de Paris. In 1779 he was awarded a pension of 600 livres in consideration of his father's services; he was then living in the house on the rue des Vieux-Augustins which his grandfather had purchased. The amateur pastellist was also a violinist and oboist, and composed six sonatas for violin and bass. Tourneux mentions a pencil drawing of the désert d'Ermenonville, dated 19.VII.1786.

He was married twice, first (Paris, Saint-Eustache, 21.VI.1785, where he had been baptised) to a Marie-Rose Gurber (1762–1828) from whom he was divorced; and secondly (Paris, 3<sup>e</sup>, 31.III.1800) to a Marie-Théodore Keill, by whom he had three children. At the end of his life de Mondonville was confined to the mental asylum at Charenton where he died, while his wife moved to her sister's in a fifth floor apartment in the rue Montorgueil in Paris where his estate inventory was taken (AN MC/ET/CVIII/908, 3.VII.1809). The inventaire recorded nine paintings, landscape or genre subjects, but no pastel. He was described in the document as a musicien.

He was not however the M. de Mondonville to whom Perronneau confided his last wishes in Amsterdam in 1783: that was his cousin, Martin Cassanéa de Mondonville, who had settled in that city by 1779; three children were baptised in the French church there, one in .VI.1783. Martin's mother and sister travelled to Moscow in 1781.

**Bibliography**

Machard 1980; Tourneux 1903, pp. 49f

GENEALOGY [Cassanéa](#)

**Pastels**

J.2114.101 Simon-Augustin BAZARD (–1778), prévôt des ajusteurs à la Monnoie de Paris, à la tricorne, pstl, 48x41, sd *verso* .IX.1768 (Saint-Pair-sur-Mer, Rois, 1.XII.2016, Lot 381 repr., as inconnu, s Brizard, est. €50–80; Billingshurst, Bellmans, 7–9.II.2017, Lot 1502 repr., attr., est. £100–150, £380; PC; Doncaster, Wilkinson's, 3.XII.2017, Lot 507 repr., attr., est. £100–200, £750; Pontrilas, Nigel Ward, 25.VII.2020, Lot 2168 repr., est. £220, b/i) φ