CELLIER, Geneviève

Paris 1722–1789

A Mlle Sellier (also Cellier), peintresse, was *reçue* 30.VIII.1773 by the Académie de Saint-Luc, her address given as chez M. Cochin, galeries du Louvre. She was evidently the Mlle Sellier, de l’Académie de Saint-Luc, au bain de la Seine, rue Guénégaud, près le Pont-Neuf, Paris recorded as the vendor of materials for the oil pastel procedure invented by Pellechet (q.v.). The 1773 address allows us to identify her with Cochin’s cousin, Mlle Cellier, of whom we have only a little information (from four letters of Cochin to Descamps, 17.VII.1781, 18.VIII.1788, 31.VIII.1788, 20.IX.1789): she joined his household after the death of his mother in 1767, and seems to have taken over the business of selling his prints. In 1787 she broke her right arm near the shoulder, and a year later broke it a second time; this, together with the gout from which she suffered, made it very difficult for her to look after herself, much to Cochin’s consternation; he employed Eisen’s widow to take care of her.

She is very likely to be the Geneviève Sellier to whom Charles-Nicolas Cochin, cousin paternelle, was appointed tuteur in 1731, on the death of her father, Antoine Cellier, maître-sculpteur à Paris; she was then aged 9. Antoine’s niece Marie-Anne, Mme Daniel Horthemels was Cochin’s mother-in-law; the Horthemels and Cellier families were both prominent dynasties of booksellers in Paris.

Her death is suggested as 1789 in one source, but perhaps is uncertain, she might be the Anne-Geneviève Cellier recorded 22.XI.1795, Paris 9. A Mlle Cellier, 66 rue Saint-Honoré, was still supplying colours in 1805 (*Almanach du commerce*): she was presumably related to Louis Cellier (1741–p.1792), marchand de couleurs, rue Saint-Honoré, recorded as a commissaire de section in the *Almanach général du département de Paris pour 1791* and as a member of the Feuillants.

Bibliography

**GENEALOGIES Cellier**