

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastelists before 1800*

Online edition

CONDORCET, marquise de, née Marie-Louise-Sophie de Grouchy

Meulan 1764 – Paris 1822

Sister of the maréchal de Grouchy; wife of the celebrated philosopher and mathematician Jean-Antoine-Nicolas de Caritat, marquis de Condorcet (1743–1794), secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences. Sophie de Grouchy was strong willed and ambitious, and conducted one of the most brilliant salons before the Revolution from the hôtel de la Monnaie. She is said to have been a pupil of Mme Vigée Le Brun (*q.v.*), whose works she copied. After the suicide of her husband in prison, she withdrew to Auteuil, where she was reduced to making a living from “petits portraits à la gouache” (according to the duchesse d'Abrantès) and translating (she published a French edition of Adam Smith in 1798). Her daughter Élise or Eliza married the Irish general in the French service Arthur O'Connor in 1807, and some of the few known examples of Mme Condorcet's pastels and miniatures descended through her.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Blanc 2006; Léger 1933; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Paris 1994c; Salmon 1997a; Saur; Wœlmont 1923–27, IV

Pastels

AUTO PORTRAIT, pstl, 72x61, 1792 (desc.: sa fille, Mme Arthur O'Connor, née Alexandrine Caritat de Condorcet; son fils Arthur Marie O'Connor (1844–1909); sa fille, Brigitte, comtesse François de La Tour du Pin Chambly de La Charce 1933; PC 1997). Exh.: Paris 1994c, repr. Lit.: Léger 1933, frontispiece; Salmon 1997a, p. 144 repr.; Blanc 2006, p. 72 n.r. ◊



Marie-Jean-Antoine-Nicolas Caritat, marquis de CONDORCET (1743–1794), secrétaire perpétuel de l'Académie des sciences, mari de l'artiste, pstl, 60.5x49.5 ov. (Versailles MV 5529. Acqu. 1900). Exh.: Versailles 1997, no. 33. Lit.: Salmon 1997a, no. 43 repr., *Éc. fr.*, ?attr.; Christina Chimisso, *Exploring European identities*, 2003, p. 90 repr. ◊



Marie-Jean-Antoine-Nicolas Caritat, marquis de CONDORCET, m/u (*olim* Colonel Corbett PC). Lit.: Léger 1933, p. 11 n.r.

Charles-Claude FAURIEL (1772–1844), historien, crayon (Bibliothèque de l'Institut). Lit.: Léger 1933, repr. opp. p. 170 [XIX^e] ◊



Mme VIGÉE LE BRUN et sa fille Julie, pstl, a/r Mme Vigée Le Brun, 110x83 (marquise de Condorcet, château de Bignon, début XIX^e; sa fille, Mme Arthur O'Connor, née Alexandrine Caritat de Condorcet; son fils Arthur Marie O'Connor (1844–1909); sa fille, Brigitte, comtesse François de La Tour du Pin Chambly de La Charce 1933; desc.; New York, Sotheby's, 25.v.2000, Lot 88 repr., circle of Vigée Le Brun, \$46,750). Lit.: Léger 1933, p. 11 n.r. ◊



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