

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

CORNEILLE, Michel II, l'aîné

Paris 1642–1708

Michel Corneille, l'ancien (Orléans 1602 – Paris 1664) was a pupil of Vouet (whose niece he married); religious and mythological painter, draughtsman and engraver; founder member and rector of the Académie royale. His sons were Jean-Baptiste (Paris 1649–1695) and Michel II, dit l'aîné, also called Corneille des Gobelins. Michel II studied under Le Brun and Mignard, and was *reçu* 1663; conseiller-professeur 1691. He was a cousin of Mariette. The only record that he worked in pastel is the reference in part of a lot in the Mariette sale to several loose sheets “au pastel”, probably chalk drawings, by Michel Corneille, no doubt Michel II. Corneille also used a technique known as “à la gomme” in which gouache is mixed with rabbit-skin glue.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Jal 1872; Rosenberg 2011, pp. 499ff

Pastels

Un volume in-folio, contenant 56 Sujets de Compositions & Etudes, de Têtes de Vierges, d'Ange & autres, faits avec beaucoup de soin à la plume, au bistre & quelques-uns au pastel, très-terminés (Pierre-Jean Mariette; vente p.m., Paris, Basan, 15.XI.1775 & seq., Lot 1207 part, 88 livres; de Brosse). Lit.: Rosenberg 2011, F1555–1610 n.r.