

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

COSSARD, Mme, née de Mesgrigny

fl. Troyes 1775

Amateur pastellist; born into a Troyes family whose collection of portraits came down intact. The Cossard family into which she seems to have married (although no record has been found) may be related to the family of Troyes artists of this name, including the miniaturist Jean Cossard (1764–1838), who served on the Commission du Muséum, and his uncle Pierre Cossard, director of a drawings school. Pierre Cossard enrolled in the École de l'Académie royale in Paris in .III.1774 “de Tois en Champagne, âgé de 19 ans”, according to the register (Pierre-Claude Cossard was born in Troyes 18.II.1754 and died in Paris, 1803, aged 49, époux de Marie-Rose-Victoire Grenier, an ouvrière en dentelle; they married in 1802, after the birth of a son in 1801). Roland Michel assumed that she was one of the twin daughters of Pierre-François, marquis de Mesgrigny, comte de Villebertin-Moussey (1704–1795) born in 1743, but Antoinette-Louise died the same year while Françoise-Nicole married the marquis de Balay. His son Louis-Marie, marquis de Mesgrigny (1744–1822), married, in 1770, Anne-Edmée, sister of Louis-René Marchal de Saincy, a great collector of Boucher.

Bibliography

J.-P. Finot, *Recherches sur les Cossard, peintres à Troyes*, Troyes, 1864; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Roland Michel 1986; Wœlmont

Pastels

J.241.101 Jeune fille, sd “Mesgrigny Cossard 1775” (Desc.: comte du Parc, château de Villebertin, Troyes; [?M^{es} Pierre & Philippe Jonquet, 25–26.IX.1982]). Lit.: Roland Michel 1986, p. 547 n.r.