

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

COSWAY, Richard

Tiverton 5.XI.1742 – London 4.VII.1821

Cosway arrived in London in 1754 and enrolled in William Shipley's drawing school. He exhibited at the Society of Artists and at the Free Society from 1760. He was admitted to the Royal Academy Schools on 9.VIII.1769, becoming an associate of the Royal Academy in 1770 and a member in 1772, exhibiting from Berkeley Street until 1785 when he moved to Pall Mall, and from Stratford Place from 1798 to 1806. On 18.I.1781 in St George's Hanover Square he married Maria Hadfield (*q.v.*).

One of the most important English miniaturists, he also produced numerous oil paintings in the manner of Correggio. Cosway may have used pastel as a highlight to drawings, but full pastel portraits are doubtful; a number of those records transcribed below are probably misattributions. Cosway was also a collector and connoisseur.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Cust 1911; Edinburgh 2008; Foskett 1987; Grove; Hofstetter 2008; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Stephen Lloyd, *Richard Cosway*, London, 2005; Myrone 2022; New Haven 1979; Oxford DNB; Pilkington 1852; Saur; Sée 1911; Waterhouse 1981; Williamson 1905; Wright 2006

Pastels and chalk drawings

J.242.101 Maria COSWAY (1760–1838), the artist's wife, head, pstl, 44.5x36 (Jeffery Whitehead; London, Christie's, 6.VIII.1915, Lot 51, 15 gns; F. Partridge)

J.242.102 GEORGE IV (1762–1830) as Prince of Wales, pstl, 66x52 ov. (Sir Charles A. Turner, KCIE, 62 Ennismore Gardnes; sale p.m., London, 16.III.1908, Lot 1 n.r. [part], 50 gns; Wall)

Mrs KENNEDY-TOMS (*Kennedy 1911*), v. *Peters*

J.242.104 La Leçon de musique: le duc de Chartres, future roi LOUIS-PHILIPPE (1773–1750), ses deux frères [Antoine-Philippe d'Orléans, duc de Montpensier (1775–1807), Louis-Charles d'Orléans, comte de Beaujolais (1779–1808)] et sa sœur [Eugénie Adélaïde-Louise, Mlle d'Orléans (1777–1847)], jouant de la harpe, cr. cr, 30.2x22 (Chantilly, musée Condé, inv. DE PD 530. Henri d'Orléans, duc d'Aumale 1879). Exh.: Paris 1879, no. 668 n.r. Lit.: Meslay 2004, repr. φ



J.242.108 Countess of ROTHES, née Charlotte Julia Campbell (–1846), pstl/ppr, 56x43 (Clan Leslie Charitable Trust P6). Attr. [?] φα



J.242.111 Perseus, black chlk, pstl (Richmond, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, inv 86.227) φ



Anon. related pastels

A lady as Sigismonda mourning the heart of Guiscardo, from Boccaccio's *Decameron*, pnt., Society of Artists, no. 25 (the artist's 1820 inv.). Lit.: Stephen Lloyd, "The Cosway inventory of 1820", *Walpole Society*, 2004, pp. 164ff

~grav.: Thomas Blackmore c.1770

J.242.201 [olim J.64.3437 = J.64.3457] ~cop., pstl, 68.5x54, inscr. ✓ "J Russell 1795" (London, Christie's, 9.V.1910, Lot 72, as sd 1795, 16 gns; White. Cunliffe; London, Robinson & Fisher, 16.XII.1926, Lot 35 repr., as sd 1793). Lit.: Jeffares 2006, as by Russell φv

