

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

COYPEL, Noël-Nicolas

Paris 1690–1734

According to his obituary (Éloge de Noël-Nicolas Coypel, collection Deloynes), Charles Coypel's brother is supposed to have used pastel for highlights in his drawings of heads and half-length figures, and in his last years he turned to portraiture in oil and in pastel; "il a si parfaitement réussi dans ce dernier talent [le pastel] que chacun s'empressait à lui en demander les preuves; on y trouve la fraîcheur de la chair, un maniment de pastel admirable, une légèreté de main surprenante; la vérité, la vie, l'esprit y sont exprimées." There is confirmation in his posthumous inventory, which includes "deux boetes à pastelle" in addition to four pastels presumably by the artist; Philippe Cayeux reclaimed a frame and glass which he had lent Coypel for an unfinished pastel "testes d'enfant". Apart from confusions with the other members of the family, there is a special difficulty with unseen works recorded as by Noël Coypel (1628–1707), who does not seem to have made pastels.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Delaplanche 2004; Dumont-Wilden 1909; Guiffrey 1883; Mariette 1851–60; Rambaud 1965, I, p. 139f; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Saur; Thieme & Becker; Toledo 1975; Wright 1992

Pastels

- M^e PORTAIL le jeune, pstl (l'artiste; inv. p.m., 17.XII.1734, anon.). Lit.: Guiffrey 1883, p. 310 [?by Coypel]
- Tête, pstl (Cottin; Paris, Grignard, Helle & Glomy, 27.XI.–22.XII.1752, Lot 310 part, 14 livres 19)
- Deux études, pstl (M. Potier, avocat; vente p.m., Paris, Helle & Glomy, 28.II.–15.III.1757, Lot 156 part, as by Noël-Nicolas Coypel, 37 livres for whole lot)
- Femme pressant une colombe contre sa gorge, pstl/pchm, 32.5x23 (Jean-Baptiste Lemoyne; Paris, Le Brun, 10.VIII.1778 & seq., Lot 9) [?Noël Coypel]
- La Vierge à genoux en méditation devant l'Enfant Jésus, dans le haut sont deux Cherubins, pstl, 59.6x48.7 ov. (Paris, Le Brun, 9–12.IV.1781, Lot 122, 50 livres 1; Paillet) [?Noël Coypel]
- Etudes, d'après des vieillards, pstl/ppr bl, 25.7x25.7 (Paris, Le Brun, 9–12.IV.1781, Lot 123, 11 livres; Maurice) [?Noël Coypel]
- Apollo mentre suona la lira, pstl/ppr, 39x35 (Rome, Christie's, 8.III.1990, Lot 70 repr., attr., est. It£6–8 million, It£7 million) φ



Étude de femme à mi-corps tenant une corne d'abondance, pstl/ppr, 20.5x26.4 (Paris,

- Louvre, inv. 26037, attr. Marquis de Saint-Morys; saisie, château d'Orsay, 1793). Lit.: Delaplanche 2004, no. D.8 φ
- Jeune femme en buste, pstl/ppr, 40x31 (Paris, Kohn, 27.III.1996, Lot 65 repr., Fr40,000)
- L'ambassadeur; & pendant: son fils, pstl (Silvestre; Paris, 28.II.1811, Fr12,50)
- Le Christ; & la Vierge, pstls (l'artiste; inv. p.m., 17.XII.1734, anon.). Lit.: Guiffrey 1883, p. 310 [?by Coypel]
- Quos ego [Neptune calming the waves], pstl (l'artiste; inv. p.m., 17.XII.1734, anon.). Lit.: Guiffrey 1883, p. 310 [?by Coypel]
- Têtes d'enfant, pstl, unfinished, 1734