

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### DESANGLES, Jean-Baptiste-Marie Thomas

Autun 2.VII.1748 – p.1790

Also Désangles; des Angles; the family name is Thomas. From Autun en Bourgogne, “Thomas Des Angles” entered the École de l’Académie royale in .IV.1768 “agé de 18 ans Protégé de M. Cochin demeure ché M. son Pere avocat au Parlement de Dijon rue de La Harpe au colete de Bayeux”, enrolled as a pupil of Durameau. Further biographical details are scarce. His forenames appear in the membership lists of the masonic lodge *La Céleste Amitié* in Paris, 1778–79 (Le Bihan 1966). They reappear in a note of Bénéfice d’inventaire, 7.VII.1783 (AN Y5107<sup>A</sup>) as an heir to his father, Louis Thomas, avocat en parlement, together with a brother, André-Jean Thomas, pretre; the artist is then described as “ancien officier du régiment de Verrey.” Jean-Baptiste Thomas was baptised 12 days after his birth, on 14.VII.1748, in Autun, to Louis and Denise-Magdelaine Planchar. An advertisement in the *Journal de Francfort*, 18.X.1799, inserted by his brother, an abbé Thomas from Rietberg in Westphalia, seeking information about his whereabouts, suggests he may have been an émigré.

Two signed pastels are in frames by Henry Létonné. A small number of oil paintings are also known, of which the latest is dated 1790 (like the pastel in the Accorsi collection, it shows a man in a broad-brimmed hat, creating a lighting effect for which the artist would appear to have a penchant); another, from 1785, is in the Louvre.

It is unclear if this Desangles or a homonym is the author of the pendants from the Maurice de Rothschild collection seized during the war, but it seems likely that they are the same as those credited to Cochin in 1947 (*v.q.* Sicardi).

#### Bibliography

Bénézit

#### Pastels

J.269.101 ?Sophie ARNOULD (1744–1802), pstl, 64x47 ov., *olim* sd 1782, cadre estampillé Henry Létonné (Paris, Drouot, 1993. Monaco, Sotheby’s, 2.XII.1994, Lot 55 repr., est. Fr40–60,000, as sd 1782, ?Arnould). Lit.: Blanc 2006, p. 304f n.r., as pnt., as of Madeleine Guimard φδ



J.269.103 Pierre-Louis Dubus, dit PREVILLE (1721–1799), Brustbild eines älteren Herrn in Profil nach rechts; & pendant: J.269.104 spouse, née Madeleine-Angélique-Michelle Drouin (1731–1794), de la Comédie-Française, Dame, nach links, cr. clr, 17.2x14.2, s → “F. Desangles” ([M. Soleirol 1861.] Signol; vente p.m., Paris, Pillet, Mannheim, Féral, 1–3.IV.1878, Lot 58 n.r., F790. Maurice de Rothschild; seized by the Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg, c.1940, ERR card BoR162/163, as Desangles, inconnus; German Embassy, Paris; baron Maurice de Rothschild 1947). Lit.: *Répertoire des biens spoliés*, item 81/82, OBIP no. 33.041 n.r., as by Cochin; Bénézit, as Préaille, Matthäus Des Angles

~grav. Frédéric Hillemacher, a/r “un pastel du temps, par Desangles”, in de Manne 1861, p. 134 repr. φ



J.269.106 Gentilhomme souriant, regardant presque de face, habit gris clair, bordé, jabot de dentelle, perruque à la poudre, pstl, ov., sd 1781 (Mme de Langle de La Bigottière; vente p.m., Évreux, Gastineau, Bloche, 22–24.V.1910, Lot 3 n.r.)

J.269.107 Homme au chapeau, pstl, 68x59 ov., sd 1783, cadre estampillé Henry Létonné (Turin, Fondazione Pietro Accorsi, inv. D-503. Paris, Galliera, 14.VI.1961, Lot 82 repr., as toile; Villa Paola di Moncalieri 1983) φ



J.269.109 Homme en habit bleu, de profil, pstl, 18x14 ov., s → “desangles” (Paris, Drouot, Oger, Blanchet, 3.VI.2022, Lot 102 repr., est. €400–600) φ

