

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

DESGRANGES, César

Paris 1627–14.XII.1716

“Desgranges, rue Tictonne” was among three pastellists practising in 1692 (along with Vivien and Verselin) in the directory published by Abraham du Pradel (*Le Livre commode contenant les Adresses de la ville de Paris avec le trésor des almanachs...*, Paris, 1692, p. 118). He must be the César Desgranges, peintre ordinaire du roi, recorded in various genealogical documents but absent from most art history reference books. He was the son of Jean des Granges, bourgeois de Paris, and Madeleine Tannerie; on 27.II.1661 at Saint-Germain-l’Auxerrois, he married Susanne Le Chable, daughter of Gentien Le Chable, garde vaisselle de la Reine mère. (The earliest mention of Desgranges is as parrain at the birth of a son to Nicolas Balingay, cleric du conseil du roi, his future brother-in-law, on 10.II.1659.) Several children were baptised at Saint-Germain-l’Auxerrois between 1661 and 1674. He is mentioned in the inventaire après décès of his brother, Artus-Jean Desgranges, a notary in Paris (26.VIII.1694, AN MC/ET/XV/332): the latter’s address, according to Pierre Savalette’s list of 1692, was rue Montorgueil au coin de la rue Tiquetonne, presumably that cited for the pastellist by du Pradel. A second brother, Michel, was commis du greffier du conseil. “César des Granges, peintre” was buried in Saint-Eustache, Paris, 14.XII.1718, the day after his death, apparently aged 89 [not 59 as erroneously transcribed in some secondary sources]; the death witnessed by his son Pierre, also a painter (whose marriage contract César witnessed on 24.I.1673), and his nephew Charles des Granges, bourgeois de Paris.

Bibliography

Du Pradel 1692; Herluison 1873, p. 110