Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

DUNEUFGERMAIN, Mlle

fl. Paris 1772

Virtually nothing is known of the artist Mlle Duneufgermain or Du Neuf Germain who signed an oil copy of La Tour's pastel of Maurice de Saxe which belonged to Stanislaw August at Blachą before 1808 and to comte Léon Mniszsch in 1902. A signed oil painting from 1772, a portrait of an unknown girl with a rose in the style of Drouais, is in the Bowes Museum. It seems likely that she was, or was related to, the Duneufgermain who witnessed the wedding of Marc Reverdil and one of Stanisław August's mistresses, Marcianne-Constance Lageny, at St John's, Warsaw, on 25.IX.1769. An abbé du Neuf-Germain, grandvicaire de l'abbé de Broglie (the comte de Broglie was French ambassador to Poland from 1752, charged with the "secret du roi"), was recorded as a correspondent with Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, writing to him from Warsaw on 3.v.1765 that "Ma famille m'obligera probablement à quitter Varsovie." (Maurice Souriaiu, Bernardin de Saint-Pierre, 1905, p. 61). He may have been a member of the family from Amiens which included a number of priests.

Bibliography

Frédéric Barbey, Au service des rois et de la Révolution, Lausanne, 1914, p. 50