

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

DUPLESSIS, Joseph-Siffred

Carpentras 1725 – Versailles 1802

A pupil of Frère Imbert in his native Carpentras, Duplessis travelled to Rome (where he is thought to have studied with Subleyras) and Lyon before settling in Paris in 1752. He exhibited in the Salon de Saint-Luc in 1764 and was *agrégé* in 1769, *reçu* 1774 by the Académie royale; conseiller 1780. His iconic portrait of Louis XVI, commissioned in 1776 for 1200 livres, is known from numerous autograph replicas (six were specified in the commission) and many further copies.

Given Duplessis's brilliance in oil portraiture, it is to be regretted that his recorded output of pastels is so small. It appears however that he used pastel occasionally throughout his career, even before his arrival in Paris (despite its poor state, the early pastel of Bernardi may well be his). He brought the same sense of meticulous finish to these works as we know from his oil paintings, with precise details, accurate colours and strong handling.

Bibliography

Alauzen 1962; Thierry Bajou, in Grove 1996; Belleudy 1913; Belleudy 1937; Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Chabaud 2003; Dudouit 2006; Rachel Dudouit, catalogue raisonné (in preparation); Dumont-Wilden 1909; Engerand 1901; Guiffrey 1915, p. 277f; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Paris 1974b; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Rosenberg & Stewart 1987; Sanchez 2004; Saur; Toledo 1975; Wright 1992

Salon critiques

Junius, Salon de 1769, *Neue Bibliothek der schönen Wissenschaften und der freyen Künste*, IX/2, 1770, pp. 356–64:

Die Bildnisse vom Dupleſſis haben auch ungemein viel Charakter und Wahrheit.

Pastels

Charles-Louis-Auguste Fouquet, *maréchal-duc de BELLE-ISLE* (Metz, musée de la Cour d'Or, 12334) [a/r La Tour, q.v.]

Henri BERNARDI DE VALERNES DE SAINT MARCELLIN, lieutenant des vaisseaux du roi, pstl, 30x25, c.1748 (Sault, musée municipal, inv. 22. Don Evariste Bernardi de Valernes 1878). Lit.: Belleudy 1913, p. 335, no. 138 n.r.; Vergnet-Ruiz & Laclotte 1962, n.r.; Chabaud 2003, p. 144 n.r., attr. rejected [?]; attr.] **Φ**



Photo Claude Labro, courtesy Musée municipal de F-Sault-84390

Benjamin FRANKLIN (1706–1790) en habit gris, pstl/ppr, 71x58.5, 1779, inscr. “Benjamin Franklin, à 77 ans; peint en 1783 par Duplessis; donné par Franklin lui-même à M. Louis le Veillard, maire de Passy” (New York Public Library 260052. Le Veillard; desc. MM. de Sénarmont; acqu. John Bigelow 1867; don 1908). Exh.: Philadelphia 2005. Lit.: Belleudy 1913, p. 322, no. 66 n.r.; Sellers 1962, pl. 25; Oswald 1993; Ingamells 2004, pp. 171ff; Boze 2004, fig. 11 **φ**



~repl., pnt., 73x59 (Paris, PIASA, 13.XII.2006, Lot 16 repr.)

~cop., pnt. a/r Duplessis, 64x53, c.1783 (Moscow, Pushkin Museum, 3707). Exh.: Boze 2004, no. 14, attr. Boze. Lit.: Данилова 1995, p. 304 repr.

~cop., pnt a/r Duplessis, 73x59 (Jean Valade; acqu. Thomas Jefferson 1787, as by Greuze for the abbé Véri; Monticello). Lit.: Sellers, attr. Valade

~cop. François Dumont, miniature

~cop. Lorentz Sparrgren, miniature

~cop., pnt. (Mme Brillon; desc. PC 1956). Exh.: Philadelphia 1956, no. 22 repr.

~cop. Joseph Wright (1756–1793) of New Jersey, pnt., 1782 Lit.: *American national biography*

~versions: London, Royal Society; Washington, Corcoran Gallery

~cop., various media, François Baricolo; Boze; Mme Lavoisier; Alexandre Roslin; Saint-Non; Valade; & al., *qq.v*

FRANKLIN, “au collier de fourrure”, pnt., 1778 (New York, MMA)

~cop., pstl/ppr, 76.2x63.5 (San Marino, Huntington Library, 53.4. Samuel Latham Mitchell Barlow; Gen. Brayton Ives, Clarence S. Bement, Isman, Philadelphia; Rosenbach & Co. 1926; acqu. 1953). Lit.: “A life-size bust portrait of Benjamin Franklin...”, *Huntington Library quarterly*, XVII/1, .XI.1953, repr.; Bennett & Sargentson 2008, no. 143 repr., attr. Jean Valade [?]; **φ**



~cop., pencil, pstl, watercolour/ppr, 26.8x19. (New Haven, Yale University, Franklin collection, CT231176. Acqu. 1935).

~cop. Alexandre Roslin, pnt. (New-York Historical Society). Lit.: Stacy Schiff, *Dr Franklin goes to France*, London, 2005, repr. cvr Christophe Willibald GLUCK (1714–1787)

~pnt., 85x78 (Tuffier). Lit.: Prod'homme 1918, p. 33 repr.

~repl., pstl, 53x43 (Félix Doistau; Paris, Georges Petit, 9–11.VI.1909, Lot 88 repr., est. Fr30,000, Fr71,000. Mme J. Brasseur, de Lille; Paris, Drouot, Lair-Dubreuil, 13.III.1920, Lot 13 repr., est. Fr80,000, Fr91,000. Paris, 23.XI.1965, Lot 3 repr., Fr21,000). Exh.: Paris 1908a, no. 16, pl. 10. Lit.: Lemoine 1908, p. 19 repr.; Prod'homme 1918, p. 39, e; Belleudy 1913, p. 324, no. 75 n.r.; Ratouis de Limay 1946, pl. LVII/87 **Φ**



[larger image](#)

~repl., pstl, 45x38 (Maurice Despret 1925). Exh.: Bruxelles 1925. Lit.: Ch. van den Borren, “Un portrait inédit de Gluck par Duplessis”, *Revue de musicologie*, VI, .VIII.1925, pp. 105f n.r.

~version, pnt. (Pauline Viardot). Lit.: Prod'homme 1918, p. 74, c

GLUCK improvisant, étude

L'abbé JOURDAN, chanoine de Saint-Louis du Louvre, pstl, 80x65 ov., Salon de 1769, no. 197 (M. Jourdan, notaire, 1913. PC 2005). Lit.: Belleudy 1913, p. 325, no. 82 n.r.; Chabaud 2003, pl. vi **Φ**



Photo J.-P. Chabaud

La Fayette (Cambridge, Fogg Art Museum), v. Ducreux

Le comte de Saint-Priest [?François-Emmanuel Guignard, comte de SAINT-PRIEST (1735–1821), ambassadeur à Lisbonne, à Constantinople et en Hollande, ministre de l'Intérieur en 1790, pair de France], pstl, 65x53 ov. (Galerie Kraemer, Paris; seized ERR, inv. Krä 39, Fr500; Jeu de Paume 25.X.1942; Kogl; Munich CCP, Mü-Nr

21863/13; repatriated 25.IX.1947; restituted)
[attr.; cf. Ducreux] φ



Homme en buste, de $\frac{3}{4}$ à g., en habit bleu, à petit collet, cravate et jabot de dentelle; gilet marron à peine visible, pstl, ov., s ← “J. Duplessis” (marquis d’Oncieu de Chaffardon 1913). Lit.: Belleudy 1913, p. 322, no. 66 n.r.; Chabaud 2003, repr. p. 138 ◊



Homme, pstl (Paris, 30.IV.1924)
Femme inconnue, pstl, sd 1762 (Zélikine; Paris, Baudoin, Lair-Dubreuil, 22–23.V.1908, fr200). Lit.: Belleudy 1913, p. 337, no. 155 n.r.; Chabaud 2003, p. 137 n.r.

Jeune fille en robe de ton changeant, les mains dans son manchon (Félix Doistau; Paris, Georges Petit, 9–11.VI.1909, Lot 89 repr., as Duplessis). Lit.: Chabaud 2003, p. 138 repr., as Duplessis [v. Lenoir]

Dame au collier, pstl (R...P...; Paris, Drouot, Baudoin, 14–15.III.1934, fr1520, attr.)

Anon. related pastels

LOUIS XVI, pnt., 1778 (Versailles, MV 3966)
~cop., pstl, 59.6x46.0 ov. (Soufflot, architecte; vente p.m., Paris, Le Brun, 20.XI.1780, Lot 40, 24 livres 5)
~cop., pstl, 48x40 (Chaalis, abbaye royale, fondation Jacquemart-André, 678, S1717) φ



Photo courtesy Institut de France

~cop., pstl, 45x36 (Versailles, Trianon, Chapelle, Perrin, Fromantin, 16.V.1971, Lot 85, as Lenoir, fr11,000) φ



~cop., pstl (Frederick Silberman 1952) φ



~version, pstl, 39x43 (Paris, Drouot, Rabourdin, Choppin de Janvry, 23.V.1986, Lot 15, as Boze, fr68,000) φ



~cop., pstl, 65.3x54.4 ov., inscr. “Louis XVI/Peint par Duplessy/en 1782” (London, Phillips, 11.XII.1996, Lot 113 repr., circle of Duplessis, est. £2–3000, £1600) φ



~cop., pstl, 42x25 (Saint-Brieuc, Guichard Juillan, 19.XI.2001, Lot 223 repr., est. fr1000–1500) φ

~cop., pstl, 39x31 ov. (Paris, Drouot, Chayette & Cheval, 28.I.2011, Lot 10 repr., éc. de Duplessis, est. €300–500) φ

