

**DURAND, Jean-François, l'aîné**

Nancy 4.I.1731–23.XII.1813

Jean-François Durand came from a family of painters who worked mainly in Nancy. He was the son of Jacques Durand (1685–1778), peintre, a pupil of Claude Charles and of Nattier, pensionnaire de Léopold I<sup>er</sup> and his wife, née Marie-Thérèse Semelle, whom he married after his return to Nancy on 15.XI.1729 (Saint-Sébastien); there he made a number of religious paintings. Jean-François Durand, the eldest son, was baptised at Nancy, Saint-Sébastien, in 1731. In Nancy, Saint-Sébastien, on 2.VII.1764 he married Anne-Catherine Bailly; their son, Jean-Baptiste-François Durand (Nancy, Saint-Roch 5.II.1766–p.1813), employed at the Préfecture, signed his father's death certificate with his father-in-law, a sculptor called Thomas Dumont. They lived in the Vieille rue de la Hache. The pastellist was briefly milicien in Nancy (1766).

Confusingly one of Jean-François's brothers was also a painter, and also known as Jean-François, dit le jeune, but in fact his full name was Jean-Baptiste-François (12.II.1737–p.1796). He was his nephew's parrain. On 9.IX.1766 (Nancy, Saint-Roch), Jean-François le jeune married Barbe Nicole, daughter of Claude-François Nicole, graveur du roi et de la chambre des comptes de Lorraine; his brother was present. (Bénézit has them as father and son, while Voreaux 1998 confuses the brothers' dates, but are here corrected from entries in parish and civil records.) While both brothers had similar writing, the inscriptions on the pastels seem to match more closely the signature of the elder brother on the parish registers. Both brothers were again recorded at the burial of their father, Jacques, 9.III.1778 (Nancy, Saint-Roch), together with two more brothers, Marc, commis à la ferme générale, and Antoine, chirurgien.

There are numerous confusions between homonyms. The painter of religious subjects, including a *Lavement des pieds*, sd 1751 (Paris, Drouot, 4.IV.2017, Lot 27 repr.) sd 1751 and a *Saint Epure délivrant des prisonniers*, signed "Durand", may have been the father. Either may have been responsible for the oil copy of Bernardino Nocchi's imposing portrait of Louis-Charles-Othon de Salm-Salm en antiquaire (1778). For other homonyms, *v.* Mlle Durant, Durant etc.

The evidence that members of this family were pastellists rests on two groups of pastels in different collections, coming to light in 2006 and 2023. Ten pastels of members (and one friend) of the Biaudos family, the attribution of which is presumably based on an inscription and which were classified as anonymous in 2006. But most (possibly all) of the pastels are copies of oil paintings also signed by Jean-François Durand, presumably the elder. Eight of the pictures were executed a few months after the marquis de Castéja's second marriage, and each bears a label verso with the sitter's name followed by the artist's name, in ink; several add, in chalk, "l'aîné". The portraits of the two children born subsequently must have been c.1778; they bear the children's names only.

More recently a group of pastels and some oil portraits of members of the Tervenal d'Estreval

family of soldiers and magistrates from Nancy emerged. One, an oval portrait of an ecclesiastic (here identified from provenance, the croix de chapitre he wears and the list of chanoines de Nancy), is signed on the back; the others are sufficiently close to the Biaudos group to support a tentative attribution.

Still more recent (2024) is a pastel dated 1776 and signed "Durand de Nancy", presumably again the same artist. In Duchesne's *Musée de peinture...*, 1834, XVI, the Épinal artist Jean-Antoine Laurent (1761–1830) is described as a pupil of "M. Durand de Nancy", before his arrival in Paris.

**Bibliography**

Jacquot 1899, p. 513; Voreaux 1998

**Pastels**

J.2924.081 Un chanoine portant la croix de chapitre de Nancy [Henri-Benoît de BEAUFORT de Gellenoncourt (1753–1826), chanoine de Nancy], pstl, 58x47 ov., sd verso Durand l'aîné, 12 décembre 1785 à Nancy (Paris, Drouot, Gros & Delettrez, 3.II.2023, Lot 88 repr., est. €400–600) φ



Dix pastels de la famille de BIAUDOS, 39x31 ov., eight inscr. verso "peint(e) par Jean François Durand peintre de Nancy le 20 x<sup>bre</sup> 1774" (Les Andelys, Cousin, 10.XI.1985, 20.XII.1985; PC; Paris, Drouot, Thierry de Maigret, 24.III.2021, Lot 4 repr., est. €1500–2000). Lit.: *Gazette Drouot*, 1.XI.1985, one repr.; Jeffares 2006, p. 578 n.r., éc. fr.:

J.2924.101 Louis-Anne-Alexandre de Biaudos, marquis de Castéja (1736–1808), mestre de camp de cavalerie, membre du corps de la noblesse des Etats d'Artois en 1778, lieutenant de roi des ville et château de Saint-Dizier; & J.2924.102 [olim J.9.1156] sa 2<sup>e</sup> femme (∞ 1774), née Marie Joséphine-Védastine baronne du Pire d'Hinges (1759–) φ



J.2924.103 Le beau-père du marquis de Castéja: Alexandre Ghilain, baron du Pire d'Hinges (1728–1803); & J.2924.104 sa femme, née Marie-

Thérèse-Hubert-Josèphe Errembault de Dudzele φ



J.2924.105 Deux enfants du marquis de Castéja de sa première marriage: Alexandrine-Charlotte-Xavière (1768–1815), en religion; & J.2924.106 son frère Timoléon-Constant-Louis de Biaudos de Castéja (1773–1799) φ



J.2924.107 Deux enfants du marquis de Castéja de sa deuxième marriage (exécuté plus tard, en 1778): Catherine-Joséphine-Louise (1776–1813), ∞ Prosper de Jacquot d'Andelarre; & J.2924.108 sa sœur, Alexandrine-Aimée (12.IV.1777–28.VIII.1778) φ



J.2924.109 Le frère du marquis de Castéja: Stanislas de Biaudos, comte de Castéja (1738–1792), en uniforme de colonel du Royal-Comtois φ



J.2924.111 Une amie de la famille: la marquise d'Assy, née Marie Thérèse du Bénéfice de Montargues (1731–1802) φ



J.2924.113 Mme Nicolas GUERIN (∞ 1771 conseiller du roi, lieutenant particulier civil & criminel au bailliage royale de Bar-le-duc), née Marie-Françoise Montardier (1751–1806), en robe bleue, pstl, 50x40, inscr. *verso* “par Durand Peintre à Nancy”, 1783 (Lille, Mercier, 11.X.2009, Lot 269 repr., inconnue, est. €400–600) φ



J.2924.115 Jacques MARLY (1722–1795), juge consul et marchand à Metz, en habit brun, pstl, 58x47, sd *verso* “Jacques Marly mari de Marguerite Jeandron/Peint par Durand De Nancy en 1774/agé de 46 ans” (Galerie du Peyrou, Montpellier, 2024) φv



J.2924.123 ff 4 portraits de la famille TERVENUS D'ESTREVAL et parents, de Nancy: Mme de Luyton, dame d'Estreval [née Marie-Anne de Luyton], pstl/ppr, 44x33; Mme d'Estreval, comtesse de Remoncourt [née Marguerite de Tervenus d'Estreval] (1756–1815), pstl/ppr, 44x35; Morel, comtesse de Riocour [Mme Antoine-François du Boys de Riocour (∞ 1756), née Madeleine-Jeanne-Claire Morel], pstl/ppr, 44x35; homme en habit bleu, pstl/ppr, 46x36 (desc.: PC; Paris, Drouot, Gros, Delettrez, 3.II.2023, Lot 80/81/89/90) [new attr., ?] φαδv