

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ENSLEN, Gottfried Christian

Stuttgart 27.XII.1757 – 22.I.1818

The signature (which appears on only one of the identically framed pastels) of the artist responsible for a group of works which surfaced in 2017 was transcribed by the auction house as Ernsten and misread here (until 2023) as Emten. The name is printed Enslen, in a notice that appeared in the *Affiches de Strasbourg*, 19.II.1791, printed both in French and German, reducing the risk of typographical error:

Le Sr. Enslen, peintre, demeurant sur le vieux marché aux Grains, No. 18, enseigne à dessiner & à peindre en huile & au pastel.

He is evidently the Gottfried Christian Enslen, who, with his brother Johann Carl Enslen (Stuttgart 21.V.1759 – Dresden 10.XII.1848), referred to as “sieur Enslen, ingénieur-physicien de Strasbourg” and were the sons of Johann Friedrich Enslen, vernisseur à la cour de Wurtemberg. They were based in Strasbourg from 1783, and were captivated by the Mongolfier balloons which inspired a topographical watercolour of an aerostat from the citadel of Strasbourg signed and dated by Charles Enslen in 1784. (By 1795 he had moved to Gdansk and in 1811 was in Berlin.) Gottfried Christian married Sophie Gross, daughter a member of the Grand Sénat in Schiltigheim on 21.II.1786 (his signature on the register matches that on the pastel apart from the curious, misleading horizontal stroke through the l), and seems to have remained in Strasbourg for longer. He is mentioned in 1791 and 1813 as professeur de dessin and restorer, and as having worked on fixing pastels.

He may perhaps have been a student of Huin (*q.v.*), from whose work these four pastels are indistinguishable; Huin had previously portrayed members of the same family.

Bibliography

Jean-Daniel Ludmann, article in *alsace-histoire.org/netdba*, 1986; rKD

Pastels

J.3014.11 Louis-Charles, baron de BERCKHEIM de Loerrach [(1725–1797)], oncle et cousin de la baronne Siegfried d'Oberkirch, pstl, 60x48 ov., inscr. cadre “baron Auguste Samson d'Oberkirch, chef d'escadron au Régiment des hussards de Berschury (1739–1811)” (Fontainebleau, Osenat, 19.XI.2017, Lot 75 repr., éc. allemande c.1780, Baronne Louis-Charles de Berckheim de Loerrach née Glaubitz (1750 - ?), est. €1000–1500; Fontainebleau, Osenat, 25.II.2018, Lot 135 repr., est. €600–800) [new attr.] φδν



J.3014.12 ?La baronne BERCKHEIM de Loerrach, née Françoise-Louise von Glaubitz (1755–1809), pstl, 59x47.5 ov., inscr. cadre “Eléonore Henriette Berckheim- Schoppenwihr, épouse de Philippe Frédéric de Berckheim Ribeaupvillé (1701-1762)” (Fontainebleau, Osenat, 19.XI.2017, Lot 74 repr., éc. allemande c.1780, Baronne Louis-Charles de Berckheim de Loerrach née Glaubitz (1750–), est. €1000–1500; Fontainebleau, Osenat, 25.II.2018, Lot 132 repr., est. €600–800) [new attr.] φδν



J.3014.13 [?Auguste-Samson, baron d'OVERKIRCH (1739–1811), chef d'escadron au régiment des hussards de Berschury], pstl, 62x50 ov., sd ← “Emten/1787” (Fontainebleau, Osenat, 19.XI.2017, Lot 77 repr., as by Ersten, éc. allemande, cf. Esterno, as of Philippe Frédéric de Berckheim Ribeaupvillé (1686–1733) [sic], est. €1000–1500; Fontainebleau, Osenat, 25.II.2018, Lot 134 repr., est. €600–800) φδν



J.3014.14 La baronne d'OVERKIRCH, née Freiin Sophie Caroline von Rathsamhausen zu Ehenweyer (1764–1837), pstl, 58.5x47.5ov.

(Fontainebleau, Osenat, 19.XI.2017, Lot 76 repr., éc. allemande, as of Sophie Caroline de Rathsamhausen- Ehenweyer, Baronne Auguste-Samson d'Oberkirch (1764-1837), ?Esterno, est. €1000–1500; Fontainebleau, Osenat, 25.II.2018, Lot 133 repr., est. €600–800) [new attr.] φδν



Portraits n other media

Frau SCHMID née Anne Marie Kopp, m/u, ov. sd 1785 (Strasbourg, mBA, inv. 1821)