FOSSIER
fl. France 1758–75
Possibly to be identified with the decorative artist and draughtsman Louis-Denis Fossier known in Paris from 1744; he was a cousin of the painter Pierre-Charles Trémolières and son of Benjamin Fossier or Foissier, lieutenant au régiment de Champagne, and a witness on his widow’s death certificate (Saint Eustache, Paris, 12.IX.1773), where he signed as “dessinateur de l’académie des Sciences” (the same description was given when he witnessed a marriage in 1781). Antoine-Laurent Lavosier left manuscript Observations sur le feu citoyen Fossier dessinateur de l’Académie des sciences, 1793 still in the Académie’s archives (MS1228–40); Fossier engraved plates for some of Lavoir’s scientific papers. Fossier, by now “ancien” dessinateur de l’académie, was however living in the rue Saint-André-des-Arts when Antoine Portal treated his six-year-old daughter (the date is unclear, but before 1808). Louis-Denis Fossier, peintre inherited (AN MC/XCII/600, 30.IV.1756) an annuity of 400 livres p.a. from “[Louis] Faucier, valet de chambre-tapisser du roi et de Mme la duchesse”, the relative of Trémolières who took charge of him on his arrival in Paris in 1719 and sent him to J.-B. Van Loo. He may be the painter and illustrator of whom Patas engraved 28 drawings for the Abrégé historique et portatif des principaux faits des rois mérovingiens, Paris, 1775. Several portrait engravings after Fossier’s drawings are known: one, of the duc de Brissac, was derived from a portrait by Pougin de Saint-Aubin (q.v.). He may also be the M. Fossier who made a portrait of Polly Wilkes (q.v.) and remained in contact with her father in Paris in 1765.

Bibliography

Pastels
J.3214.101 Maximilien-Alexis de Béthune, prince d’Henrichtmont et Boisbelle, dit duc de SULLY (1750–1776), en chasseur, pstl, 45.9x37.5, sd verso 1758 (Barnard Castle, Bowes Museum, inv. BM 462) ©

Φ

~v. pseudo-pendant, Éc. fr., duc de SULLY, frère
J.3214.105 Mary “Polly” WILKES (1750–1802), m/u (John Wilkes 1765) [Frarr]