

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GAVEN, George

fl. Dublin 1756–75

Also Gavin; the spellings Gavon, Gavan and Gawan also occur. A pupil of Robert West at the Dublin Society's drawing school from 1756, winning prizes up to 1760 (in the awards for 1756 he was placed equally with Gustavus Hamilton). He practised thereafter as a drawings teacher and portrait draughtsman, presumably in pastel. A portrait of John Ponsoyby, speaker of the House of Commons, is known from an engraving by J. Gainer. He exhibited at the Society of Artists in Dublin in 1771–75. Perhaps he was the George Gaven who was buried in St Paul's, Dublin (Church of Ireland) on 23.III.1792, no doubt the father of the Maria Jane Gaven baptised there 18.X.1789, her mother being Jane. A G. Gaven was listed as "Examinator of the Surveyors and Gaugers books and Paymaster of the Charity Establishment" in the Dublin City Excise in 1783.

Bibliography

AKL; McGuire 1939, p. 15; Waterhouse 1981; Wynne 1976a