

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GRASSI, Józef

Udine 1757 – Dresden 1838

Student at the Viennese Akademie from 1768, Józef, Joseph or Giuseppe, Grassi became a society portraitist in oil and miniature. He was in Warsaw 1791–95 before returning to Vienna. From 1797 he was in Dresden, becoming Professor at the Akademie in 1800. In 1804 he spent a year in Gotha. He was twice in Rome, 1808–10 and 1816–21 as director of studies in Italy for artists from Saxony before returning to Dresden.

He worked mainly in oil. A typical pose for his female sitters involved hands crossed on their breast; the treatment is soft. His works were rarely signed and often exist in multiple versions. The attribution of the Hermitage pastels is speculative.

Bibliography

Darmstadt 1914; Fournier-Sarlovèze 1905; Grove 1996; Schweinfurt 2003

Pastels

??SELBSTPORTRÄT, pstl, 22.5x16.5, c.1800 (Gotha, Schloß Friedenstein, inv. SG 214). Attr.

Pavel Petrovich BAKUNIN (1762–1805), pstl/pchm, 32.2x25.7 ov.; & pendant: spouse, née Ekaterina Alexandrovna Sablukova (1779–1847), pstl/pchm, 32.0x25.6 ov. (Hermitage OR-27145/27136. Grand Duke Nikolai Mikhailovich, Mikhailovsky Palace, Petrograd; acqu. 1923). Exh.: St Petersburg 2001, no. 64/63 repr., anon. Lit.: Каменская 1960, no. 123/121 repr., anon. [attr.] **Φ**



Tadeusz KOSCIUSZKO, crayon (Denis Zaleski, Paris). Lit.: Fournier 1905 repr., as by Grassi [cop. a/r grav. a/r Karol Schwekert pnt. (Warsaw, Muzeum Narodowe)]

Stanisław Kostka Potocki (1750–1809) [?Stanisław Feliks Szczesny POTOCKI (1752–1805), ?? Stanisław Kostka Potocki (1757–1821)], wearing the St Stanisław, pstl/pchm, 33.5x25.5 ov., 1792 (Warsaw, Muzeum Narodowe, Wil. 1855). Lit.: Waniewska 1993, no. 58 **Φ**



Photo courtesy Muzeum Narodowe w Warszawie