

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GRIFFIN, William

London .VIII.1751 – p.1778

Entered the Royal Academy Schools on 8.IV.1772 (“aged 21 next Augst”); silver medallist in 1772. He exhibited four crayon portraits at the Society of Artists in 1772. He then sent portraits (medium unspecified) and miniatures from Salisbury Street, Strand, to the Royal Academy exhibitions of 1774 and 1776. One of Richard Lovett (1692–1780), the Electrical Philosopher, may relate to Joseph Wright’s portrait of this scientist from Worcestershire. Griffin is last recorded in Birmingham in 1778. It is probable he was the “Mr Griffin, portrait painter”, paid £32/19/- for cleaning pictures in the Ashmolean Museum 1775–76 and a further £35/17/6 the following year for work on pictures in the Music School in Oxford.

Bibliography

Foskett 1987; Waterhouse 1981; Oxford University, Vice-Chancellor’s accounts, cited British picture restorers at NPG.org.uk

Pastels

J.3614.101 Lady, crayons, Society of Artists 1772, nos. 112–115 (four)