Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

GROS, Antoine-Jean, baron

Paris 1.III.1771 – Meudon 25.VI.1835
Pupil of David from around 1785; he became one of the most important history painters and portraitists of the Napoleonic era. He is not known to have used pastel; however, on the reverse of a trois-crayons self-portrait in Lisbon, which would appear to date from his time with David, is found a study of a female head in coloured chalks including some pastel. The drawing is weaker than the recto, but it may be his. As early as 1782, Gros made chalk drawings of his parents.

Some anonymous pastel copies of his work fall outside the scope of the *Dictionary*.

Bibliography

J. Tripier Le Franc, Histoire de la vie et de la mort du baron Gros, Paris, 1880

Drawings with pastel

J.3628.101 AUTOPORTRAIT, trois crayons, c.1790 (Lisbon, Museu nacional de arte antiga, inv 2719)

~verso, study of female head, chlk, pstl φ



Anon. related pastels NAPOLEON

J.3628.106 ~cop., pstl, c.1804 (L'artiste; don: Cossard, peintre miniaturiste; desc.: famille PC, Troyes; Émile Brouwet, musée Napoléon, Digne-les-Bains, 1932; musée dismantled in 1939, Brouwet collection auctioned 1934). Lit.: Revue des Études napoléoniennes, 1932, II, p. 201 repr., as original [??] φ

