

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastelists before 1800*

Online edition

HANDMANN, Emanuel Jakob

Basel 1718 – Bern 1781

A pupil of Schnetzler in Schaffhausen (1735–39) and of Restout in Paris (1739–42); it is said that he then worked across France in partnership with Hörling (*q.v.*), with Handmann painting the heads of their portraits. Handmann then travelled to Italy, working with Subleyras in Rome, before returning to Switzerland in 1746. He made a further trip to Germany in 1753. In 1759 he travelled around Bern and Basel with Christian Georg Schutz and Johann Ludwig Aberli; he settled definitively in Bern, where he was a member of the academy.

Freivogel's 2002 monograph lists some 32 pastels which Handmann executed throughout his career. They are characterised by a warm, rich palette, and by an almost chiaroscuro lighting; his sitters are posed carefully, but statically, and they often wear exotic clothing and accessories which the artist depicts with relish. Their faces are bland or expressionless. The portrait of the blind mathematician Euler, which has decorated postage stamps, is a good example of the characteristic attention paid to the silk headdress and striped robe. This interest in accessories makes it unsurprising that he turned to the 1714 *Recueil de cent estampes représentant différentes nations du Levant* (assembled by M. de Ferriol, French ambassador to the Porte) for the inspiration for Esther Mutach-Steiger as la Sultane Reine.

Reifenstein (*q.v.*) reported to Caroline Luise von Baden (v.1761) that he had seen a pastel by Handmann fixed with the process invented by the celebrated pastel-maker Bernard Stupanus of Lausanne, involving an atomised mixture of strong vinegar and egg white.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Brieger 1921; Darmstadt 1914; Freivogel 2002; Grove 1996; Luats 1977, p. 66; R&L, p. 113

Pastels

SELBSTPORTRAIT, pstl, 39.5x30, 1757 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 149 repr. ϕ



SELBSTPORTRAIT, pstl, 39.5x33, 1759 (Basel, Öffentliche Kunstsammlung, 1841). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 150 repr. ϕ



Karl Ludwig von ERLACH (1727–1789), pstl/crt., 63x49.5, sd *verso* "E. Handmann Pinx:/A° 1757" (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 63 repr. ϕ



Frau von ERLACH, née Isabella Margaritha Signoret (1731–1783), pstl/crt., 67x54.5, sd *verso* "E. Handmann Pinx:/A° 1759" (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 62 repr. ϕ



Frau Gabriel Albrecht von ERLACH von Spiez, née Salome von Erlach (1749–1831), pstl/crt., 65.8x55, sd "Handman/Pinx: 1765." (PC). Lit.: *Bonstettiana. Erste Zeitspanne*, 1997, I, pp. 318 repr., 654; Freivogel 2002, no. 67 n.r.

Johann Albrecht EULER (1734–1800), Mathematiker, Sohn von Leonhard Euler, pstl, 1753 (location n/k). Lit.: Florence Fasanelli, "Images of Euler", *Leonhard Euler*, ed. Robert E. Bradley & al., 2007, p. 117 n.r. ~repl., pnt., 1756 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 72 repr.

Leonhard EULER (1707–1783), Mathematiker, Physiker, Astronom, pstl/ppr, 57x44, sd "E: Handmann Pinx: 1753" (Basel, Öffentliche Kunstsammlung, inv. 276). Lit.: Brieger 1921, repr. p. 152; Freivogel 2002, no. 73 repr.; Florence Fasanelli, "Images of Euler", *Leonhard Euler*, ed. Robert E. Bradley & al., 2007, pp. 113ff Φ



Frischling, v. Tscharner

Johann Friedrich FUNK (1706–1775), Bildhauer, pstl/ppr, 50.8x41.2, 1746 (PC). Lit.: Hermann von Fischer, *Fonck a Berne: Möbel und Ausstattungen der Kunsthandwerkerfamilie Funk im 18. Jahrhundert in Bern*, 2001, repr.; Freivogel 2002, no. 108 repr. ϕ



Marie-Catherine IMÉR-BALLIF, en robe bleue, pstl/crt., 48x36.8 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 176 n.r.

Marianne JENNER (1757–1828), pstl/ppr, 83.5x62.5, 1746 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 187 n.r.

Rosina Margaretha MURALT-MAY (1729–1802), pstl/ppr, 49x36.5, sd ^ 1760 (Zurich, Sotheby's, 25.XI.1992, Lot 11 repr., SwFr7500). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 226 repr. ϕ



Esther Louise Elisabeth MUTACH-STEIGER (1730–1799), pstl/crt., 82.8x64.4, ^ "E. Handman/Pinx/1768" (Bern, BHM, 39.958. Desc.; Bern, Galerie Stucker, 11.IV.1972, Lot 2113). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 230 repr. Φ



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Christian Georg SCHÜTZ (1718–1791), pstl/crt., 49.5x37.5, 1762 (Frankfurt am Main, Historisches Museum, inv. B379). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 262 repr. Φ



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Johann Rudolf SINNER (1702–1782), pstl/ppr, 65.2x52.6, 1757 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 270 repr. ϕ



Barbara Salome STEIGER-EFFINGER (1724–1808), pstl/ppr, 51x42, 1752. Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 293 n.r.

Mme Vincent Bernard TSCHARNER, née Marie-Salomé de Bonstetten (1736–1807), pstl/ppr, sd 1763 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 532 repr. Φ



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Johanna Maria TSCHARNER VON TAVEL (1739–1815), pstl/crt., 64x48.5, 1757 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 356 repr. φ



Katharina TSCHARNER VON TAVEL (1730–1755), pstl/crt., 64x48.5, 1756 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 358 n.r.

Frau von TSCHARNER, née Maria Margaretha von Frischung (1730–1789), pstl/crt., 84x66.5, sd \nearrow "E. Handmann/pinx. 1758" (PC; Bern, Stuker, 13–20.v.2009, Lot 1227 repr., SwFr19,000). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 95 n.r. φ



WALLIS (1733–1761), Vorsteher einer Brüder-Sozietät in Bern, pstl/ppr, 26x22. Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 365 n.r.

Frl. WALLIS, pstl/ppr, 26x22. Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 366 n.r.

Emmanuel Niklaus WILLADING (1731–1794), pstl/crt., 60x47, sd 1765 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 392 n.r.

Frau WILLADING, née Louise Salome Marguerite de Goumoëns (1738–1776), pstl/crt., 60x47, sd 1765 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 393 n.r.

Frau R. WILLADING, née Margarethe Jenner (1735–), pstl/crt., 60x47, sd 1762 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 394 n.r.

Sophie WILLADING (1765–1826), pstl/crt., 45.4x36.8, sd 1772 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 398 n.r.

Inconnu, pstl/ppr, 64.5x51, sd 1756 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 460 n.r.

Junge Herr, pstl, c.1750 (Bern, BHM, inv. 55.239). Attr. Φ



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Magistrat, pstl, 64x51 (Bern, Galerie Stuker, 12.XII.1978, Lot 1925 n.r., SwFr2200)

Homme au turban, pstl/ppr, 39x30 (Paris, Ader-Picard-Tajan, 11.VI.1990, Lot 4 n., €1143)

An architect with his son, pstl, 100x70 (PC 2011, traditionally attr. Desmarées) [new attr., ?] φ



Inconnue, pstl/ppr, 81x63, sd 1756 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 421 n.r.

Inconnue, pstl/crt., 36.8x29.3, sd 1764 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 440

Inconnue, pstl/ppr, 114x84, a.1772. Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 449 n.r.

Elegante Dame, pstl/ppr, 45x36.5, 1779 (Bern, Dobiaschofsky, 9.V.2003, Lot 622 repr., est. SwFr3500, b/i) φ

Dame in weißem Kleid und blauem Unhang, im Haar Blume, der linken Arm auf eine rechts liegende Vase mit ausströmendem Wasser gelegt, die Rechte mit gepflückter Irisblüte das linke Handgelenk ergreifend; im Hintergrund Schilf und Bäume, pstl/ppr, 82x65 (Zurich, Koller, 29.XI.1978, Lot 5173, SwFr3600). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 463 n.r.

=? *Jenne dame en source* (Zurich, Koller, 21.IX.2007, Lot 3109 repr., as by Handmann) [v. Glain]

Inconnue, pstl/crt., 67.2x57.5 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 466 n.r.

Inconnue à la turque (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. X25 n.r., rejected

Inconnue en robe rose (Bern, von-Wattenmühl-Haus, 28). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. X26 n.r., rejected

Inconnue en robe rose (Bern, von-Wattenmühl-Haus, 29). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. X26 n.r., rejected

Hercule et Omphale, pstl/crt., a/r Lemoyne, 52x43 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 516 n.r.

Les baigneuses, pstl/crt., a/r Lemoyne, 52x43 (PC). Lit.: Freivogel 2002, no. 517 n.r.