

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

JEFFERYS, William

Maidstone c.1723–brd 24.III.1805

Pupil of Hayman in London before returning to Maidstone permanently. Exhibited at the Free Society between 1766 and 1775. He taught his son James (1751–1784), and engraved some of his drawings posthumously; James was then apprenticed to William Woollett before turning to painting. He was admitted to the Royal Academy Schools on 14.XI.1772 (“aged 20 19 last May” [sic]). He received a gold medal in 1774. Edward Edwards described William Jefferies [Jefferys] as a “painter in general, therefore frequently engaged in decorating coaches. He also painted landscapes and fruit pieces. Of the latter he produced some good specimens, several of which were in the exhibitions of the Royal Academy.” Portraits in oil are also known.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Timothy Clifford; Susan Legoux, “James Jefferys, historical draughtsman (1751–84)”, *Burlington magazine*, CXVIII/876, .III.1976, pp. 148–55, 157; Edwards 1808; Waterhouse 1981; Wright 2006

Pastels

J.4174.101 William WOOLLETT (1735–1785), draughtsman and engraver, pstl (Maidstone Museum & Bentslif Art Gallery). Lit.: Ormond & Rogers 1979, n.r.

J.4174.102 Old man, crayons, Society of Artist 1772, no. 423

J.4174.103 Two pieces of fruit, crayons, Society of Artists 1766, no. 75