Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

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JENNINGS, Samuel

Philadelphia 1755 – London p.1845 The son of John and Mary Jennings, he enrolled in the College of Philadelphia in 1770. He advertised his drawing school at the State Lottery house in the *Pennsylvania packet* of 8.I.1787, adding "Mr Jennings continues to Paint Likenesses in Miniature, at three guineas each: Head Size Portraits in Oil at four guineas, and in Crayon two guineas." Later (General advertiser, 11.VI.1792) he offered a subscription to a print of his painting of Liberty displaying the Arts and Sciences, but he made this in London after his move there in 1787 when, armed with a letter of recommendation from Benjamin Franklin, he went to study with Benjamin West; he also learned portraiture from (Gilbert) Stuart. He was still exhibiting in London in 1834, from 1 Poland Street, and appears at that address as an artist in the full Post Office London Directory for 1845.

Bibliography

Franklinpapers.org; Myrone 2022; Prime 1932, II, p. 16; Schmiegel 1975, p. 331