

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

KAUFFMANN, Franz Joseph

Bad Herrenalb Kullenmühle 10.III.1734 –
Aschaffenburg 4.X.1818

Also Kaufmann, etc. The son of Johann Joseph Kauffmann (*q.v.*) by his first wife, Maria Sybilla Lohr; two of his brothers became painters, as well as his half-sister Angelika (*q.v.*). He became Kurfürstliche Hofmaler in Mainz; he advertised in the *Mainzer Vizēdominatsakten* “Maler-Academie und Maler Kaufmanns Gesuch deswegen cum rescriptio d. 4. Nov. 1783”. The same year he married Maria Margareta Rosina Benedikta Berlencourt, daughter of a French teacher. Only two pastels are known (the box of pastels on the floor may suggest but does not imply that the subject Melchior worked in pastel). The portrait of the Kurfürst und Erzbischof von Mainz on the easel is posthumous; it relates to a known anonymous oil painting (perhaps also by Kaufmann). Kaufmann’s 1769 portrait of the Erzbischof’s relative Franz Ludwig Freiherr von Breidbach-Bürresheim (1718–1796) is listed as in Schloß Bürresheim, and suggests a long relationship with this family. An oil copy by this artist (1791) of Zick’s *Rest of the Holy Family* is in the Mittelrheinisches Landesmuseum in Mainz, while another portrait is recorded in a seminary in Mainz. In the *Mainzer Intelligenzblatt* for 30.I.1793 appeared this notice:

Kauffmann, ci-devant Peintre à la Cour de Mayence, continue à faire des portraits en huile & en pastel, d’une perfection supérieure tant pour la ressemblance que pour la bonté de l’ouvrage; à differens prix très-raisonables. Sa demeure est chez Monsieur de Billaud, Apoticaire sur la grande place du Marché.

Bibliography

Hellmann 2023; Heinrich Schrohe, *Aufsätze und Nachweise zur Mainzer Kunstgeschichte*, 1912, pp. 123, 219

Pastels

J.4264.101 Johann Peter MELCHIOR (1747–1825), Hauptmodelleur der Höchster Porzellanmanufaktur, auf einem Stuhl, vor ihm auf einer Malerstaffelei das Porträt von Emmerich Joseph Freiherr von Breidbach zu Bürresheim, Kurfürst und Erzbischof von Mainz (1707–1774), pstl, 40x33, s, inscr. ✓ 1786 (Munich, Hugo Ruef, 8.XI.2000, Lot 1658 repr., est. DM1800. German PC) φ



J.4264.103 Junge Dame in mit blauem Schleifen verziertem Kleid an einem Tisch sitzend, in der rechten Hand halt sie einem Brief, pstl, 40x33, sd Kaufmann 1786 (Munich, Hugo Ruef, 8.XI.2000, Lot 1657 repr., est. DM1500. German PC) φ

