

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

KOSCIUSZKO, Tadeusz Andrzej Bonaventura

Mieračouščyna 4.II.1746 – Solothurn 15.X.1817
Engineer and draughtsman. In .IX.1769 he was recorded as an élève de l'École de l'Académie royale in Paris, “agé de 20 ans, protégé par M. Cochin, Le Prince Czartoryski, et M. de Le Marquis de Marigny, demeure rue des Petits Augustins, à Phôtel de Luxembourg.” Kosciusko fought in the American revolution. In 1794 he led an insurrection in Poland which was put down by the Russians. Severely wounded, he was imprisoned in Russia until released two years later, when he made a second trip to America. Farington recorded a meeting in London (8.VI.1797) of Benjamin West with Trumbull and the general, who was lying on a couch, drawing landscapes “which is his principal amusement.” He enjoyed praise from General Gates, although Dr William Thornton (*q.v.*) wrote of his portrait of Jefferson: “Never was such injustice done to you except by sign painters and General Kosciusko, than which last nothing could be so bad, and when I saw it I did not wonder that he lost Poland – not that it is necessary that a general should be a painter, but he should be a man of such sense as to discover he is not a painter” (letter to Jefferson, 20.VII.1816).

Bibliography

Bolton 1923; A. W. W. Evans, *Memoir of Kosciuszko*, New York, 1883; Farington 1978–84; Jeffares 2017w; *Washington times*, 15.IX.1901

Pastels

J.4346.101 Thomas JEFFERSON (1743–1826),
crayon, a.1816
~grav. Sokolnicki. Lit.: C. W. Bowen, *Centennial of inauguration of Washington*, Bolton 1923, p. 44 n.r.