

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

KARFFF, Jean-Jacques, dit Casimir

Colmar 12.II.1770 – Versailles 24.III.1829

Also Karpf, Carp etc. The son of another Jean-Jacques and Marie-Madeleine Schindolff, he studied in Colmar before enrolling in the Paris Académie school on 28.VI.1789 as a pupil of David, living in the Luxembourg chez M. de Narbonne and recorded there until .IX.1791. In 1795 he returned to Colmar as drawings teacher at the École centrale. He was back in Paris in 1805 and became known as a history and portrait painter, miniaturist (he was particularly known for his miniatures *en grisaille*), draughtsman and lithographer. His portrait of the impératrice Joséphine received a gold medal at the salon de 1808. As the livret to the 1817 salon suggests, he divided his time between Paris (17 quai Voltaire) and Versailles (89 Avenue de Saint-Cloud). Around 1806 he formed a relationship with the poet Marguerite-Victoire Babois (1760–1839), niece of Jean-François Ducis; they are buried together in Père Lachaise.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008

Monographic exhibition

Jean-Jacques Karpff. Das Erhabene im Blick, Colmar, Musée Unterlindem, 18.III.–19.VI.2017. Cat. Viktoria von der Brüggen & Raphaël Mariani

Pastels

J.4254.101 AUTO PORTRAIT, cr. chr/ppr, 31x23, s ✓

“J Jaques Casimir Karpff/Éleve de David dessine par lui même...”, 1794 (Galerie de Baysier, Salon du dessin, 2011; Katrin Bellinger Collection, inv. no. 2011-005; exh. Salon du dessin 2024). Exh.: Karpff 2017. Lit.: *Lettre de la miniature*, no. 6, p. 11 repr.φσ

