

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastelists before 1800*

Online edition

LASALLE, Philippe de

Seyssel-en-Bugey 1723– Lyon 1804

Silk designer, merchant, draughtsman and “metteur en carte”. An orphan, he settled in Lyon in 1744. By 1760 his celebrity was such as to attract the praise of the intendant of Lyon, who described him as “le premier dessinateur de Lyon”. His pictures, signed and dated “Lasalle fecit”, were drawn to the attention of Catherine the Great by Voltaire, in recognition of which she had Lasalle make a tapestry copy of her 1769 portrait by Rokotoff to send to Voltaire (it is now at Ferney). As only a single pastel is known today, the attribution of a second anonymous portrait of an unknown flower painter from the Bardac collection must be treated with caution, but the similarities with the pastel in Lyon suggest that it could be by and of this silk designer.

Bibliography

Apgar 1999, p. 71; Grove 1996; Daryl M. Hafter, “Philippe de Lasalle: from mise-en-carte to industrial design”, *Winterthur portfolio*, XII, 1977, pp. 139–64; Lesley Ellis Miller, “The marriage of art and commerce: Philippe de Lasalle’s success in silk”, *Art history*, XXVIII/2, 2005, 200–26

Pastels

AUTOPORTRAIT, pstl, 36x29 (Lyon, mAD). Lit.: Miller 2005, fig. 4.2 ◊



?AUTOPORTRAIT, un peintre de fleurs, en habit bleu, pstl, 59x49 (Sigismond Bardac; Paris, Petit, 10–11.v.1920, Lot 20 repr.; Arnold Seligmann. James Bennet, Jr; dep.: Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Boston, Skinner, 16.v.2008, Lot 25 repr., attr. Nattier, est. \$5–7000, \$3851; Paris, Delorme, Collin du Bocage, 3.iv.2009, Lot 8 repr., attr. Lasalle, ?auto, est. €2500–3500) [new attr. and identification, ?] ◊

