Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

LE BRUN, Jean-Baptiste-Pierre

Paris 16.II.1748-7.VIII.1813

Mme Vigée Le Brun's husband was an artist as well as a dealer. The son of a miniaturist of the Académie de Saint-Luc, Pierre Le Brun, he was enrolled as a pupil in the école de l'Académie royale in 1769, aged 20, under the protection of Boucher, living with his father, "marchand ed tableaux, place du Louvre" (the address later given as rue de l'Arbre sec vis-à-vis la rue Bayeul). He frequented the studios of Greuze, Fragonard, Boucher and Deshayes but did not advance far as a painter, although he did undertake restoration of pictures. According to family papers cited by Haroche-Bouzinac, his pastel self-portrait was with his daughter during her troublesome last years in Paris; but the note questions whether this was so. There is no other evidence that he was a pastellist.

Bibliography

Haroche-Bouzinac 2011; Sanchez 2004

Dictionary, COLLECTORS

Pastels

J.4682.101 AUTOPORTRAIT, pstl (desc.: sa fille, Julie Le Brun). Lit.: Haroche-Bouzinac 2011, p. 473