Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

LEDOUX, Jean-Didier

Paris 1756 – p.1833

Ledoux, the amateur responsible for this portrait while based in Lunéville, was a fellow soldier in the Gendarmes bourguignons (the same regiment as La Tour's brother Jean-François de La Tour who wears the same uniform in his miniature J.IF.46.304; any influence is of course speculative). He was almost certainly the Jean-Didier Ledoux who we know was in the regiment from various documents (including his grandfather's will and family tuitions; his carte de sûreté for 1794 located him in rue de Deux Portes, Paris). He was the grandson of Pierre-Augustin Duhamel, orfèvre à Paris, whose daughter Marie-Magdelaine married Jean-Pierre Ledoux; their son Jean-Didier was born c.1756 (a brother, Augustin was born 13.XII.1756). He was young at the time of the portrait. By 1793 he was lieutenantcolonel of the 104e régiment d'infanterie. On 14.II.1792, at Saint-Sulpice, he married Madeleine-Justine Gailliard; there were several children. He was still alive when his mother's inv. p.m. was taken, in 1833. (A much older Ledoux in the regiment was Claude-Joseph Ledoux, recorded as marrying a Pierrette Bouquet in Lunéville on 1.I.1749 but probably retired by 1771.)

Pastels

J.4692.101 Gendarme bourguignon (1742–), pstl/ppr, 53.5x39.5, inscr. verso "Ce portrait à été fait agé de 29 ans étant aux service de la Gend™ie depuis 10 ans et demie / fait par son cammarade Ledoux aussi Gend™e dans la meme compagnie à Luneville Ce 6 7b№ 1771 à l'hotel des Bourguignon à Luneville" (Angers, Deloys, 20.XI.2024, Lot 189 repr., attr., est. €200–300) φv

