

LEMOINE, Jacques-Manuel

Rouen 1740–1803

Much confusion surrounds the author of the 1775 Autoportrait whose hand appears also on several other pastels. The signature may either be “A. Lemoine ipse pinxit” or even “J. A. Lemoine” with the initials forming a monogram. Neither the face nor the handwriting belongs to Jacques-Antoine-Marie Lemoine (*q.v.*). Among the known homonyms, possible candidates include René-Jean Lemoine, a pupil of the Académie royale, *reçu* à l’Académie de Saint-Luc 1759 (whose known works are landscapes); the Lemoine from Marseille académie; or the amateur from Lille.

However the most obvious solution is probably correct: Albert Grand was writing in 1866 (and Théodore Lebreon in 1865) not of Jacques-Antoine-Marie Lemoine, but of a different Rouen artist, Jacques-Manuel Lemoine, a member of the Académie de Rouen, and identified in the *Almanach des peintres* of 1777 as the author of the ceiling of the Théâtre de Rouen, *L’Apothéose du Grand Corneille* (1776). He was trained in the École de dessin founded by Descamps, from whom he learned pastel. He was sent to Paris to work with Deshayes, but his health obliged him to return to Rouen, where he was supported by the amateur Jean-Louis Fiquet de Normanville (1726–1790), conseiller au parlement de Normandie and a member of the Académie de Rouen. It is still not clear whether this Lemoine left other pastels, nor has his name been definitively established, Jacques-Manuel, Jacques-Emmanuel and Jacques-A. all being cited. No trace has been found of the portrait of the artist’s uncle, the friend of Coypel; it is possible that there was a relationship with François Lemoigne, whose father was from Normandie.

Bibliography

Grand 1866; Jeffares 1999; Jeune 1988, pp. 293ff; Th. Lebreton, *Biographie rouennaise*, 1865, s.m. J.-A.-M. Lemoine; Fiquet; Sanchez 2004

Pastels

AUTOPORTRAIT, pstl, 42x34 ov., sd “J. A. Lemoine ipso pinxit 1775” (Paris, Drouot, Oger-Dumont, 17.XI.2000, Lot 39 repr. cl, est. €35–40,000; Paris, Drouot, Oger-Dumont, 19.III.2001, Lot 31 n.r., attr., est. €35–40,000). Lit.: Grand 1866; Jeffares 1999, no. 7 n.r., as Jacques-Antoine-Marie Lemoine [??] **Φ**



Caroline DES COURTILS, future marquise de Leusse, sd 1776 (Léon Allard de Meeüs; Paris, Georges Petit, 6–7.VI.1910, Lot 7 n.r.) [v. J.-A.-M. Lemoine]

L’oncle de l’artiste, ami de Coypel, pstl. Lit.: Grand 1866; Jeffares 1999, no. 219, ??] Jacques-Antoine-Marie Lemoine