

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LESUIRE, Pierre-André

Rouen 29.XI.1742 – Paris brd 21.VI.1827

Also Le Suire. Listed in the *Almanach des peintres* for 1777 as an artist resident in Rouen, member of the Académie de Rouen, and a painter in oil, pastel, miniature and enamel. His son described him as “ancien sous-directeur de la Manufacture royale de Sèvres”, but this has not been corroborated. A number of his miniatures and enamels are in the musée de Laval (acquired at the sale of a M. Bourgneuf of Laval, who bought them from the servant of a descendant of the artist), but few pastels are known. He was the son of Louis Lesuire, orfèvre à Rouen, and Marie-Anne Nau, baptised at Sainte-Croix-Saint-Ouen, Rouen. On 3.X.1778 at Saint-Barthélémy, Paris, he married Marguerite-Antoinette-Justine Corranson or Corransson (1752–1827). She was also a miniaturist; her 1783 portrait of her husband is also in Laval. Their son Théodore Le Suire died there c.1840. A 1785 document in the registre de tutelles locates Lesuire, “Peintre en mignature”, at the pont au Change, Paris. Two other members of the family of note were his uncles Louis-Antoine-Bernard (1734–1808), premier peintre to the Duchess of Kingston and to Catherine II and the writer and art critic Robert-Martin Lesuire (1737–1815), in two of whose novels (*Ma première aventure par Mirabeau*, 1798; and *Première suite de l'aventurier François*, 1787) the narrator is supposedly a practicing pastellist (in a third, *Le Crime*, 1789, the heroine is given away by her pastel portrait of the narrator); he stayed with Edmund Francis Cunningham (*q.v.*) in London in the 1770s. Lesuire's date of death has hitherto (2021) escaped attention; but he must be the one buried in Père-Lachaise 21.VI.1827 aged 84 years 9 months.

Bibliography

Abraham 1891; Bénézit; Chennevières 1847–62; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Schidlof 1964

Pastels

J.482.101 Le baron d'INJINIEUR [?]; & pendant: J.482.102 la baronne, pstl, 62x46, sd “Lesuire pinxit/1763” (Paris, Bailly-Pommery, Voutier & Associés, 30.VI.2008, Lot 9 n.r., b/i; Vichy, Guy Laurent, 22.XI.2008) φδ



J.482.105 Homme à la veste bleue, pstl, 57x46, sd “Lesuire pt/1.76” (Paris, Tajan, 24.III.2004, Lot 131 n.r., est. €2–3000; Paris, Tajan, 20.X.2004, Lot 110 repr., est. €1500–2000, €3730) φ



J.482.107 Junge Frau mit Musikinstrument, pstl/ppr, 40x30, sd “Le Suire inventit et pinxit 1767” (Vienna, Dorotheum, 6.V.1997, Lot 294 repr., attr., est. ÖSch 16–20,000, ÖSch8000) φ



J.482.111 Dame, pstl, fusain, 21x17 ov., sd verso “C. Le Suire peintre rue Sainte Croix” (Le Havre Enchères, 13.XII.2020, Lot 15 repr., est. €100–200) φ

