

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### LINOT, Anne-Renée

Paris 28.X.1732–21.I.1780

Mlle Linot's submissions to the place Dauphine in 1767 were praised, with those of Mlles Durand and Medard (*q.v.*), for their resemblance and drawing. A portrait of the author, freemason and theologian Antoine Court de Gébelin (1725–1784), medium unspecified, was engraved by Romanet after "M<sup>lle</sup> Linot", issued 1776. Another engraving, by Pierre-Guillaume-Alexandre Beljambe (1759–1838), was of the writer and legislator Guillaume Grivel (1735–1810), des académies de Dijon et de la Rochelle, de la Société philosophique de Philadelphie, "peint par Mlle Linot". Since the spellings are consistent, she cannot be conflated with Mme Lintot (*q.v.*).

Mlle Lintot, together with a Mlle Fleury, supported Gébelin in his work on *Le Monde primitive* when he first arrived in Paris in 1763: according to his biographer, Quesnay de Saint-Germain (summarised in *Esquisses maçonniques suisses*, 1854), Linot was equally devoted to Gébelin as Mlle Fleury (who put up the 5000 livres required to publish the first volume); Linot, "artiste distinguée", received him at her home, and provided the portrait which Romanet engraved for Quesnay's éloge. Quesnay mentions that the two ladies were "d'un âge mûr." According to Taillefer (*Tableau historique*, 1785, IV, p. 195), Mlle Linot learned how to engrave specifically to assist Gébelin; she had died four years before, i.e. c.1780.

That date allows us to identify her as Anne-Renée Linot whose burial certificate (Etat civil reconstitué) confirms that she died, unmarried, in Paris, rue Poupée, 21.I.1780, and was buried the next day at Saint-Sulpice in the presence of Gébelin. She was stated to be 40 years of age (she was actually 47, and would have been 31 when Quesnay described her as "d'un âge mûr"). Her parents were given as Louis Linot and Dame Bourgoin.

Further information is disclosed in a lengthy document that appeared in the *Journal de jurisprudence*, .III.1763, pp. 109–33: this was the précis of the case of Mlle Lintot's lawyer M. Vanderlinde was to argue before the Grand'Chambre du parlement de Paris in the law case Anne had to pursue to recover her mother's legacy which had been refused by relatives despite being valued at a mere 1500 livres. The executor, Sieur Froncet, wished to deprive her even of this by arguing that she was illegitimate on various grounds. The précis revealed that Louis Lintot, commis, married her mother, Anne Bourgoin, an apprentice lingère, in 1724. In her ignorance she declared herself to be fille majeure, although only 22 years old. On 28.X.1732 her daughter Anne-René [sic] was born and baptised at Saint-Josse; the father was stated to be Savinien Maillet, husband of Anne Bourgoin (the marraine was Françoise Le Grix, femme de Charles Fleury). Vanderlinde offers no explanation of the identity of Savinien Maillet, presumably an invented name covering the true identity of her biological father. Louis Linot was still alive at the time of the birth, dying the following year. Vanderlinde's main argument was that a child born within marriage was to be

presumed legitimate unless it was logically impossible for the husband to be the biological father, which was therefore not the case here. Anne was remarried in 1751, to a wealthy sieur Le Fevre – René Lefebvre, sieur de Marcouville (1679–1753) married Anne Bourgoin in Paris, Sainte-Marine, 11.II.1751; he was a marchand bourgeois de Paris. In view of the 11 children Lefebvre had from a first marriage 55 years earlier, Anne sent her daughter to stay with her marraine Mme Fleury. Her mother took her back when Lefebvre died soon after (in .VIII.1753), but decided to retire to Verneuil in 1755. "Sa fille ne pouvoit l'y suivre; son talent pour la peinture la fixoit à Paris", and she returned to the Fleury household. The mother died in 1761. Vanderlinde's paper does not inform us of the outcome of the case.

It is perhaps noteworthy that one of the daughters of Charles Fleury, a maître traiteur, rue des Méneestriers, and Françoise Le Grix, Marie-Jeanne Fleury, married the author Charles Palissot de Montenois (1730–1814) in Paris, Saint-Josse, 6.VI.1748. The youngest of René Lefebvre's children by his first marriage, Pierre-Augustin Lefèvre de Marcouville (c.1720–1799), avocat au parlement, secrétaire du prince de Monaco, and distinguished playwright, married, in Paris 7.I.1761, a Marie-Louise Fleury.

#### Bibliography

Bénézit; Nagler 1843

#### Salon critiques

Anon., Exposition, Place Dauphine, 1767, *L'Avant-Coureur*, 29.VI.1767, p. 403:

Mesdemoiselles Durand, Médard & Linot ont fait voir des Portraits au pastel qui ont le mérite de la ressemblance & du dessin.

Junius, Exposition, Place Dauphine, 1767, *Neue Bibliothek der schönen Wissenschaften und der freyen Künste*, v/1, 1767, p. 166:

Die Demoiselles Dürand, Medard und Linot, haben Pastellbildnisse ausgesetzt, die das Verdienst des Aehnlichkeit und einer guten Zeichnung haben. Der Demois. Dore Köpfe haben viel Geist und Character: nicht weniger haben der Mdlle Sprote sowohl Pastell- als Miniaturgemälde gefallen.

#### Pastels

J.4856.101 Portraits, Salon de la Jeunesse 1767