

LUSSE, Jean-Jacques-Thérèse de

Paris 14.III.1758 – Saintes 28.XI.1833

The miniaturist de Lusse (or De Lusse; Delasse; Thérèse or Thérèza) came from a musical family. From his 1794 marriage contract we can identify his parents as Jacques-Martin De Lusse (mistranscribed in the Fonds Andriveau as Delasse), maître de musique, who, aged 28 on 3.V.1756, at Saint-Benoît, Paris, had married Marguerite de Vendôme, aged 29. His parents were Jean-Baptiste De Lusse and Susanne Forgeot; the witnesses included his brother Christophe, maître luthier, and uncle Jacques De Lusse, ingénieur des instruments de musique (both prominent makers of woodwind instruments). However there is no clear connection between this family and the composer Charles de Lusse (1731–1791) who published *L'Art de la flûte traversière* (1761) and provided the music to Marmontel's *Bergère des Alpes*.

After initial training with Vien, at the age of 18 de Lusse obtained an important commission for oil portraits of two newly elected échevins in Angers. This notice appeared in the *Affiches d'Angers*, 12.VII. and 13.XII.1776:

Le sieur de Lusse, peintre et protégé des Académies royales de Paris, nouvellement arrivé à Angers, curieux de faire voir ses talents aux yeux des amateurs et connaisseurs en cet art, ainsi à ceux qui désireraient se faire peindre, fait savoir qu'il peint le portrait tant à l'huile qu'au pastel, et en miniature, et le paysage en grand. Il enseigne aussi en ville le dessin pour ces sortes de genres.

He is also listed as a pupil of Vincent (Cuzin 2013, pp. 547, 548 includes duplicate entries with different dates). After this trip he moved to La Rochelle before returning to Paris in 1785, where he is described as “miniaturiste du Palais-Royal” and where he enrolled as a pupil of Vincent. He then travelled to Grenoble and Valence, returning to Paris in 1793. His carte de sûreté (c.1792, AN F/7 4796) gives his address as 9 rue des Petits Champs, aged 36, born Paris. There, on 25.VII.1794, he married Françoise-Marguerite Louiset, the daughter of Pierre-François Louiset and Françoise Boucher; she had just divorced Jean-Jacques-Marie Boileau. A “témoin de notoriété au sujet des prénoms” in the Archives nationales (MC XCI/1317, 7.IX.1794) connects Jean-Jacques-Thérèse Delusse to Victor Pillement, graveur, rue Saint-Hyacinthe, place Saint-Michel.

From 1797 to 1804 he was professeur de dessin at Saintes. A four-month-old son, Jean-Jacques, was buried in Saintes, 5.II.1802. He was then appointed (in succession to Joseph Marchant) conservateur in the musée d'Angers, where he taught David d'Angers. He worked in pastel, oil and miniature, producing landscapes as well as portraits. Lespinasse called him “bohème et inconstant”.

Bibliography

Cuzin 2013; Gaetgens & Lugand 1988, p. 336; Grove; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Lespinasse 1929; Paris 1906; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Schidlöf 1964

Pastels

J.5038.101 Nicolas BAZIN, lieutenant de Stofflet, pstl, 1806 (René Bazin, de l'Académie française). Lit.: *Catalogue de la donation Félix Doistan. Miniatures des XVIII^e et XIX^e siècles*, Paris, 1922, p. 59 n.r.

J.5038.102 Le peintre Jean-Antoine CONSTANTIN (1756–1844), directeur de l'École de dessin d'Aix, en habit gris, cr, clr ou pstl/ppr, 59.8x44.8 ov., sd “De Lusse/delint. 1789” (Aix-en-Provence, musée Granet, inv. 856.2.1. Don Mmes Ginesy & Ametler, filles du sujet, 1856). Exh.: Aix 1974, no. 105 n.r. Lit.: Cat. musée, no. 613 ø



J.5038.103 Charles-Marc-Antoine-Athanase LE GARDEUR DE CROISILLES (1749–1803), uniforme de lieutenant au 27^e régiment, infanterie Lyonnais, pstl, 56x45.5 (Paris, Drouot, PIASA, 16.XI.2005, Lot 67 n.r., est. €1000–1500; Paris, Drouot, PIASA, 7.IV.2006, anon., as mousquetaire noir). Attr. Lemoine Bouchard ø



~min., s (Paris art market 2016)

J.5038.107 Vue du château de Crussol, pstl, 28x40, sd 1792, inscr. “Vue des environs de Valence en Dauphiné en 1792, restes des ruines du château de Polignac” [sic] (Paris, Drouot, Beaussant-Lefèvre, 16.II.2005, Lot 68 repr., est. €800–1000, €1000) ø

