

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LE JEUNEUX, Anne-Louise, Mme Baudin de La Chesnaye

fl. Paris 1755; –16.IV.1794

Mlle Le Jeuneux [Lejeuneux or *recte* Jeuneux], is known from signed pastels of 1760 and 1763 as well as several oil portraits, among them that of the astronomer La Caille, after whose drawing Mlle Le Jeuneux also prepared a large circular painted Carte du ciel de l'hémisphère austral, 1755 (also at the Paris Observatoire). The pastel is loosely inspired by Boucher. She was no doubt the daughter of “M. Le Jeuneux”, described as a “commis des finances” who owned a well-known cabinet de curiosités on the ground floor of the Hôtel de Chavigny, rue d'Enfer (Luc-Vincent Thiéry, *Amateurs et étrangers voyageurs à Paris*, Paris, 1786–87, II, pp. 61f). He is surely to be identified with the Jean-François Jeuneux (22.X.1718–1.X.1801), who, on 20.VII.1789, presented a rare 1500 volume of *Les ordonnances de la Prévôté des marchands... de Paris* to Jean-Sylvain Bailly, the new mayor who succeeded the murdered Flesselles (Sotheby's, 19.XI.2019, Lot 351); the pension records confirm that he served in the bureau de l'Intendance des Ponts et chaussées from 1740 to 1783. He appears to have been the son of another Jean-François Jeuneux (–23.VII.1754) and Catherine Lermitte (she remarried in 1761), and in 1794 (aged 75) he married a Suzanne-Rose Burzet, sister of a mathematician. His electrical experiments brought him into contact with Benjamin Franklin (who visited him on 14.I.1778, according to the *Avis divers*); in 1798 he was listed as a member of the Société des inventions et découvertes. The astronomers Bailly and La Caille met at Mlle Le Jeuneux's salon. Although her first name is variously transcribed, the publication of a *Divertissement pour le Jour de Sainte-Anne 1758, fête de Mlle Le Jeuneux* by a certain Dugué confirms that her first name was Anne or a variant. On 24.I.1769, at Saint-Germain-L'Auxerrois (by contract of 22.I.1769, insinué 21.III.1769), she married André Baudin de La Chesnaye [or Chenaye] (1732–1792), a former mousquetaire and chevalier de Saint-Louis, commandant of the Paris national guard in 1790 (his address in 1781–91 was given as rue d'Enfer, that of M. Le Jeuneux's hôtel); he was among the prisoners massacred at La Force in .IX.1792. According to Lalande “elle se précipita dans la Seine le jour qu'on décréta l'éloignement des nobles” [27 germinal an II].

Bibliography

G. Bigourdan, *Inventaire des manuscrits de l'Observatoire de Paris*, 1895, f. 32; Duvaux 1873, p. cclxxxviii; I. S. Glass, *Nicolas-Louis de La Caille: astronomer and geodesist*, Oxford, 2013; A. Granier de Cassagnac, *L'Histoire des Girondins*, 1860; Jérôme de Lalande, *Bibliographie astronomique*, Paris, 1803, p. 731

Pastels

J.4722.051 Homme en habit noir, pstl, 54x45, sd
→ “Anna L^{sa} Le Jeuneux/juillet 1760” (Paris, Drouot, Kahn-Dumoussset, 3.II.2021, Lot 94 repr., est. €600–800) ☐



J.4722.101 Jeune dame avec une fleur aux cheveux, pstl, 46x38, sd ↖ “Anna L^{sa} Le Jeuneux/P^{ist} 1763” (Paris, Drouot, Kahn-Dumoussset, 27.X.2010, Lot 24 repr., est. €500–600, €1100; Arnaud Catel) ☐



Portraits in other media

Jean HUBERT, pnt., sd 1764 (Paris, Pescheteau-Badin & Ferrien, 20.XII.1993, Lot 80 n.r.)

Abbé Nicolas-Louis de LA CAILLE (1713–1762), pnt., 1762 (Paris, Observatoire, inv. i.85). Lit.: R. Stoyan & al., *Atlas of the Messier objects: highlights of the deep sky*, Cambridge, 2008, p. 20 repr.

~grav. Thérèse Devaux, *Les Illustres modernes*, 1788