

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LEMAIRE, Pierre-Anne

Paris 1717–20.IV.1777

Lemaire, de l'Académie de Saint-Luc: *reçu* 1724, ancien professeur, rue du Petit-Lion-Saint-Sauveur, 1753, according to the livret; he exhibited oils and pastels at the Salons de Saint-Luc of 1751, 1752 and 1753. A miniature (1750) and some large scale group paintings are known, but no pastels have yet been discovered. No doubt a member of the dynasty of Parisian painters going back to the Poussin associate in the seventeenth century, the traditional identification of the pastellist as Jean-Claude Lemaire in Guiffrey cannot be correct, although found in all sources until revised here in 2022. At least a dozen "peintres" named Lemaire were active in Paris in the mid-eighteenth century.

The exact relationships remain uncertain, but the pastellist was probably either the grandson or the nephew of the painter Pierre Lemaire, peintre, *reçu* à l'Académie de Saint-Luc 1674. He it seems was married at least twice: in 1714 to Françoise Fournier, and in 1731 to Élisabeth-Marguerite Delamarche. On 1.IX.1710 he took on Jean Chevalier (*g.r.*) as apprentice for five years, at a premium of 200 livres. He was recorded at various addresses: rue Quincampoix in 1729, rue Saint-Martin 1731 etc., but the form of the signature "P^{re} Lemaire a paris / rue du petit Lion / quartier St Denis" on the back of a 1729 portrait of the duchesse de Bourbon

Jean-Claude Lemaire, probably Pierre's son or younger brother, peintre aux Bâtiments du roi, was *reçu* à l'Académie de Saint-Luc 4.IV.1724, rue du Petit-Lion-Saint-Sauveur, and was probably responsible for two architectural pictures at the Salon de la Jeunesse in 1725. Jean-Claude lodged an opposition at the death of the painter Jean Raoux "pour seureté et avoir payement de la somme de 2740 livres pour ouvrages faits en les tableaux dud. Deffunt s. Raoux, depuis et compris 1717 jusques et compris l'année 1733, et pour autres causes et raisons à déduire en temps et lieu"; he was then (1734) living at rue de Grenelle-Saint-Honoré. In the same year he was called upon to value the pictures in the posthumous inventory of the landscape painter Robert Bonnart. On 9.VI.1732 Jean-Claude Lemaire was living in the enclos et paroisse des Quinze-Vings when he lent 500 livres to Jean-Baptiste Oudry.

At some stage before 1717 Jean-Claude Lemaire married a Marie-Catherine Serre; he died in 1736 leaving seven minor children, the eldest aged 18 (AN Y4524, registres de tutelles, 7.II.1736); among the family friends were Antoine-Sebastien Slodtz, sculpteur and Pierre-Louis Dumesnil of the Académie de Saint-Luc.) The second son Claude-François Lemaire (1723–1783) was *reçu* at the Académie de Saint-Luc 14.VIII.1753; directeur 1768; testament 1783; the third son Pierre-Louis Lemaire (– 1761), also a maître peintre à Paris, married a Marie-Françoise Bouilly (they lived in the rue de Bussy); while the fourth, Jean-Charles, born c.1734, was still alive in 1777.

The pastellist is here (2022) identified as the eldest son, Pierre-Anne Lemaire, born c.1717 according to his age in the 1736 tutelle, and probably just referred to as Pierre in most

contexts. Thus in a property document ("mainlevée") in the AN (23.III.1757), Pierre Lemaire, "Peintre, et ancien professeur de l'Académie de Saint-Luc, rue du Petit Lion paroisse Saint Séverin". He was in the rue de Grenelle in 1761. On 12.VII.1755, at Saint-Eustache, Paris, he married Agathe Tremeau, who lived until 1798; he died in the rue de l'Oseille on 20.IV.1777 (registre des sceaux). In his will (AD75 DC 6 257, made the day before his death), he was described as a "peintre doreur en batimens demeurant rue du Roulle"; he left 2000 livres to each of his two surviving brothers and jointly to the two daughters of the third, while a "Geneviève Bolondrade fille orpheline" was to receive 3000 livres; his beau-frère Leger Tremeau, ancien brodeur du roi, was appointed executor.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie 1864; Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Guiffrey 1884, p. 335f; Guiffrey 1915, pp. 360f; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Wildenstein 1966

Pastels

- J.4736.101 AUTO PORTRAIT, pstl, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 101
- J.4736.102 M. de Brou [Antoine-Joseph FEYDEAU, sgr de Brou (1731–1762)], conseiller d'État et ordinaire au conseil royal, pstl, 55x46, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 93
- J.4736.103 M. LE LOIR, pstl, Salon de Saint-Luc 1752, no. 257
- J.4736.104 Le comte de l'Orge [Louis de Durfort, duc de LORGES (1714–1775)], lieutenant-général, m/u, Salon de Saint-Luc 1752, no. 256
- J.4736.105 M. & Mme TILLIARD, libraire, m/u, Salon de Saint-Luc 1752, no. 258
- J.4736.106 M. [Pierre de Saint-Martin, baron] de TOUREMPRÉ [(1720–1783)], gentilhomme du duc d'Orléans, maréchal des camps et armées du roi, pstl, 55x46, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 94
- J.4736.107 Le neveu de [M. de TOUREMPRÉ], m/u, 55x46, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 95
- J.4736.108 Chasseur, m/u, 92x73, Salon de Saint-Luc 1752, no. 225
- J.4736.109 Homme, m/u, 81x65, Salon de Saint-Luc 1752, no. 225
- J.4736.11 Jeune homme, pstl, ov., Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 92
- J.4736.111 Gentilhomme, m/u, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 97
- J.4736.112 Vestale, m/u, 92x73, Salon de Saint-Luc 1752, no. 226
- J.4736.113 Mlle ***, m/u, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 96
- J.4736.114 Jeune demoiselle habillée en Cordelier, pstl, 33x24, Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 99