

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastelists before 1800*

Online edition

MASSOT, Firmin

Geneva 5.v.1766–16.v.1849

The Swiss painter was the son of a watch-maker. He was taught drawing and miniature by his sister Pernette (*q.v.*) before enrolling in the drawing school at the Société des arts in 1780. Arlaud and Liotard are numbered among his teachers. He visited Rome with Saint-Ours in 1788. During the Revolution he was welcomed by Mme de Staël at Coppet. He married an Anne-Louis Mégevand (1778–1825) in 1795. In the nineteenth century his work was much influenced by English naturalistic portraiture. The two youthful works in Geneva, said to have been executed in collaboration with Agasse (they are portraits of Agasse and his sister), are the only known pastels.

Monographic exhibitions

Massot 1999: *Firmin Massot (1766–1849)*, Geneva, Musée d'art et d'histoire, 1999–30.1.2000

Bibliography

Bénézit; Grove; Hofstetter 2008; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Valérie Louzier-Gentaz, "Firmin Massot", *Dictionnaire historique de la Suisse*

Pastels

J.5216.101 Jacques-Laurent AGASSE (1767–1849) à Crévin, pstl/ppr, 63.5x52.5, c.1785 (Geneva, mAH, inv. 1956-0073. Don Mme Eugène Mussard) φσ



J.5216.103 Louise-Étiennette AGASSE (1769–1852), à Crévin, pstl/ppr, 66.3x51.5, c.1785 (Geneva, mAH, inv. 1956-0072. Don Mme Eugène Mussard) φσ

