

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

McARDELL, James

Dublin 1727/28 – London 2.VI.1765

Sometimes Macardell; engraver of Irish origin. He was taught in John Brooks's workshop, and moved to London with him c.1746 where he soon started to work for Knapton and Pond (*qq.v.*). He engraved several pieces also for Liotard in 1752. Under the influence of Garrick he was active also in theatrical engraving. He was a director of the Society of Artists when it was incorporated in 1765, but died soon after.

His self-portrait, known from an engraving by Richard Earlom, is the only indication that he worked in pastel. In a letter of 13.XII.1774, Granger reports "I have just tacked up in my Study the original drawing in Crayons of Mac Ardel which Lord Mountstuart gave me. His Lordship unluckily tore it in getting it off the Canvas but I have carefully mended it, and intend to bestow a glass upon it."

Bibliography

Oxford DNB

J.526.101 SELF-PORTRAIT, pstl, c.1765 (Richard Bull; Lord Montstuart; don: James Granger).

Lit.: Lucy Peltz, "The Eton correspondence of the Revd James Granger and Richard Bull, 1769–1774", *Walpole Society*, LXVI, 2004, pp. 1–162, p. 143f

~grav. Richard Earlom 1771, "from a drawing in the collection of Richard Bull"

