

**MÜLLER, Christian David**

Dresden 1723–1797

A pupil of Haid and Silvestre, David Müller, who also signed Miller, was a prolific portraitist, leaving more than 200 portraits of the Polish nobility. He taught Kurfürstin Maria Antonia (*q.v.*). He worked in oil and pastel: according to Heinrich Keller, “seine eigentlishe Malerey war in Oel, die Pastellmalerey trieb er als Nebewerk”, but it was “pour les Portraits en pastel” that “M. Chrétien David Müller, Peintre de la cour” was received by the Dresden academy according to Lehninger. The pastels display a French influence. The portrait of Maurice de Saxe’s brother may well have been inspired by La Tour’s famous portrait in Dresden. Fontenay, the Saxon envoy in Paris, was a close friend of Müller’s teacher Louis de Silvestre (and appeared at the wedding of Silvestre’s cousin Jacques-Augustin in Paris in 1757). A portrait of Müller by Anton Graff is in Leipzig.

**Bibliography**

Bénézit; Dresden 2009; Henning & Marx 2007, pp. 123f; Keller 1788, pp. 118–20; Lehninger 1782; Marx 2001a; Nagler 1835–52; Roettgen 2003; Silvestre 1869

**Pastels**

J.5486.101 Gaspard-François Belon de FONTENAY (c.1698–c.1770), général major au service de la Saxe, envoyé extraordinaire de Saxe à Paris 1757–70, pstl, 58x44, inscr. *verso* “Gaspar Fontenay Gal Major/au service de Saxe/peint à Dresde par David Miller”, Dresden, 1748 ([S. J. Ravaisson-Mollien]; Paris, Origet, Sortais, 2.III.1909, Lot 74, éc. de Tocqué. London, Christie’s, 6–7.VII.1987, Lot 174 repr., as by David Miller, est. £2–3000; London, Christie’s, 4.VII.1989, Lot 211 n.r., est. £800–1200; London, Phillips, 12.XII.1990, Lot 129 repr., est. £2500–3000. Paris, Tajan, 30.VI.2000, Lot 142 repr., as by Tocqué, est. F40–60,000, F55,000). Lit.: Doria, *Tocqué*, 1929, no. 109; Roettgen 2003, Abb. I-26 Φ



Photo courtesy Christie’s

J.5486.104 Johann Georg, chevalier de SAXE (1704–1774), gouverneur de Dresde, pstl/ppr, 63x52, c.1765–68 (Dresden S195, inv. 99/204. Familie Sahrer von Sahr von Schönberg, Schloß Dahlen; don 1999). Exh.: Dresden 2009, no. 68 repr. Lit.: Gurlitt 1905, p. 101 n.r., “schöne kräftige Arbeit”; Marx 2001a, repr. clr; Marx 2005, i, p. 690, II, p. 628, no.

2294; Paris 2005b, p. 104 repr.; Henning & Marx 2007, pp. 7, 123f repr.; Lisiewski 2010, fig. 66 φσ



~grav. Lorenzo Zucchi, c.1765–68. Lit.: Henning & Marx 2007, p. 124 repr. J.5486.107 Bildnisse, pstl, Dresden 1767. Lit.: *Neue Bibliothek der schönen Wissenschaften und der freyen Künste*, IV/1, 1767, p. 175