

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

NOËL, Charles-Nicolas

Nancy 30.IV.1729 – Lille 9.XII.1798

Ratouis de Limay was unsure whether the pendant portraits of Couperin and his wife were the work of Charles-Denis or Charles-Nicolas Noël, both of whom were members of the Académie de Saint-Luc (Charles-Denis Noël, recorded in rue du Renard in 1777, was born in Torcy c.1751, and settled in Paris in 1766 according to a carte de sûreté issued 12.VI.1793). They are entirely typical of the work of the latter artist (reçu 4.II.1756), whose earliest surviving pastel, a portrait presumably made in The Hague, dates from 1761. On a trip to Bruges in 1771 he portrayed his patron and friend, the painter Jan Anton Garemijn (*q.v.*), who exhibited at Lille. Noël himself became a member of the Académie de Lille in 1775 and exhibited prolifically both oils and pastels of subjects from the church, the army and the theatre. (There is an element of guesswork in establishing the medium of a number of the works listed, and in some cases he made pastel versions of oils.) His submissions in 1775 were followed by a miniature by Mme Noël, no doubt his wife, née Louise-Françoise Odille de Pommereuil (1739–1781): they were married in Paris, Saint-Nicolas-des-Champs, 26.X.1756 (a document of 18.X.1756, AN Z1°206, was required to provide proof of her majority as she was the illegitimate daughter of Jean-Nicolas Odille de Pommereuil, a notorious police inspector and agent of d'Argenson, with no birth certificate; among her witnesses was one Pierre-Thomas Lejeune, aged 60, maître peintre). On her death certificate, at Saint-Étienne de Lille, 9.I.1781, Noël was described as “peintre des académies de Paris et Lille, et négociant.” His death certificate gives his age, birthplace and parents – Pierre (1700–1768), a musician, and Anne-Marguerite Dubois of Nancy; they were married on 15.X.1727 at Saint-Epvre, Nancy. Charles-Nicolas was born and baptised on 30.IV.1729 at Saint-Sébastien, Nancy.

The critic Martin noted his appearance in the 1782 Salon de Lille with the succinct praise: “Que je chanterai le 25. de Décembre.” Pierre-François Ledoux described him as “un portraitiste lillois compétent” in his *Levens der konstschilders, konstenaers en konstenaeressen* (MS, Académie de Brugge, 1795).

Noël's pastels are somewhat wooden and rather provincial in feel. The execution is limited, with the flesh tones built up with white highlights over sanguine. Facial features are distinctively delineated, for example a horizontal cream line marks the border of the lower lip.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Guiffrey 1915; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; *Recueil de la Société d'études de la province de Cambrai*, XXXVIII, 1938, p. 1086

Salons critiques

Martin au Sallon, Observations, avis et critiques...Sallon de Lille, Montmartre, 1782

Sur Mr. Noël.

Que je chanterai le 25. de Décembre.

Pastels

J.558.101 AUTO PORTRAIT, pstl, Salon de Lille 1773, no. 44

J.558.102 Mgr. [Jean-Robert-Guislain] CAÏMO [(1711–1774)], évêque de Bruges, “peint au pastel par C. Hoet, d'après le tableau original du même” (Marie-Joséphine Coppeters; Bruges, Pachtere, 7.X.1828, Lot 230, Fr1.6; Holtwass) [new attr.]

J.558.103 Mme Pierre CHATAIGNE, née Jeanne-Elisabeth Osmont (1729–1809), pstl/ppr, 60x48, sd \times “C. Noel pinxit/1761”, inser. “Tante Jeanette Chatainnier” (Dutch PC 2002). Lit.: rKD repr. Φ



J.558.105 La comtesse DU CHATEL de la Howarderie, née Adrienne [de Rodoan (1731–1794)], pstl, small ov., 1765 (Ieper, Merghelynck Museum). Lit.: Dendooven 2001, p. 60

J.558.106 Armand-Louis COUPERIN (1727–1789), petit-fils de François Couperin, organiste à Saint-Gervais de Paris, compositeur, assis, une plume à la main, devant une table avec un cahier de musique; & pendant: J.558.107 épouse, née Élisabeth-Antoinette Blanchet (1729–1815), au mantelet sur un corsage rose, collier de perles, pstl, 65.5x54.5, -/sd \times “C. Noël fecit / anno 1766” (desc.: Arlette Taskin (1880–), desc. de Céleste Couperin, 1919. Paris, Drouot, Chayette & Cheval, 6.VI.2014, Lot 110 repr., est. €5–6000). Lit.: Charles Bouvet, *Les Couperin*, Paris, 1919, pp. 220f, pl. V/VI, as sd 1776 Φ



J.558.108 M. DEMASUR, tenant un livre; & pendant: J.558.1081 épouse, en robe doublée de fourrure, pstl, 60x50, sd 1763 (Paris, Drouot, Gros & Delettrez, 6.XII.2019, Lot 18 repr., est. €1200–1800) Φ



J.558.11 Jan Anton GAREMIJN (1712–1799), peintre, pstl, 71x52, sd \checkmark “Noël/f 1771” (Bruges, Groeninge Museum, inv. 0.100). Exh.: Bruges 1955, no. 220; Bruges 2007, no. 7 repr. Lit.: Pauwels 1963, no. 163, p. 153 repr.; Vlieghe 1974, p. 159 repr. Φ



Noël
f 1771

J.558.113 Mlle GRESSE, Anglaise, m/u, 81.0x64.8, Salon de Lille 1777, no. 20

J.558.114 M. INGLART, maître de pension, m/u, 81.0x64.8, Salon de Lille 1777, no. 21

J.558.115 M. de LA GARDE, pstl, 59.4x48.6, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 22

J.558.116 Mme de LA GARDE, pstl, 59.4x48.6, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 23

J.558.117 M. de LA GARDE, fils, pstl, 59.4x48.6, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 24

J.558.118 Johannes Philippus de PELICHY (1716–1792), pstl, 63x44, sd \wedge “C. Noel 1764”; & pendant: J.558.119 ?épouse, née Isabella M. M. Rijcksz (-1751)/?Barbe Françoise Baret, pstl, 63x44, s \wedge , inscr. “C. Noel accadémien de Paris” (Brussels PC 1982). Lit.: rKD n.r.

J.558.12 Theodorus de PELICHY (1741–1811), fils de Johannes Philippus de Pelichy, pstl, 58x46, sd \wedge C. Noel 1764 (Brussels PC 1982). Lit.: rKD n.r.

J.558.121 M. P***, chirurgien-major, faisant une démonstration anatomique sur une tête de mort, pstl, 59.4x48.6, Salon de Lille 1776, no. 30

J.558.122 Mlle VINCHENT, pstl, 54.0x40.5, Salon de Lille 1775, no. 30

J.558.123 M. le chanoine WACRENIER, pstl, Salon de Lille 1773, no. 44

J.558.1224 Jacques-Antoine van ZUYLEN VAN NIJEVELT (1719–1779), échevin du Franc de Bruges, pstl, 84x66, sd \wedge “C. Noël fecit/1765”; & pendant: J.558.1225 épouse, née Marie-Claire de la Coste de Hornes (1724–1804), pstl, 84x66, sd \wedge “C. Noël fecit/1765” (US art market 2022) [new identification based on arms] ϕ



J.558.124 Gentilhomme, pstl, 53.8x44.5, sd \wedge “C. Noël Pinxit 1762” (Paris, Drouot, Tajan, 26.XI.1998, Lot 153 n.r., est. Fr6–8000, b/i; Paris, Tajan, 20.X.2000, Lot 171, est. Fr3–4000, Fr3800)

J.558.125 Homme, pstl, sd \wedge “C. Noël fecit 1764” (Liège, musée d’Ansembourg, inv. HJ 167. Legs Henrijean-Hennet 1967) ϕ



J.558.127 Homme en habit noir tenant un livre, pstl, 58.5x50.5, sd \wedge “C. Noël fecit/1771” (Tours, Giraudeau, 23.IV.2016, Lot 39 repr., est. €300–400; Tours, Bertrand Jabot, 18.II.2017, Lot 16 repr., est. €300–400) ϕ



J.558.129 M***, pstl, Salon de Lille 1773, no. 47

J.558.13 M***, pstl, 59.4x48.6, Salon de Lille 1775, no. 32

J.558.131 M***, officier au régiment d’Anjou, pstl, ov., Salon de Lille 1776, no. 33

J.558.132 M***, capitaine au régiment de ***, m/u, ov., Salon de Lille 1777, no. 18

J.558.133 M***, officier au régiment de ***, m/u, Salon de Lille 1777, no. 19

J.558.134 M***, médecin, pstl, 56.7x48.6 ov., Salon de Lille 1780, no. 21

J.558.135 M***, officier au régiment de Rohan-Soubise, pstl, 64.8x54.0 ov., Salon de Lille 1780, no. 22

J.558.136 M***, capitaine de dragons, Salon de Lille 1787, no. 14

J.558.137 M***, officier au même régiment, pstl, 48.6x37.8, Salon de Lille 1787, no. 15

J.558.138 M***, en habit uniforme, pstl, 37.8x32.4, Salon de Lille 1787, no. 16

J.558.139 M***, pstl, Salon de Lille 1787, no. 17

J.558.14 M***, pstl, Salon de Lille 1788, no. 12

J.558.141 Gentilhomme en habit brun, pstl, 54.5x45 (Paris, Galerie David Jones, cat. .IV.1995, no. 25 repr.) ϕ



J.558.143 Homme en habit gris, pstl, 58x48 (Vienne, Gondran, Dauphine, 11.X.2014) [new attr., ?] ϕ



J.558.1431 Homme en habit brun, tenant un livre, pstl, 63.5x52.5 (Auray, Adjug’Art, 21.V.2023, Lot 2216 repr., anon., est. €600–800) [new attr., ?] ϕ



J.558.145 Une jeune fille, jouant avec un chat, pstl, Salon de Lille 1773, no. 46

J.558.144 Dame en robe rouge avec un livre, pstl, 68x58, sd “C Noël/1758” (Cannes, Azur Enchères, Pichon & Noudel-Deniau, 17.XI.2017, Lot 106 repr., éc. fr., est. €300–400) [new attr.] ϕ



- J.558.146 Mme ***, pstl, 48.6x40.5, Salon de Lille 1776, no. 31
 J.558.147 Une jeune fille couchée, pstl, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 27
 J.558.148 Mlle ***, pstl, ov., Salon de Lille 1787, no. 12
 J.558.149 Mlle ***, pstl, 56.7x45.9, Salon de Lille 1787, no. 13
 J.558.15 Mlle ***, sous le costume du théâtre, dans le rôle de Zelmire [Zelmire, dans *Le Cadi dupé*, de Lemonnier, musique de Monsigny], pstl, 64.8x54.0 ov., Salon de Lille 1788, no. 11
 J.558.151 Mde ***, pstl, 59.4x48.6, Salon de Lille 1788, no. 13
 J.558.1514 Homme, à la redingote rouge brodée, tenant une canne dans sa main droite, pstl, 57x47, sd √ “C. Noël Pinxi/anno 1764”; & pendant: J.558.15141 dame à la robe bleu clair brodée de dentelle et de perles, tenant un éventail dans sa main, pstl, 57x47, sd √ “C. Noël Pinxit/anno 1764” (Freiburg, Frank Peege, 16.VII.2021, Lot 821 repr., est. €600) φ



- J.558.152 Le lever, pstl, a/r Baudouin, 43.2x37.8, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 25
 J.558.153 La toilette, pstl, a/r Baudouin, 43.2x37.8, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 26
 J.558.154 Les plaisirs de l'été, pstl, 35.1x43.2, Salon de Lille 1778, no. 28
 J.558.155 Enfant tenant des fleurs, pstl, Salon de Lille 1788, no. 103
 J.558.156 Deux portraits, pstl, ov., Salon de Lille 1790, nos. 11, 12
 J.558.157 Portrait, pstl, Salon de Lille 1800, no. 86
 J.558.158 Le duo, pstl, 62x72, sd √ “Peint par C. Noël en février 1766” (Lille, 19.V.1985, repr.) φ



J.558.162 Fillette à la robe rose et ses deux frères, pstl, 73x92 (Bayeux, Bailleul Nentas, 11.XI.2018, Lot 15 repr., est. €1500–2000) [new attr., ?] φαν

