

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

PERRÉAL, Jean

Paris c.1455–1530

Valet de chambre du roi Charles VIII, Jean Perréal, known as Jehan de Paris, is credited with a wide range of important French Renaissance works of art. His significance in pastel is the cryptic note by Leonardo da Vinci (*q.v.*), around 1495, of his intention “to get the way to draw with dry colour” from Jehan de Paris. This Leonardo may have done during Perréal’s trip to the Milanese court with Louis XII in 1499. Perréal’s only recorded use comes from 1511 letter by the artist to Louis Barangier, secrétaire de Marguerite d’Autriche, mentioning a portrait of his wife, “de croyons qui n’est que demi-couleur”. It seems likely that this drawing was similar to the few examples which have survived which are in silverpoint rather than pastel or even coloured chalk.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Kemp & Cotte 2010; Lavallée 1947; Mariette 1851–60; Pierre Pradel, “Les autographes de Jean Perréal”, *Bibliothèque de l’école des chartes*, CXXI, 1963, pp. 132–86; Grete Ring, “An attempt to reconstruct Perréal”, *Burlington magazine*, XCII/570, .IX.1950, pp. 254–61; Shelley 2002

Pastels

Mme Louis BARANGIER, cr. clr (lettre de l’artiste, 1511). Lit.: Étienne Charavay, *J. Lemaire de Belges et Jehan Perréal de Paris*, 1875–76, pp. 12–15