

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### PETIT DE VILLENEUVE, Claude-François-Henry

Paris 12.VIII.1764–9.V.1820

Contrary to the standard references he was not born in Troyes in 1760 but in Paris four years later; he died there in 1820, not 1824. He was the grandson of a Paris goldsmith (although his father was an employee in the postal service); a great-grandparent was a prominent watchmaker, Dutertre de Véteuil. His surname was formed by the addition of his mother's family name rather than the purchase of land (he was not related to the old-established parlementaire family Petit de Villeneuve). His use of the full name was inconsistent, and was apparently adopted when his father died; his brothers adopted different surnames (Simon and Jean-Baptiste Petit, *qq.v.* were identified as such by Pahin de La Blancherie in the Salons de la Correspondance in 1781–82, but Simon does not figure in the family's genealogical records).

He enrolled in the école de l'Académie royale on 30.III.1779, “âgé de 14 ans ½”, under Lagrenée (switching to Lépicé the following year), living with his father, rue Neuve Saint-Eustache.

On 6.III.1790 Claude-François-Henry Petit married Rosalie, or Rozalie, Paupe in Paris (AN MC/LXXXI/11). A 1790 notarial document (the writing of which is almost illegible: registres de tutelles, AN Y5189B, 20.IV.1790) reveals that she was the daughter of Jacques-Nicolas Paupe (–1789), négociant à Paris, and his wife, Rose Morlière: he was a friend of Desfriches and an art collector, owning pictures by Greuze, Fragonard, Danloux and Taunay. In particular Paupe was a major patron of Joseph Vernet, commissioning some 20 paintings over ten years: from 1778: his last order was placed on 28.X.1788, while at the Salon de 1789, six Vernet's are sent “du cabinet de feu M. Paupe.” Paupe's carte d'adresse, engraved by Choffard in 1775, indicates that he sold from his shop “Au Cordon Bleu”, rue aux Fers, “toutes sortes de marchandises de soieries”; these included the insignia of the major orders of chivalry (guaranteeing a clientèle of the highest quality). Paupe was a cousin of Barthélémy-Jacques-Joseph-Rémy de Bret (1756–p.1814), a banker, freemason and maire of Villejuif, and of François-Jean-Noël de Bure (1743–1802), who became imprimeur du duc d'Orléans by virtue of his marriage in 1769 to Charlotte d'Houry. The Paupe family also had ties with Troyes: in 1794 a municipal officer there, Billard-Paupe, was probably Paupe's brother-in-law, the Jean-François Billard married to a Catherine Paupe (their son Nicolas-Jean-François was born in 1775); a celebrated surgeon, Paupe, was a fellow deputy in Troyes with one of Petit's sitters, Pigeotte.

Rosalie Paupe's death is not recorded, but Petit de Villeneuve married a Louise-Thérèse Andry in 1796. Her family also had connections in Troyes, her brother marrying into the Guélon family. These connections, as well as his portrait of the abbé Herluison, indicate jansenist sympathies. Their daughter Eulalie was born two years later and a son, Charles-Augustin, in 1809, 11 rue des Blancs-Manteaux, Paris, the

address where the artist died 11 years later. The artist's birth and death certificates were reconstituted at the request of his grandson, an architect, in 1872; among the documents produced were Petit de Villeneuve's certificat d'élève de l'Académie royale de peinture & de sculpture, signed Renou, 20.VII.1785.

After the Restoration, Petit de Villeneuve was awarded the médaille de la Fidélité.

Petit de Villeneuve exhibited at the Salon de la Correspondance from 1781, including miniatures, copies after Vernet, Moreau l'aîné etc.; his submissions were from 17 rue Neuve Saint Eustache, where he lived with his brothers; by 1783 he was at the hôtel de Lussan, rue Croix des Petits-Champs. He exhibited again at the Salons of 1808, 1810, 1814 and 1817. A sale of his pictures took place (after his death) on 22–23.VI.1820 at his house, 11 rue des Blancs-Manteaux (where he had been listed as an “artiste-peintre en pastel et miniature” in the *Almanach du commerce de Paris* in 1811). He worked in oil and miniature as well as in pastel. A large religious painting, *Ecce Homo, Agnus Dei*, sd “Petit de Villeneuve 1789”, is in the parish church of Saint-André-les-Vergers (Champagne). Most of the known examples in pastel belong to the early nineteenth century and are of variable accomplishment. A pair of pastel profiles, signed and dated “de Villeneuve 1786”, might be by him, but the attribution is speculative in the absence of other work of the same period or with the same signature: the artist might well have dropped the surname during the Revolution, and may possibly have been prompted to use it to avoid confusion with homonyms (he is referred to as “M. de Villeneuve” in one entry in Pahin de La Blancherie). A Louis Petit also exhibited miniatures at the Salon de la Correspondance in 1781, later (1791–1800) exhibiting oils. A Pierre-Joseph Petit, a student of Hue, exhibited at the Salon between 1791 and 1819. Similarly the 1801 profile signed Petit could be by a homonym.

### Bibliography

Archives nationales, Albert Babeau, *Histoire de Troyes pendant la révolution*, 1874; Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Lagrange 1864; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Schidlof 1964; Thieme & Becker; J. J. Vernier, *Cahier de doléances du bailliage de Troyes*, Troyes, 1909; family archives, Daniel Payan, e-mails, 8–11.VI.2015

### GENEALOGIES Petit

### Pastels

J.585.101 AUTOPORTAIT peignant le portrait de sa fille Eulalie, psrl (desc.: PC 2015) φ



J.585.103 Pierre BAUDEMANT (1729–1808), professeur de dessin à Troyes, psrl/ppr, 68x54, sd → “Petit 1808” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 899.3; RE 619. Mazurier; acqu. Société académique de l'Aube 1899). Exh.: Troyes 2007, no. 15. Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 483 Φσ



J.585.107 Jean-Jérôme GARNIER (1714–), psrl/ppr, 47x38, sd ← “Petit 1799” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 888.1.5. Don Mme Mitantier 1888). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 481 Φσ



J.585.109 ?Valentin HAÜY (1745–1822), l'inventeur des caractères typographiques pour les aveugles, instructeur, psrl, ov., sd ← “Petit/1798” (Montpellier, hôtel des ventes, 22.IX.2017, Lot 437 repr, présumé, est. €200–300) φαν



J.585.11 Pierre-Grégoire HERLUISON (1759–1811), bibliothécaire du département de l’Aube, m/u, c.1811 (M. Lefranc; don). Lit.: Henri Courteault, *Bulletin philologique et historique*, 1934, p. 110 n.r.

~grav. Jean-Marie-Raphaël-Léopold Massard (1812–1889)

J.585.112 M. L..., pstl/ppr, 54x46, sd ← “Petit 1810” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 888.1.1. Don Mme Mitantier 1888). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 477 Φσ



Photo courtesy musées d’Art et d’Histoire, Troyes

J.585.115 Mme L..., pstl/ppr, 55x47, sd → “Petit 1810” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 888.1.2. Don Mme Mitantier 1888). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 478 Φσ



Photo courtesy musées d’Art et d’Histoire, Troyes

J.585.118 Homme de la famille L., pstl/ppr, 49x41, sd ← “Petit 1801” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 888.1.3. Don Mme Mitantier 1888). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 479 Φσ



Photo courtesy musées d’Art et d’Histoire, Troyes

J.585.121 Femme de la famille L., pstl/ppr, 49x40.5, sd → “Petit 1801” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 888.1.4. Don Mme Mitantier 1888). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 480 Φσ

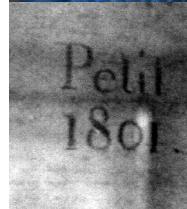


Photo courtesy musées d’Art et d’Histoire, Troyes

J.585.125 Jeune fille de la famille L., au bijou, en buste, de face, pstl/ppr, 45x36, sd ↗ “Petit 1799” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 888.1.6. Don Mme Mitantier 1888). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 482 Φσ



Photo courtesy musées d’Art et d’Histoire, Troyes

J.585.128 Jean-Pierre MONNEREAU (1761–1826), chanoine de Faye la Vineuse, secrétaire général de l’archevêché de Tours, pstl, 40.5x32.3, sd → “Petit/1815” (Tours, Société archéologique de Touraine, inv. SAT no. 5113) Φ



Photo courtesy Société Archéologique de Touraine, musée de l’Hôtel Goüin, Tours

J.585.131 Jean-Baptiste PIGEOTTE (?–1803), médecin chef de l’hôpital de Troyes, pstl/ppr, 46x38, sd ← “Petit 1802”; & pendant: J.585.132 épouse, avec une croix pectorale, pstl/ppr, 45x37, sd → “Petit 1802” (Troyes, mBA, inv. 07.4.1/2; RE 1070.1/2. Don M. Huguier-Truelle, arrière petit-fils du modèle, pharmacien à Troyes, 1907). Lit.: Cat. musée 1911, no. 484/485 Φσ



Photo courtesy musées d’Art et d’Histoire, Troyes

J.585.134 Mme SERGUEIL, pstl. 46.5x38, sd → “Petit/1810” (Beaume, Alexandre Landre, 23.VII.2023, Lot 184 repr., est. €250–400) φ



J.585.137 Homme en habit bleu, pstl/ppr, 63x52 ov., sd → "Petit/1799" (Vaux Le Pénil, Jakobowicz, 9.IV.2016, Lot 181 repr., éc. fr., as sd 1792, est. €400–600; Vaux Le Pénil, Jakobowicz, 18.VI.2016, Lot 95 repr., est. €300–400; Vaux Le Pénil, Jakobowicz, 18.VI.2022, Lot 144 repr., est. €400–600; Vaux Le Pénil, Jakobowicz, 21.I.2023, Lot 98 repr., est. €300–400) φ



J.585.1432 Un prélat la main appuyée sur un livre, pstl, 54x45, sd ← "Petit/1807" (PC 2021; Paris, Drouot, Auctie's, 27.X.2021, Lot 97 repr., est. €800–1200; Paris, Drouot, Auctie's, 31.III.2021, Lot 191 repr., est. €200–300) φ



J.585.139 Le jeune tambour, pstl, 45x37, sd ← "Petit 1801" (Troyes, mBA, inv. 92.9. Paris, Drouot, 23.X.1992, Lot 102, Fr18,000; don de l'Association des Amis des musées de Troyes). Lit.: *Chronique des arts* 1993, no. 62 repr. Φσ

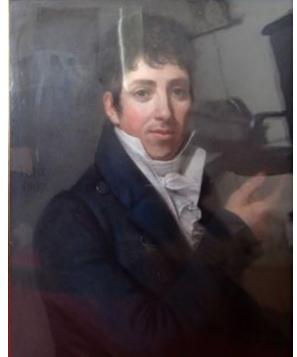


*Photo courtesy musées d'Art et d'Histoire, Troyes*

J.585.142 Homme de profil, pstl/ppr, 17x12 ov., sd "Petit/1801" (Vendôme, Cheverny, 1.II.2010, Lot 390, Éc. fr., est. €100–200) [attr., ?; ?homonym] φα



J.585.143 Homme en habit noir, pstl, 54x44, sd ← "Petit/1807" (Fontainebleau, Osenat, 1.IV.2018, Lot 146 repr., est. €600–700) φ



J.585.144 Homme, pstl, 54x45, sd → "Petit/1810" (Neuilly, Aguttes, 12.XII.2006, Lot 52 repr., éc. fr., est. €800–1000) φν



J.585.146 Homme, pstl, 58.5x48, , sd ← "Petit 1817" (Bath, Gardiner, 14.III.2003, Lot 109 repr., est. £500–700. London, Sotheby's Olympia, 20.IV.2004, Lot 150 repr., attr., est. £3–4000 Paris, Christie's, 17.III.2005, Lot 185 n.r., est. 1500–2000, b/i. London, Christie's

South Kensington, 2.XII.2008, Lot 431 repr., est. £600–800) Φσ



*Photo courtesy Sotheby's  
Homme (New York art market 2005; Salon du Dessin 2006) [v. L.-F. Aubry]*

J.585.151 Jeune femme de la Légion d'honneur, en classe de 1ère, jouant du piano, pstl, 56x48, sd ↗ "Petit/1806" (Maubeuge, Thomas, 12.III.2016, repr., est. €300–400, €1300. Fontainebleau Osenat, 8.xii.2020, Lot 301 repr., est. €3–4000) φ



J.585.1514 Jeune fille tenant deux pensées dans la main droite, pstl/ppr/toile, 40x32, sd → "Petit/1815" (Paris, Drouot, Ader, 10.XI.2017, Lot 67 repr., est. €500–600) φ



J.585.152 Fillette, pstl (Mme René Bloch a.1945; procédure close 5.VIII.1961). Lit.: *Répertoire des biens spoliés en France*, item 1226, OBIP no. 32.430 n.r., as by Petit [?attr.]

J.585.153 Femme en buste, vue de face, pstl,  
54.5x44.5, s “C. Petit de Villeneuve” (Paris,  
Drouot 10, 22.III.1991, Lot 143 repr.) φ



J.585.155 Portraits, pstl, Salon de 1817, no. 609

J.585.156 Jeune officier en uniforme bleu, col  
rouge; & pendant: J.585.157 jeune fille au  
chignon orné de fleurs, pstl/ppr, 16x12 ov.,  
sd montage “De Villeneuve delin 1786”  
(Georges Bemberg; Paris, Artcurial,  
20.VI.2012, Lot 456 repr., as éc. fr., est. €500–  
800) [new attr., ?] φα



Quatre portraits: J.585.1581 homme portant une  
redingote bleue; J.585.1582 femme au bonnet à  
fleurs; J.585.1583 homme portant une redingote  
grise; J.585.1584 femme portant un bonnet à  
rubans, pstl, 15x11.5, sd ← “Petit/1801” (PC  
2018; Paris, Drouot, Thierry de Maigret,  
5.XII.2018, Lot 71 repr., est. €400–600) φ



J.585.1586 Homme au manteau brun; & pendant:  
J.585.1581 femme au chapeau blanc à plume,  
pstl, 46x38.5, sd ←/→ “Petit/1802” (Paris,  
Drouot, Oger, Blanchet, 14.XII.2022, Lot 141  
repr., est. €600–800) φ



J.585.164 Deux petits portraits, pstl, s, début XIX<sup>e</sup>  
(Versailles PC 2003)



J.585.16 Gentilhomme tenant une boîte; &  
pendant: J.585.161 dame tenant ses gants, pstl,  
63.5x53, sd ← “Petit/1817”/- (Paris, Drouot,  
Beaussant Lefèvre, 7.III.2014, Lot 41 repr., est.  
€1000–1500) φ

