

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

QUANTEN, Carl Jacob von

Finland 1734 – ?Kvantenburg, Västra Götaland
1789

A group of four pastels, signed on the backing “de Quanten à Brunswick”, appeared in 2010, catalogued as by Quantin or Quentin (other variants are Quant, Quandt). One of these relates to a pastel at Bayreuth attributed to Hagelgans, while that of Prinz Ferdinand uses a widely repeated image; given the range of expressions, it is likely that the remaining two also derive from other sources. The artist is evidently the figure encountered on 17.VIII.1764 by James Boswell on his visit to Braunschweig:

Quantin a Suede an officer in the service of Brunswic was kind enough to entertain me with some music this morning. He plays delightfully on the German flute, & composes very well in a singular taste, with quick transitions from high to low notes very hard to play. He paints too. He is a lively genteel brisk young man. He brought to my mind many ideas of healthy, accomplished foreign Officers.

A Swedish nobleman, he entered the French service as a cornet in the régiment royal polonais in 1756, becoming a lieutenant in 1760. From 1763 he was in the Braunschweig garde de corps, returning to the French service in 1771, where he attained the rank of colonel and was awarded the Mérite militaire. He played the violin as well as the flute, and was a founder member of the Kungliga Musikaliska Akademie in Stockholm in 1771. The chevalier von Quanten composed a set of Six Solos pour Flûte, Op. 1, published by Johann Julius Hummel in Amsterdam in 1769. In 1773 he published *Tankar j krigs-vetenskapen*, a military treatise. He retired to his estate Quanteborg in Dalsland in 1778. The following year he married Charlotta von Scheiding (1758–1835); their son Carl Gustaf (1788–1842) was commandant of Nya Elfsborg.

Bibliography

Boswell 1953, p. 63; Boswell 2008, pp. 75, 76, 80

Pastels

La duchesse [PD'ARENBERG, née Louise-Marguerite, comtesse de La Mark (1730–1820)], pstl, 40x30, sd *verso* “La duchesse de Darhensberg/peint par de Quantin à Brunsw./L'an 1764” (Stockholm, Auktionsverket, 8.XII.2010, Lot 2857 repr., as of duchesse de Clarensberg, with 3 others, est. SKr15–20,000, SKr16,000) φ



La comtesse de BROGLIE [née Louise-Augustine de Montmorency (1735–1817), femme de

l'ambassadeur], pstl, 40x30, sd *verso* “Madame/La ... de Broglie” (Stockholm, Auktionsverket, 8.XII.2010, Lot 2857 repr., as of comtesse de Broglie, with 3 others) φ



Le prince Ferdinand de Brunswick [FERDINAND von Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel (1721–1798), KG 1760, preußische Feldmarschall], wearing the investiture robes of the Garter, pstl, 40x30, sd *verso* (Stockholm, Auktionsverket, 8.XII.2010, Lot 2857 repr., with 3 others) φ



~pnt., full length (Preußenmuseum Minden, Defensionskaserne)

~numerous versions, including miniature/ivory, 5.6x4.5 ov. (Celle, Bomann-Museum, Sammlung Tansey, Kat.-Nr. 2008-133)

Le prince de Prusse [FRIEDRICH WILHELM II. König von Preußen (1744–1797)], pstl, 40x30, sd *verso* “Le P^{cc} de Prusse/Brunswicke 15 mars 1764/de Quantin fecit” (Stockholm, Auktionsverket, 8.XII.2010, Lot 2857 repr., as roi de Prusse, with 3 others). A/r Hagelgans attr., pstl (Bayreuth) φ

