REYNOLDS, Sir Joshua

Pl -3067. 1723 – London 23.11.1792

Reynolds was a founder and first president of the Royal Academy of Arts in 1768. He was the pre-eminent British portraitist of his generation. Unlike his principal rival Gainsborough (q.v.), he does not seem to have worked in pastel, and his disapproval of the medium is well known, notably in his comments on Liotard (q.v.). Perhaps surprisingly Reynolds owned a number of pastels (e.g. Index of collectors), among them many sheets by Barocci and Lely which q.v. was immense. This followers (from Gardner and Read to amateurs (e.g. a chalk self-portrait by Reynolds in the British Museum formerly attributed to John Astley, a fellow-pupil in Hudson's workshop in Rome in 1750, erroneously listed as a pastel). Bénézit; Edinburgh 2008; Grove; Hallett 2014; Bibliography


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Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Comedy, pnt. (PC 2000). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 702, fig. 532

Alexander, 10th Duke of Hamilton (1767–1812), with open ruff, pnt. (Goodwood). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 744

Mrs Robert Lovell Gwatkin, née Theophila Palmer (1757–1848), ~cop., pstl (Chester, Bonhams, 16.VIII.2008, Lot 256 n.r., est. £80–120)

Lady Holland, née Lady Mary Fitzpatrick (1748–1852), pnt. (Edinburgh, NG S, inv. 2183) . Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 744

Dr Samuel Johnson, in a full wig and light brown coat, head, to l., looking up, to r., pnt. (London, NPG). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 807

Mrs Williams Hope, née Anne Godard, pnt. Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 931

Dr Samuel Johnson (1709–1784), author, in a full wig and light brown coat, head, to l., looking up, to r., pnt. (London, NPG). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1011

Dr Samuel Johnson, in a full wig and light brown coat, ½ length, to left, almost profile, m/u [original not in Mannings]

Dr Samuel Johnson, in a full wig and light brown coat, ½ length, to left, almost profile, m/u [original not in Mannings]

~grav. Peter Spendelow Lamborn, “from an original drawing”

Angelica Kauffman (1741–1807), holding a sketch of “Fame”, pnt., 75.6x62.8 (edw Althorp). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1026, fig. 1251


Duchess of Northumberland, née Lady Elizabeth Percy (1716–1760), full length, pnt. (Syon)

Mrs Robinson as Perdita, pnt. (Wallace Collection). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1532

~version, cr. vlr/br. ppr, 15.2x12.5 (British Museum 1887.0722.19. W. J. Brooks; acqu. 1887). Exh.: London 1978, no. 91 φ


~cop. (NPG 406); others

~cop., pstl (Chester, Bonhams, 16.VIII.2008, Lot 256 n.r., est. £80–120)


~cop., pstl/ppr, 57x44.5 (frome, Cooper & Tannier, 18.X.2017, Lot 268 repr., as 19th century, anon., est. £70–100) [new attr., identification; comes with copy of Rockingham in same frame] φ

Mrs Philip Woodhouse, née Apollonia Nourse (1751–1817), in a white dress with gold flowers, pnt., c.1772 (London, Christie’s, 1.V.1934, Lot 21). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1921

Mrs Robinson as Perdita, pnt. (Wallace Collection). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 744, fig. 292


Hon. Charles Townshend (1725–1767), chancellor of the exchequer, in a murray velvet robe over a yellow waistcoat, pnt., 72.4x60, c.1767 (PC). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1760, fig. 1740

Mary Townshend, n.r. (London, Christie’s, 22.XI.2006, Lot 26, as of Countess of Chatham). Lit.: Mannings no. 1768, fig. 292

~cop., Pond, q.v.

~version, cr. vlr/br. ppr, 15.2x12.5 (British Museum 1887.0722.19. W. J. Brooks; acqu. 1887). Exh.: London 1978, no. 91 φ


~cop., pstl, 58.4x45.7 (Martin Shephards, London, 1995). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 702a

Duchess of Gordon, née Jane Maxwell (1748–1812), with open ruff, pnt. (Goodwood). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 744

Elizabeth Percy (1716 –1766), full length, pnt. (Syon). Exh.: London 1978, no. 91 φ

~cop., pstl (Chester, Bonhams, 16.VIII.2008, Lot 256 n.r., est. £80–120)

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~cop., pstl (W. A. Twiston-Davies, Frome, Cooper & Tannier, 18.X.2017, Lot 268 repr., as 19th century, anon., est. £70–100) [new attr., identification; comes with copy of Rockingham in same frame] φ

~copy, pnt. (R. Vernon Smith, MP)

~cop., pnt (St Osyth’s Priory). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1011

~cop., pnt (Tate). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2134, fig. 1676


~grav. S. Freeman for Walpole, Letter, ed. Cunningham, 1866, VI, repr. opp. p. 469

Mrs Williams Hope, née Anne Godard, pnt. Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 931

~grav. Hodges 1788

Dr Samuel Johnson, 1709–1784, author, in a full wig and light brown coat, head, to l., looking up, to r., pnt. (London, NPG). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1011


~cop., pnt (PC 2000). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 702, fig. 532

~cop., pnt, 85x63 (Henri Lacroix; vente p.m., Paris, Drouot, Chevallier, Paris, 18–23.III.1901, Lot 335 n.r.)

~?study, pstl (desc.: Reynolds family, Syon) . Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1026, fig. 1251

~cop., pstl/ppr, 57x44.5 (frome, Cooper & Tannier, 18.X.2017, Lot 268 repr., as 19th century, anon., est. £70–100) [new attr., identification; comes with copy of Rockingham in same frame] φ

~cop., Pond, q.v.

George White, as St Peter pnt. (Tate). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2134, fig. 1676

~copy, pnt (British Museum 1887.0722.19. W. J. Brooks; acqu. 1887). Exh.: London 1978, no. 91 φ

~cop., pnt (St Osyth’s Priory). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 1858

~cop. (NPG 406); others

~cop., pnt, 85x63 (Henri Lacroix; vente p.m., Paris, Drouot, Chevallier, Paris, 18–23.III.1901, Lot 335 n.r.)
Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

The Infant Jupiter, pnt., Royal Academy 1774, no. 225 (Duke of Rutland). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2098

~cop., Margaret Caviliff, q.v.

The snake in the grass, pnt.

~cop., Gardner, Russell, q.v.

~grav. Keating 1784

J.6174.201 ~cop., pstl, 63x49 (Cornwall PC 2000).
Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2008f n.r.


J.6174.197 ~cop., pstl, 73x60 (Edinburgh, Bonham's, 24.x.2010, Lot 547 repr., est. £300–500, £137).

~grav. Charles Turner a.1823

Shepherd boy piping, pnt., 83.8x69.2 (PC). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2156, fig. 1697

16174.181 ~cop., pstl/ppr, 62.5x53 (Sir Thomas Lawrence sale, according to label. Copenhagen, Havnen, Bruun Rasmussen, 27.VI.2022, Lot 198 repr., est. DKK3–4000)

J.6174.185

The Infant Jupiter, pnt., Royal Academy 1774, no. 225 (Duke of Rutland). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2098

~cop., Margaret Caviliff, q.v.

16174.182 Samuel, crayons, a/r Reynolds (Turner; London, Christie's, 21–23.V.1796, Lot 85, 5 gns; Edwards) [unclear if a/r Calling of Samuel or The Infant Samuel]

16174.184 Girl with a muff; & pendant: 16174.184

The infant Samuel, pnt., 41x33 ov. (Earl of Hardwick; sale p.m., London, Christie's, 27.VI.1924, as autograph, 21 gns; Yorke)

~grav. Hodges 1786. Lit.: van der Feltz 1982, no. 610

Child with Guardian Angels, pnt., Royal Academy 1786 (Duke of Leeds; PC). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2043, fig. 1746

~grav. Hodges 1786. Lit.: van der Feltz 1982, no. 610

J.6174.203 the sleeping girl, pnt. Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2072/2077

~cop., Mrs Wright, q.v.

The laughing girl; & pendant:

J.6174.203

The age of innocence, pnt. (Tate). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2008

J.6174.194 ~cop., pstl, 75x62 (Miss Agnew Laing, 25 Craven Hill, Bayswater; sale p.m., London, Christie's, 5.II.1910, Lot 116, 2 ½ gns with another; Lister)

J.6174.222 Mercury as a pickpocket, pstl (E. M. Hodgkins 1910). Exh.: London 1910, no. 109/110 n.r., as by Reynolds

J.6174.221 Cupid as a link-boy; &

J.6174.222

~cop., pstl, 56x62 (Banbury, JS Fine Art, 28.III.2015, Lot 617 repr., as anon., of Cupid and two children) [new attr.]

J.6174.212 ~cop., pstl, ov., inscr. verso 1792 (PC 2021)

16174.212 ~cop., pstl, ov., inscr. verso 1792 (PC 2021)

J.6174.212 ~cop., pstl, 77x63 (Earl of Stradbroke –1985; London, Sotheby’s, 30.xi.2000, Lot 194 repr., as Robinetta or Lesbia, traditional attr. to Anna Maria Stradbroke, est. £2500–3500, b/o). Lit.: Jeffares 2006, p. 475# n.r. φπ

J.6174.212


16174.209 ~cop., J. Wells Champney, pnt., 70x57 (New York, American Art Galleries, 21–22.I.1904, Lot 91 n.r.)

The age of innocence, pnt. (Tate). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2008

~cop.,, with elements from both pnts., pstl, ov., inscr. verso 1792 (PC 2021)

J.6174.222

~cop.,, with elements from both pnts., pstl, ov., inscr. verso 1792 (PC 2021)

The infant Samuel, pnt. (London, National Gallery, NG 162, dep.: Tate, inv. N00162. Acq. 1828)

~grav. Keating 1784

J.6174.207 ~cop., pstl/green ppr, 31.2x26.2 (Austrian art market 1920s; Austrian PC 1971). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2022c n.r., as thought by Waterhouse to resemble work of Daniel Gardner [green ppr unusual for 18th century work]

Boy holding a pen, pnt. (PC). Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2022, fig. 1584

~grav. Keating 1784

J.6174.207 ~cop., pstl, 67x56 ov. (John Mair Hetherington, 19 Upper Grosvenor Street, London; sale p.m., London, Christie’s, 1.V.1908, 40 gns; Leggatt)

The laughing girl; & pendant: 16174.203

The sleeping girl, pnt. Lit.: Mannings 2000, no. 2043, fig. 1746

~grav. Hodges 1786. Lit.: van der Feltz 1982, no. 610

J.6174.221 ~cop., pstl, 56x62 (Banbury, JS Fine Art, 28.III.2015, Lot 617 repr., as anon., of Cupid and two children) [new attr.]

J.6174.212

~cop., J. Wells Champney, pnt., 77x63 (Earl of Stradbroke –1985; London, Sotheby’s, 30.xi.2000, Lot 194 repr., as Robinetta or Lesbia, circle of Russell, traditional attr. to Anna Maria Stradbroke, est. £2500–3500, b/o). Lit.: Jeffares 2006, p. 475# n.r. φπ

J.6174.212