

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ROSALIE, Mlle

fl. Paris 1791

The various chalk drawings sent by “Mademoiselle Rosalie” to the Exposition de la place Dauphine in 1791 were for sale at her house, 48, rue des Fossés Saint-Germain-l’Auxerrois (now the rue Perrault). They included a self-portrait and a sheet described as “demi pastel, en copie”, likely to be the sort of coloured chalk copy after a after a Demarteau print after Boucher (with small changes), which is signed illegibly (but Rosalie and 1780 are clear), and may be by this artist.

Sanchez plausibly suggests that she is to be identified with the Mlle Rosalie Lebrun, Mme Vaysse, a pupil of Isabey who exhibited miniatures in the Salons of 1799 (a “grand miniature” self-portrait, as Citoyenne Rosalie Lebrun) and 1800 (as femme Vaysse) from the hôtel Bullion, rue Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Genealogical records confirm that Marie-Rosalie Lebrun, daughter of Louis-Michel Lebrun and Marie-Henriette Blondel, married Jean-François-Régis Vaysse, Vaysse or Vaisse de Villiers (1767–1834) on 10 frimaire an VIII (22.XI.1799); a daughter was born the following year. Vaisse was the son of a conseiller au présidial et sénéchal de Rodez, and became inspecteur des postes; he supported royalists during the Terror, surviving in hiding. Rosalie died in 1814 at 14 rue d’Enfer. Her inv. p.m. (23.VI.1814, AN MC/RE/XXVI/10) included only one undescribed pastel and materials or other evidence of artistic activity. Vaisse was remarried in 1820.

Rosalie’s father was Louis-Michel Brun, dit Lebrun (1723–p.1768), peintre ordinaire du roi, miniaturist (thought to have copied La Tour’s pastel of Prince Charles Edward Stuart in 1759), who in turn was the son of Michel Brun, dit Lebrun, peintre ordinaire du roi and brother-in-law of Jean-Baptiste Van Loo. Manon Balletti mentions him (as a talented painter but poor amateur actor) in a letter to Casanova of 7.II.1760. On 12.III.1762 Louis-Michel Lebrun attended the funeral (at Saint-Germain-l’Auxerrois) of his cousin Marie-Rosalie Van Loo, Mme Bron (mother of Mme Mitoire, the subject of a pastel by Labille-Guiard); she might have been Rosalie’s marrain. By .V.1768 Louis-Michel Lebrun was married to Louise-Henriette Blondel (*sic*, according to a transfer of rente sur les États de Bretagne), who perhaps was related to Manon Balletti’s husband.

Bibliography

Granges de Surgères 1893; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Sanchez 2004

Genealogies: [Van Loo](#)

Pastels

J.6274.051 Le maraudeur: un petit garçon avec oiseaux et panier, cr. clr, 27x19, sd “Rosalie.../Fait juin 1780” (Galerie Portalis Aix, Aix-en-Provence 2019). A/r Demarteau a/r Boucher (Jean-Richard 703) [new attr., ?]
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J.6274.101 Une femme affligée, demi pstl, en copie, c.56.7x43.2, Salon de la Jeunesse, 1791, no. 127