RUPRECHT von der Pfalz
Prague 1619 – London 1682

The son of the Winter Queen, Prince Ruprecht von der Pfalz, also known as Prince Rupert, Duke of Cumberland, or le prince Robert, was a keen amateur artist and is credited with the development of the mezzotint process, which he communicated to Wallerant Vaillant (q.v.) in 1653 (it is subsequently referred to in the 1683 Epitome by Luttrell, q.v.). He is also said to have developed recipes for pastels; these appeared in early treatises such as Gautier’s L’Art de laver, Lyon, 1687, or Antoine d’Emery’s Recueil des nouveaux secrets concernant les arts, Toulouse, 1683, or his Nouveau recueil de secrets et curiositez, Amsterdam, 1709 (I, p. 141), as the “secret très estimable...trouvé par M. le prince Robert”. Some drawings and paintings have survived, but no pastel is known.

Bibliography
Croft-Murray & Hulton 1960; Lavallée 1949, p. 77; London 1987a; Sloan 2000