

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

RUSSELL, William

London 1784–1870

Third son of John Russell (*q.v.*). His date of birth is given differently: Williamson has 1782, while Webb 1910 and the Oxford DNB give 26.XI.1784, when John and Hannah's son William christened at St Mary's, Marylebone (as were five other children in the records between 1778 and 1785), but this child is recorded as dying 5.VII.1791; perhaps there was an unrecorded brother. He executed pastels until his ordination in 1809, when he vowed to abandon art. He was rector of Shepperton for forty years. The known works are all nineteenth century; they include a portrait of Judge Bayley, commissioned for the Law Courts, which was initially rejected as the judges thought pastel would not be durable; an oil repetition was supplied. In 1851 William Russell's daughter Laetitia Neal Russell married John Walter Lea, the grandson of a nonconformist portrayed by John Russell; and a group of Russell portraits belonged to members of the Lea family in 1894. The Russell album assembled by Francis H. Webb, William Russell's great nephew, contains a section on his work.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Oxford DNB, *s.v.* John Russell; Sée 1911; Webb 1910; Williamson 1894, p. 99; Wright 2006

Pastels

Sir John BAYLEY, 1st Bt (1763–1841), pstl, 1809 (Miss Clissold, Bath, 1911). Lit.: Sée 1911, repr. p. 53; Williamson 1894, n.r. **Φ**



~repl., pnt., 124.5x100 (London, NPG 457)

Lord ERSKINE, Royal Academy 1808

Lady GRANTLEY, née Anna Margareta Midgley (–1795), 31x25 ov. (Lord Grantley 1911). Exh.: Paris 1911, no. 145 [cf. J. Russell, *q.v.*]

Mrs GRAVE [Grain?] as St Agnes, pstl, Royal Academy 1809 (Miss Clissold, Bath, 1894. London, 11.VII.1930, £22)

Lady Katherine Sophia HEATHCOTE, née Manners (1769–1825), pstl, 61x51 ov., sd ← “WR/1808” (Grimsthorpe) [new attr., ?] **Φ**



Photo courtesy owner

Mrs Thomas JESSON, née Anna Elliott Percy, pstl, 60x44 (Thomas Jesson 1911). Exh.:

Russell 1909, Paris 1911, no. 146. Lit.: Sée 1911b, p. 32 repr. φ



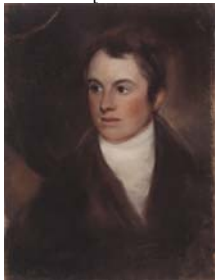
Rev. Henry MARTYN [(1781–1812) BD, fellow of St John's College, Cambridge, chaplain to the Hon. East India Company], pstl, 60x45 (Oxford, Church Mission Society). Exh.: Paris 1911, no. 147 φ



Photo courtesy Maryllyn Rouse/www.johnnewton.org

John PEARSON (1758–1826), FRS, Royal Academy 1809

Robert SHURLOCK, pstl/ppr, 60.6x45.4, c.1801 (New York, MMA, inv. 1975.217.1. Desc.: sitter's grandson, Captain Charles Shurlock; his daughter, Olive Shurlock Sjölander (1897–1987), Skara, Sweden, 1966; don 1975). Lit.: Baetjer 2009, no. 71 repr., as attr. William Russell [cf. Ann Russell] φ



Frank STOKES, Royal Academy 1807

Frederick, Duke of YORK (1763–1827); & pendant: Frederica Charlotte, Duchess of York (1767–1820), head and shoulders, pstl, 61x48.5 (London, Sotheby's, 7.IV.1977, Lot 156 n.r.)

Clergyman, Royal Academy 1805

Young Saam Tak, Royal Academy 1806

Boy, Royal Academy 1808

Jeune femme (?Camille Groult; Paris, Charpentier, 27.IV.1951, Lot 49). Lit.: Bénézit, as by William Russell; Dorange 2010, no. 53 n.r., as by John Russell [v. John Russell]