

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

SAINT-OURS, Jean-Pierre

Geneva 4.IV.1752–6.IV.1809

History painter and portraitist; his father, also an artist, sent him to Paris at the age of 16 where he enrolled as an élève at the École de l'Académie royale in 1768, working in Vien's studio. He entered a pastel for the Caylus competition in 1774, but no further examples are known. Saint-Ours received the premier grand prix in 1780. As a Protestant, he was ineligible for the bursary, and so travelled to Rome at his own expense. He returned to Geneva in 1792 and turned largely to portraiture. A number of his works in oil were copied in pastel by his daughter Catherine (1797–1881).

Monographic exhibitions

Saint-Ours 2015: *Jean-Pierre Saint-Ours. Un peintre genevois dans l'Europe des Lumières*, Geneva, Musée d'art et d'histoire, 25.IX.2015 – 29.II.2016, no. cat., v. Marcel Roethlisberger, review, *Burlington magazine*, CLVII, .XII.2015, pp. 876–77

Bibliography

Bénézit; Buysens 1988; Gaetgens & Lugand 1988, p. 343; Grove; Anne de Herdt, *Jean-Pierre Saint-Ours. Catalogue de l'œuvre*, Geneva, 2019; Sanchez 2004

Pastels

[J6502.101](#) La Mépris, pstl, pierre noire, cr. blanche/ppr, 52.9x43.1, concours de la Tête d'expression 1774 (Paris, ENSBA, inv. EBA 4380). Lit.: de Herdt 2019, no. D 1774-a repr.

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