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 worked 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 exhbitions

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., n. Marcel Roethlisberger, review, Burlington magazine, CLVII, .XII.2015, pp. 876–77

Bibliography

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

Pastels

J.6502.101 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.

