

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

SOLDINI, Luigi Domenico

Florence 1715 – c.1780

The son of a Florentine secretary to cardinal de Rohan who settled in Paris, Luigi Domenico or Louis-Dominique had at least 9 siblings, among them three chaplains of confessors to the royal family. His daughter married a contrôleur des fermes, and her children married Danton and the artist Constance-Marie Blondelu, Mme Charpentier (*q.v.*). Soldini became a painter at the Académie de Saint-Luc; *reçu* 1754 (rue Neuve-des-Petits-Champs), professeur 1766; ancien professeur, rue Saint-Antoine by 1775 (and in *Almanach des peintres*, 1776). Some of his paintings have previously been attributed to Boucher. He exhibited pastels in 1753 from an address vis-à-vis l'hôtel d'Antin. Alastair Laing has plausibly suggested that one of these was a known copy after Boucher (*q.v. s.v.* Mme Deshays), but there were other pastellists who copied Boucher (e.g. Mérelle) and in the absence of known pastels by Soldini the attribution is difficult to confirm. Pastel portraits of Soldini and his wife, by Louis Vigée (*q.v.*), are in the musée des Beaux-Arts de Troyes.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Guiffrey 1915, pp. 70, 456; Le Brun 1776; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004

v. Genealogy

Pastels

Un berger, pstl, ov.; & pendant: une bergère, pstl, ov., Salon de Saint-Luc 1753, no. 144
=?bergère, *v.* Boucher, Mme Deshays