

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### SOLDINI, Luigi Domenico

Florence 1715 – Paris 1778

The son of Francesco Maria Soldini (1681–1754), Florentine secretary to cardinal de Rohan who settled in Paris, Luigi Domenico or Louis-Dominique had at least 9 siblings, among them several chaplains or confessors to the royal family. One sister 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. A few religious paintings and oil portraits are known. 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 Deshayes, [J.173.179](#)), but there were other pastellists who copied Boucher (e.g. Méréle) and in the single known pastel by Soldini that has come to light (2023) does not support the attribution.

Pastel portraits of Soldini and his wife, née Marie-Henriette Destaut, by Louis Vigée (*q.v.*), are in the musée des Beaux-Arts de Troyes. They were married in Paris, Saint-Roch, 30.I.1752 (Fonds Andriveau). Their son Jean-Baptiste-François-Dominique (born and baptised at Saint-Roch, 25.XI.1752) married Catherine-Marie-Anne Roger in Paris, 13.VII.1797. An inventaire was taken on 12.II.1778 after Louis-Dominique's death.

#### Bibliography

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

GENEALOGIES [Soldini](#)

#### Pastels

[J.686.081](#) Homme en robe de chambre, pstl, 70x54 ov., sd → “Soldini/1765” (Havas Antiquités, Caen, 2024)  $\phi$

[J.686.101](#) Un berger, pstl, ov.; & pendant: [J.686.102](#)  
une bergère, pstl, ov., Salon de Saint-Luc  
1753, no. 144  
=?*bergère*, v. Boucher, Mme Deshayes

