

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## **SPOEDE, Jean-Jacques**

Antwerp c.1680 – Paris 26.XI.1757

Also Johan Jakob or Jan Jacob. The painter was Flemish by birth (his father Jacobus Verspoeden being a sculptor there) but settled in Paris where Gersaint refers to him as Watteau's "ami particulier". Trained at the Académie royale, he joined the Académie de Saint-Luc where he exhibited 1751–53 and rose to the position of recteur perpétuel. He was a versatile artist, painting everything from history to still life, genre and animal pieces, and he was also known as a draughtsman.

His first marriage, in 1718, was to Louise Lambert, daughter of a jeweller. Among the witnesses was the sculptor Jacques van den Bogaert, dit Desjardins. There were two daughters, Louise (1716– ), who married the surgeon Jean-Nicolas Moreau before 1732, and Françoise-Geneviève (1718– ), who would marry Jacques Jouenne and in 1755 Alexis Nicque; they were co-heirs of their grandfather, Jean Lambert, a marchand joaillier. In 1721 Spoede married Julienne-Jacqueline Joigneau, from a family of gilders and metal workers. His brother Jean-Baptiste Spoede was a printer.

Spoede's acte de décès, 26.XI.1757, at Saint-Laudryer, Paris, is in the État civil reconstitué.

Traditionally he was credited as being La Tour's teacher, following Mariette who probably confused his name with that of Dupouch to whom we now know La Tour (*q.v.*) was apprenticed. However a pair of signed pastels are mentioned.

### **Bibliography**

Martin Eidelberg, "Jean-Jacques Spoede, Watteau's 'special friend'", *Gazette des beaux-arts*, CXLII, 2000, pp. 179–96; Guiffrey 1915; Warsaw 2009

### **Pastels**

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