Neil Jeffares, Dictionary of pastellists before 1800

Online edition

THONNESSE, Jean-Baptiste Dijon 30.IV.1755 – Angers 26.X.1830

Also Tonnesse; Thonesse. Pupil of Devosge at the école de dessin in Dijon (where he won the painting prize in 1770) and of Coustou; history painter, portraitist, miniaturist and draughtsman. He went to Rome in the 1770s, returning to Paris by 21.IV.1779 when he enrolled in the école de l'Académie royale in 1778, under Pierre. He married Christine Chrétien in Paris in 1786. In 1804 he was recorded in Versailles. In 1809 he was appointed professeur at the Prytanée at La Flèche. He was active in Angers from at least 1815 on. Only a few pastels are recorded, one included among his numerous submissions to the 1771 exhibition; the others much later. His daughter-in-law and pupil Fanni Ferrey exhibited at the salons of 1793 and 1796.

Bibliography

Almanach de la province de Bourgogne et particulièrement de la ville de Dijon, Dijon, 1772; Sanchez 2004; Marie-Claire Thion, "A Vernouillet Thonnesse vend son clos et gagne la gloire", Les Cahiers de l'histoire, bulletin municipal de Vernouillet, III, 1987, pp. iv–viii; "Thonnesse le démolisseur", ibid., IV, 12988, pp. i–v

Pastels

1.7138.12 Mme de GOHIN, pstl, 44x36, sd *verso* "Peint a Angers par Thonnesse en juillet 1817" (Angers, Enchères Pays de Loire, 28.x1.2017, Lot 32 repr., anon., est. €300–500) φ



1.7138.15 Louis-Mathieu, comte de MOLE (1781– 1855), homme d'état, pstl, 45x37 [c.1805] (Paris, Drouot, Million, 27.VI.1997, Lot 90 repr., est. Fr8–12,000, Fr17,000) φ



1.7138.21 Homme en redingote, pstl, sd "Thonnesse/fecit 1812" (Boulogne-Billancourt, bibliothèque Marmottan) φ



J.7138.31 Académie, pstl, Dijon 1771