

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

VAN DER MIJN, Herman

Amsterdam 1684 – London 1741

Dutch artist who founded a dynasty of painters (seven of his eight children were artists). Herman van der Mijm or Myn was a painter of history, mythological, still life and genre subjects as well as a portraitist. Before settling in England, he worked for the Elector Palatine until 1716, was then in Antwerp before moving to Paris in 1718 when Coypel recommended his work to the duc d'Orléans. He was brought to London in 1721. Although well received by Queen Caroline and numerous courtiers, van der Mijm's extravagance caused difficulties. While it is not clear if he ever worked in pastel, according to Walpole, his portrait of the Prins van Oranje inspired the Prince of Wales to ask his sister Anna, Princess Royal (*q.v.*) to draw the artist in crayons. In any case he followed Anna when she married Willem in 1734 and moved to The Netherlands, and he was working at Het Loo two years later. Soon after he returned to London.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Walpole 1828, p. 55; Washington 1987

Pastels

Tête de femme coiffée d'un chapeau noir, buste, pstl, 40.5x32.4 (Neyman; Paris, Basan, 8–11.VII.1776, Lot 1064, 33 livres; Pierre-François Basan; Paris, 1–19.XII.1798, Lot 38, Fr7,05; François-Léandre Regnault-Delalande) [=?pstl *s.v.* Frans Van der Mijm, *supra*]