

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

VERSELIN, Jacques

Paris 1646–1.VI.1718

Pastelist and miniaturist. “Natif de Paris, peintre en mignature”, he was *agr  *é 6.X.1685 and *re  * at the Acad  mie royale 7.VI.1687 with a miniature of Louis XIV after Le Brun. At the 1685 session the Acad  mie noted “les peines et les assiduit  es que ledit sr Versellin prend pour s’avancer dans son art” He is listed as “M. Vencelin, rue St-Martin” among three pastellists practising in 1692 (along with Vivien and C  sar Desgranges, *qq.v.*) in the directory published by Abraham du Pradel (*Le Livre commode contenant les Adresses de la ville de Paris avec le tresor des almanachs...*, Paris, 1692, p. 118). An additional mention appears in the 1691 edition, p. 24: among the picture dealers, “M. Vercelin, rue Saint-Martin, au Porcelet d’or, a de tr  s-beaux tableaux et M. son fils peint tr  s-bien en pastel et en mignature.” In the almanachs royaux, “Verselin”, peintre, is listed at rue Saint-Denis, 1692; “rue Montmorency, du c  t   de la rue Saint Martin” in 1714 and at “l’entr  e de la rue Phelypeaux, chez Madame de Vitry” in 1717. He died in the rue Fr  piaux [Ph  ipeaux], aged 72 (according to his acte de d  c  s, but 73 according to the proc  s-verbaux de l’Acad  mie, 30.VII.1718); his burial at Saint-Paul was witnessed by Charles de Valois, antiquaire du cabinet du roi, and G  rard Heusch, bourgeois de Paris, ses amis. “Vercelin” appears on a plate of Charles Perrault engraved by Edelinck, an image of striking quality (the original canvas was in the collection of g  n  ral Hyacinthe-Fran  ois-Joseph, comte Despinoy (1764–1848), cat. 1849, no. 731). Other variant spellings include Versellin. Madeleine, daughter of Jacques Verselin, peintre ordinaire du roi, was godmother to one of the children of Jean-Baptiste Hall   (Saint-Germain l’Auxerrois, 19.VII.1701).

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; B  n  zit; du Pradel 1691, 1692; Jal 1872; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Maze-Sencier 1885, p. 565; *Proc  s-Verbaux*; Sanchez 2004

Pastels

J.755.101 FRAN  OISE-RENEE de Lorraine (1621–1682), abbesse de Saint-Pierre de Reims, 1681 (Isselburg, Museum Wasserburg Anholt)

J.755.102 Marie de Lorraine, duchesse de GUISE (1615–1688), 1681 (Isselburg, Museum Wasserburg Anholt)

J.755.103 =?“Item, deux pspls repr  sentant l’un Mademoiselle de Guise et l’autre madame l’abb  sse de Montmartre, sa s  ur, qui n’ont est   prisez” (Marie de Lorraine, duchesse de Guise; inv. p.m., 15.III.1688) Lit.: “Inventaires de l’h  tel de Guise”, *Archives de l’art fran  ais*, X, 1896, p. 225