

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

VOIART, Jacques-Philippe

Longwy 10.VI.1756 – Choisy-le-Roi 20.VIII.1842
His names are widely given as Jean-Baptiste; also Voiart; Voyart. An officer from Lorraine, he was the son of Philippe Voyart, conseiller du roi, procureur au parlement de Metz, greffier en chef de la Monnaie, and his wife, née Suzanne-Nicole Regnie. He was a freemason from as early as 1777 when he joined the loge of the régiment de la Marck at Longwy; by 1789 he was the Vénérable Maître of the Réunion philanthropique à l'Orient de Longwy. During the revolution he was administrateur des vivres for Dumouriez's army, and was imprisoned temporarily. He married a Jeanne-Amable Bouchotte in Metz in 1794, and after her death in 1802, he was remarried, to Anne-Élisabeth, dite Élise, Petit-Pain (1786–1866), a writer and miniaturist and the subject of a portrait by Constance Mayer (*q.v.*). In 1811 the Voiarts moved to Choisy-le-Roi where they established an important literary salon. Their daughter was the poet Amable Tastu.

Voiart was also an amateur miniaturist and pastellist. He studied with Mme Vigée Le Brun and with Prud'hon (*qq.v.*), and later published several works of art criticism and a teaching manual, *Entretiens sur la théorie de la peinture*, Paris, 1820. The latter includes (pp. 128ff) a short section on pastel, taken directly from Jaucourt's entry in the *Encyclopédie*, with the additional observation that pastels can be used directly on a canvas prepared with oil, of the kind supplied by M. Giroux, au Coq-Honoré.

Only two pastels are known: the polymathic marquis de Chastellux, as a lengthy inscription on the reverse notes, was military governor at Voiart's home town of Longwy. The portraits of his friend, the composer of *La Marseillaise* dates from the end of their lives. Some miniatures from as early as 1787 are known.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Jacquot 1899; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Emmanuel Michel, *Biographie du parlement de Metz*, Metz, 1853, p. 545 [errors]; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Salmon 1997a; Voreaux 1998

Pastels

J.7724.061 François-Jean, marquis de CHASTELLUX (1734–1788), maréchal de camp, cr. clr/ppr, 31x26,5 ov., sd ← “1787/V^o”, inscr. verso “...portrait a été peint en 1787, par philipe voiart” (Melun, Jakobowicz, 24.V.2025) φ



J.7724.101 Claude-Joseph ROUGET DE LISLE (1760–1836), pstl/ppr bl., 60.3x49.9, 1835 (Louvre inv. 35277, dep.: Versailles MV 5070). Lit.: Salmon 1997a, no. 58 repr.; Salmon 2018, p. 333 φ



~version, pen, ink, chlk, 1833 (PC). Lit.: Salmon 1997a, p. 178 repr.

J.7724.104 ~version, with minor changes, pstl, 1840 (Lons-le-Saunier, mBA). Lit.: Salmon 1997a, p. 178 repr. φ