

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

VIOLET, Pierre Noël

Paris 1749 – London 1819

Miniaturist. He enrolled in the school at the Académie royale in Paris in 1758, under Louis-Michel Van Loo. In 1782 he was accepted by the Académie de Lille, and exhibited that year a number of miniatures and an oil portrait. However there were difficulties with delays over his morceau de réception. Returning to Paris, he developed a career as a miniaturist, managing his public profile through the appearance of a number of pamphlets and the publication in 1788, in Paris and Rome, of a *Traité élémentaire sur l'art de peindre en miniature*. One pamphlet, entitled *De tout un peu* (1787), refers to a “monsieur Violet, célèbre par ses beaux portraits au pastel”. During the Revolution he emigrated to London. Among his exhibits at the Royal Academy in London was a portrait of Bartolozzi. Ingamells noted an undated “pastel miniature” by him which appeared in a Grangerised copy of Tuer’s monograph on Bartolozzi (Christie’s, 16.IV.2010, Lot 161).

Bibliography

Ingamells 2004, p. 40; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; *L'Intermédiaire des chercheurs et curieux*, LIII, 1906, 783, 924