

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

VITI, Timoteo

Urbino 1469–1523

Timoteo Viti or della Vite da Urbino, a pupil of Francesco Francia of Bologna, was a personal friend of Raphael, and probably assisted him in Rome c.1519. He acquired a substantial collection of drawings by Raphael, and made numerous copies of his works which have often been confused with the originals. The core of the collection was acquired from his descendants in 1714 by marchese Antaldi of Pesaro, who sold many of the sheets to Crozat; in 1824 the remainder were purchased from his family by Woodburn for Sir Thomas Lawrence. A seventeenth century inventory of some 88 drawings from the Antaldi collection included three pastels, apparently by Titian, Tintoretto and Timoteo, but possibly all by the latter (or possibly not in pastel). The Timoteo self-portrait, now in the British Museum, was first recorded in 1673 by Domenico Maria Corsi who called it a self-portrait, while Woodburn described it as of Timoteo by Raphael. In technique, with its mixture of watercolour and chalk, it is reminiscent of the work of Lagneau.

Bibliography

BM collections database; Anna Forlani Tempesti & al., *Da Raffaello a Rossini: la collezione Antaldi*, 2001; Giovanni Moroni, *Timoteo Viti nell'ambiente artistico urbinato tra Quattrocento e Cinquecento*, Urbino, 2007

Pastels

J.7636.101 AUTORITRATTO, bl. chlk, pstl, watercolour/ppr, 50.8x37 (British Museum, inv. 1860,0816.95. The artist; desc.; acqu. 1714 Marchese Antaldi of Pesaro –1824; acqu. Woodburn for Sir Thomas Lawrence. Willem II; The Hague, 12.VIII.1850, Lot 6. London, Christie's, 8.VI.1860, Lot 901, as by Raphael, of Timoteo). Lit.: Robinson 1890, p. 344, n.14 n.r., "pastello"; Pouncey & Gere 1962, no. 268, attr.; Barocci 2012, fig. 27; Burns & Saunier 2014, p. 16 repr. $\varphi\sigma$

