Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

WAGNER, Anselm

Timisoara 1766–1806

Son of a Viennese painter, Michael Wagner (1731–1783), who had settled in Transylvania, Anselm studied in Vienna under the Dane Johann Jakob Stunder (1759–1811); he was influenced also by the Baroque style of Meytens, turning (around 1796) to a rococo style, and later to a neo-classical approach. Wagner abandoned religious painting for portraiture in oil, miniature and pastel, and made numerous portraits in Transylvania from the mid-1790s on. From around 1799 Wagner travelled in Sibiu, Brasov, Cluj and Mintia, painting portraits of the noble Gyulay family. His first recorded pastel, dated 1793, was a copy of a French pastel; the subsequent works, some of which have survived, reflect various influences and uneven achievement. His distinctive signature is sometimes followed by a three digit number: this may not be the year from which the first digit is absent, since one of the numbers is 779 and shows a young man in a costume from c.1800.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Harderbas 1996; Marica 1958; Miklosik 2004; Popescu 1998; Popescu 2000–01; Popescu 2003; Timisoara 2003

Pastels

J.779.101 Peter Carl von BRUKENTHAL (1753–1807), pstl, 1800 (Sibiu, Muzeul Naţional Brukenthal). Lit.: Marica 1958, fig. 12 Φ

Photo courtesy Muzeul Naţional Brukenthal

J.779.104 Elisabeta KESSLER Koppauer, pstl, c.1798 (Timisoara, Muzeul Banatului). Lit.: Marica 1958, fig. 7 Φ

Photo courtesy Muzeul Banatului

J.779.107 La comtesse Anastasia MILORADOVICI, "Die russische Gräfin", pstl/pchm, 57x44 (Timisoara, Muzeul Banatului). Lit.: Marica 1958, fig. 10 Φ

Photo courtesy Muzeul Banatului

J.779.11 ?Baronin VECSEY, Ungarn, im Chemisenkleid, pstl/pchm, 64x47.5, s ↙ "Wagner 798" (Munich, Neumeister, 2.XII.2010, Lot 2715 repr., as Wagner, est. €400, €800; Boris Wilnitsky) [new attr.] φδν

J.779.113 Inconnu, pstl, 1802 (Sibiu, Muzeul Naţional Brukenthal). Lit.: Marica 1958, fig. 21 Φ

Photo courtesy Muzeul Naţional Brukenthal

J.779.116 Man in a dark blue coat, brown collar, pstl, 63.5x46.5 (Munich, Kunsthaus Belvedere, 14.XI.2001, adv. *Weltkunst*, 2001, p. 2110 repr.) φ

J.779.118 Young man in brown coat, pstl/ppr, s ↙ "Wagner 779", c.1800 (PC 2015) φν

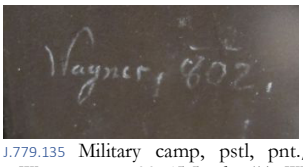
J.779.121 Man in a dark coat, said to be a composer, pstl, s ↘ "Wagner/Dresde" (PC 2015) φ

J.779.123 Dame, pstl, 1801 (Timisoara, Muzeul Banatului). Lit.: Marica 1958, fig. 20 Φ

Photo courtesy Muzeul Banatului

J.779.126 Man; & pendant: J.779.127 woman, pstl/pchm, 34.5x26.5, s/sd Wagner 1798 (Boris Wilnitsky, 2011) φ

J.779.13 Young man; & pendant: J.779.131 lady, pstl, 63x47, sd Wagner ?/Wagner 802 [?1802] (Prinzessin und Landgräfin von Hessen. Salzburg, Dorotheum, 3.IV.2012, Lot 99 repr., attr. Anton Wagner, est. €1600–2200; Salzburg, Dorotheum, 10.v.2012, Lot 195, est. €700) [new attr.] φ



J.779.135 Military camp, pstl, pnt./pchm, a/r Wouwerman, 33x45.5, sd ↘ "A. Wagner 1792" (Timisoara, Muzeul Banatului) Φ

Photo courtesy Museul Banatului

J.779.138 Pastel, 1793