

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

WEBSTER, Joseph Samuel

fl. 1757; – London 1796

Portraitist in oil, pastel and miniature; exhibited crayons and miniatures at the Society of Artists 1762–80 and the Free Society in 1763 (from various addresses in Covent Garden). Webster was compensated by the Society of Artists for losses incurred in a fire in 1769. Among Webster's oils is a curious portrait of Sir Joseph Yorke, sd 1770 after Spinney, but apparently derived from a 1759 portrait by the Dutch portraitist of a different sitter, given a new face, hands and riband of the Bath. It is unclear if this places him in The Hague.

He is confused in some sources with the watercolourist Simon Webster who was still living in 1820. A Joseph Webster, Jr (1774–1796) of Loughborough also died in the same year, but was far younger; disability prevented him from pursuing a medical career, but he took up copying prints, among them the work of Matthew William Peters. It is unclear what medium he used.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Foskett 1987; Waterhouse 1981; Wright 2006; *Gentleman's magazine*, .VIII.1796, p. 703

Pastels

[J.7836.101](#) Gentleman's head, crayons, Society of Artists 1762, no. 129

[J.7836.102](#) Lady, crayons, Society of Artists 1765, no. 150