

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

WEST, Francis Robert

Dublin c.1749–1809

Robert West's son succeeded him as director of the Dublin Society school and exhibited there between 1770 and 1801, including pastels of religious subjects and conversation pieces. Several works, medium unspecified, were sent to the Royal Academy in London in 1779, as an honorary exhibitor, 1781, from Newman Street; and 1790, from Charles Street, Westminster. An important series of nine oval "portraits in conversation" showed members of the Brooke and Vesey families. His characteristic use of charcoal and pastel has been described in various ways, but seems to be more drawing with coloured chalks than pastels per se. However his 1771 submissions include some works in crayons and others in chalk, while in 1770 he showed portraits "in Pastelle, &c."

Bibliography

Bénézit; Crookshank 1969; Crookshank & Glin 1994; Crookshank & Glin 2002; Graves 1905, *s.m.* F. R. and R. L. West; Oxford DNB; Stewart & Cutten 1997; Strickland 1913; Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

Members of the BROOKE and Vesey families, nine crayons, ov., late 1770s (PC). Lit.: Crookshank & Glin 1994; Crookshank & Glin 2002:

~Lady Knapton and Miss Piggott playing cards, crayon, ov. (PC). Lit.: Crookshank & Glin 1994, fig. 75; Crookshank & Glin 2002, fig. 118, in reverse φ



~Viscountess Northland [née Anne Vesey (–1803)] with the Hon. Lady Staples [née Jane Vesey (–1822)] taking tea, crayon, ov. (PC). Lit.: Crookshank & Glin 2002, fig. 118 φ



~Volunteer officers studying a map, crayon, ov. (PC). Lit.: Crookshank & Glin 1994, fig. 74 φ



~Two boys playing a game of goose, sd 1779[?]. Lit.: Crookshank & Glin 1994, fig. 76 φ



~A game of billiards
~Sewing
~Reading
~Coming in from picking flowers in the garden
~Group of three in fancy dress assembled for a party

Master CHALMERS, m/u, Royal Academy 1790, no. 153

C. JENNINGS, artist, m/u, Royal Academy 1790, no. 142

A man in a library, 1771 (New York, Pierpont Morgan Library). Lit.: Crookshank & Glin 1978, p. 81 φ



Gentleman in a grey coat, charcoal, pstl/ppr, 47.4x38 ov., sd "F. R. West fecit 1772" (Dublin, NGI, 3834. Frank T. Sabin, London; acqu. 1966). Lit.: Crookshank 1969 p. 237, fig. 5; Bourke & Bhreathnach-Lynch 1999, p. 47 repr.; Le Harivel 1983, repr. φ



Young lady in a yellow dress, pstl, charcoal/ppr, 47.4x38.2 ov., sd "F. R. West 1772" (Dublin, NGI, 3832. Acqu. Frank T. Sabin, London, 1966). Lit.: Le Harivel 1983, repr. φ



Young lady in a grey dress, pstl, charcoal/ppr, 47.6x38 ov., c.1772 (Dublin, NGI, 3833. Acqu. Frank T. Sabin, London, 1966). Lit.: Le Harivel 1983, repr. φ



Young lady in a blue dress, pstl, charcoal/ppr, 47.3x38.4 ov., c.1772 (Dublin, NGI, 3835. Acqu. Frank T. Sabin, London, 1966). Lit.: Le Harivel 1983, repr. φ



Young lady with a blue ribbon in her hair, pstl, charcoal/ppr, 48x39.5 ov. (Dublin, NGI, 3836. Acqu. Frank T. Sabin, London, 1966). Lit.: Le Harivel 1983, repr. φ



Portraits, pstl, Dublin 1770, no. 56

St John, crayons, Dublin 1771, no. 55

Satyr and Clown blowing hot and cold, crayons,
Dublin 1771, no. 56

Soldier pushing a man in a sleigh (Malahide
Castle sale; Christie's, 10.V.1976, Lot 628
repr.)

Figures going to a costume ball (Malahide Castle
sale; Christie's, 10.V.1976, Lot 629 repr.)

Figures sewing in an interior, cr. clr, 37.5x43,
inscr. *verso* "...shooling" [sic] ... West [?]
(London, Christie's, 14.V.2004, Lot 113 repr.,
est. £7–10,000, £7500) **◆**



Photo courtesy Christie's