

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

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BARBOT, Mme Barthélemy-Mathieu, née Adélaïde-Sara “Aglæ” Bamberg

Newcastle c.1780 – Paris 20.I.1857

Adélaïde-Sara, known as Aglaé, was the daughter of an Alexandre-Edouard Bemberg or Bamberg and Marie-Anne-Cécile Mollevell (as spelled in her 1802 marriage contract; Mollwel in her 1857 acte de décès), and was born in Newcastle in England. She was adopted by Alexandre Kucharski (*q.v.*) and his wife. A letter survives from her while staying with the duchesse de Mouchy in 1800. On 8.III.1802 (contract, registered in Paris 16.III.1802), she married Barthélémy-Mathieu Barbot, a widower (34 years older than his bride) and an old friend (and subject) of Kucharski. She was his third wife. The two documents evidencing the marriage give slightly different spellings of “Sara de Bamberg” and “de Bannberg”, while her husband’s name is spelled Barbo. He had been a member of the household of the prince de Condé, as had his brother, Jean-Baptiste Barbot, Painé (1735–), contrôleur de la bouche du duc d’Orléans. Barthélemy-Mathieu, also called Louis-Barthélemy, Barbot le jeune (1746–1806) was contrôleur to the duchesse de Bourbon, rue Neuve-des-Petits-Champs, and later had the same rôle in relation to princesse Pauline Borghese. He was also a freemason. They would have several children (Jacques-Julien, Laurence-Joséphine-Léonide and Pauline-Napoléon-Rose) before Barbot’s death on 25.IX.1806, when they were living at 71 rue de l’Université, Paris 10^e. Jacques Barbot, ingénieur de ponts et chaussées was named tutor to the children; he was Barbot’s son by his first marriage to Grace Turner, which took place at St Anne’s Soho, 11.IX.1768. Also represented at the inventory was Joseph Barbot, professeur de langue française et de mathématiques à l’école militaire de Londres, apparently another son from the first marriage. Barthélemy-Mathieu Barbot’s second wife, whom he married in Paris, 23.II.1793, was Anne-Thérèse Ducamel (she was divorced from a Pierre Bernier); Kucharski signed Barbot’s divorce petition from her, 12.I.1801; she was remarried in 1802, to a Charles-Louis-Marie Thonin, and when she died in 1828, aged 81, her husband was Louis-Jacques-Isidore Jourdan de Saint-Sauveur, colonel de gendarmerie. Adélaïde-Sara maintained her contacts with Kucharski, but by 1815 she was living in Saint-Denis where she taught drawing at the Maison royale d’éducation. Her death was recorded on 20.I.1857, Paris 1^{er} (état civil reconstitué).

According to del Tal, she was Kucharski’s only professional pupil, and made copies of his portraits, but it is not known if any of these was in pastel. Just one pastel was recorded in her husband’s 1806 inventory, a portrait de famille of a lady in its oval frame; the artist is not specified.

Barbot may have been connected with the mother of John James Masquerier, although she was probably one of the family of goldsmiths settled in London from much earlier. A Mrs Barbot of the French charity school, Windmill

Street, advertised for tutors in the English press in 1772.

Bibliography

Del Tal 1865; Jallut 1939; Barbot inv. p.m., 25.XI.1806 (AN MC/XXIX/708); AD.75 Cote: VBIS8E2/3, actes préliminaires des divorces, 22 nivôse an IX