

**DELAFUE, Jean**

*fl.* France 1762–76

Académie de Saint-Luc, *reçu* (par mérite) 1775. A trois-crayons portrait in Tours, signed “Delafue invenit et delineavit” (similar to [J.2626.104](#)), is probably by the draughtsman responsible for the frontispiece of Dupain de Montesson’s *L’Art de lever les plans de tout ce qui a rapport à la guerre et à l’architecture civile et champêtre* (Paris, 1763), a plate engraved by the amateur engraver and engineer Jean-Alexandre Chevalier in 1762. A miniature of a lady with a guitar, sd “DELAFUE/1769”, is in Warsaw. A 1789 painting of the Martyre de saint Sébastien in the église Sainte-Anne de Robien de Saint-Brieuc, sd “D Lafue 1789”, is not necessarily by the same artist.

His involvement with the corps of engineers suggests that he may have had a higher social status, and it is possible he was connected with the noble Toulouse family which included avocats and capitouls, seigneurs d’Auzas, among them Jean-Guillaume-Ignace de La Fûe d’Auzas, ancien mousquetaire, who married a Susanne Cornabe de Champvieux in Paris in 1788

He was probably the “La Fue” listed as an élève de l’Académie royale, awarded the 1<sup>re</sup> médaille de quartier for painting in 1753 (Procès-Verbaux, VI, p. 375; the manuscript list of élèves adds no further detail). The signature is not a perfect match, but could be the same allowing for the more florid penmanship in a legal document, as that on an entry in the probate register (AN Y4879A, notoriété Demasur, 1.VIII.1765) of “Jean Delafüe peintre de l’académie royale, demeurant à Paris, cul-de-sac de Sourdis rue des fossez”. Two years later, by contract of 31.VIII.1767, he married Louise Gouin de La Lande, possibly from the family of musicians at Versailles.

**Bibliography**

Guiffrey 1915; Tours 2001

**Pastels**

[J.2626.101](#) Jeune femme en bergère, pstl, 64.5x54 ov., 1774 (Sassenage, château) ☐



*Photo courtesy collection château de Sassenage*

[J.2626.104](#) Femme, cr. clr, 56x39, sd v 1776 (Paris, Drouot, Brissonneau, 8.XII.2004, Lot 15 n.r., est. €700–800. Paris, Drouot, Daguerre, 3.IV.2026, Lot 23 repr., est. €400–600) ☐

