

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ABERLI, Johann Ludwig

Winterthur 14.XI.1723 – Bern 17.X.1786

Landscape artist who worked in oil and watercolour and made engravings. He moved to Bern in 1741 and was taught by Johann Grimm (*q.v.*), taking over his drawing school on his death. Around the middle of the century he made portraits, some of which were in pastel. A 1751 oil portrait of Aberli (Winterthur, Kunstmuseum) by Handmann (*q.v.*) presages their joint trips around the Bernese Oberland in 1759. Later that year he made a nine-month trip to Paris; after his return he devoted himself to landscape painting. Six landscape drawings were exhibited by “Signior Aberli, Rome”, at the Society of Artists in London in 1790; they may have been his. He is particularly known for his hand coloured etchings in a technique known as the Aberli manner.

Bibliography

Allgemeine deutsche Biographie; Bénézit; Füssli 1806; Grove; Frédéric-Charles Lonchamp, J.-L. *Aberli (1723–1786). Son temps, sa vie et son oeuvre...*, Paris, 1927; Saur

Pastels

J1004.101 Philipp von BÜREN (1727–1808), pstl, 49x39, c.1760 (Bern, BHM, inv. 46.612. Legs Eugen van Büren 1966) Φ



Photo courtesy Bernisches Historisches Museum

J1004.104 Johann Jakob HERMANN mit seinem Söhnchen, pstl/ppr, 114x60 (Bern, Dobiaschofsky, 11–12.V.1990, Lot 1 n.r., attr., €2378)