

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ALGAROTTI, Francesco, conte

Venice 1712 – Pisa 1764

The celebrated patron and collector travelled and wrote extensively on art; from 1742 he advised Friedrich August II. on the Dresden picture collection which included numerous pastels by Rosalba (who also portrayed Algarotti's sister). He himself was the subject of a superb pastel by Liotard (*q.v.*), and bought Liotard's famous Belle Chocolatière for Dresden in 1745. Although he is not normally thought of as an artist, a box of pastels sent to him in Parma by the abbé de Saint-Non (*q.v.*) on his return to Paris suggests that he may have been an amateur pastellist.