

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

AMALIE WILHELMINE von Braunschweig-Lüneburg, Kaiserin

Lüneburg 21.IV.1673 – Vienna 10.IV.1742

The daughter of Johann Friedrich von Braunschweig-Lüneburg (1625–1679) and Pfalzgräfin Benedikte Henriette von Simmern (1652–1730), in 1699 she married the future Kaiser Joseph II (he acceded in 1705, but died in 1711). There is no consensus on the order or spelling of her forenames (Wilhelmina Amalia is most frequent). She was close to Rosalba Carriera, who no doubt encouraged her to execute a Virgin in pastel given to the nuns in the Salesian convent she had founded in Vienna shortly after Rosalba's departure from Vienna in 1730. Rosalba made portraits of her and many of her close relations during her visit.

Bibliography

Carriera 2023; Gernot Mayer, "Kloster/Residenz. Ein Ort des Rückzugs, ein Ort der Repräsentation? Zur Ambiguität der Residenz von Kaiserin-witwe Wilhelmina Amalia am Rennweg", in Helga Penz, ed., *Das Kloster der Kaiserin...*, Petersburg, 2017, pp. 165–79

Pastels

J.1048.101 Marienbild, pstl, c.1730, inscr. *verso*
"Cette Image a été Faite les propres mains de S. M. L'Imperatrice Amalie nôtre Auguste Fondatrice qui a eu la Clemence de nous en faire present l'an 1731" (Vienna, Salesianerinnenkloster). Lit.: Mayer 2023, fig. 84; Carriera 2023, p. 36 repr. ϕ

