

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastelists before 1800*

Online edition

## ARNULPHY, Claude

Lyon 1697 – Aix-en-Provence 22.VI.1786

Also Arnulphi; portrait painter based in Aix. He was the son of a painter, Charles Arnulphy (–1737), who was recorded in Paris (1688) and later Grenoble (1723), but had married Madeleine Prongai or Prongey in Lyon 30.V.1692, where Claude was probably born (extensive researches in parish registers in both cities have failed to locate his baptismal entry). His initial training was from his father Charles (–1737), but he then studied with Luti in Rome, returning to Aix in 1722, where his cousin (possibly a confusion with his uncle Claude, secrétaire du roi) had connections with the Foresta and Boyer d'Eguilles families. He founded an école de dessin with funds left by the duc de Villars in 1765. He was made an associé of the Académie de Marseille in 1783. On 31.VII.1731, at La Madeleine, Aix, he married Marguerite Aubaye (1714–); one son, Joseph-Claude (1747–), a marchand droguiste, was born in Martignes, while an elder brother, Pierre, was a pasteliste (*g.n.*).

Arnulphy's numerous oil paintings are well known (they include some portraits of British naval subjects), and demonstrate a brilliant sense of colour and an astonishing command of the brush allied with occasionally wooden and unimaginative compositions. Despite several items in Raimbault's catalogue, only a handful of pastels are known today, including two self-portraits. In the earlier, one finds an impressive technique with some similarity of treatment to Nattier; the later shows a more dynamic pose and is reminiscent of some of Bernard's work in colour and composition. The handwriting on the signature of the 1756 pastel, with its elegant, cursive hand (and smaller C than the adjacent A) is found on the verso of one of the Boyer de Fonscolombe pendants.

### Bibliography

Alauzen 1962; Archibald 1962, pp. 38–40; Bénézit; Boyer 1971, pp. 84f; Chennevières 1850, II, p. 44; Grove; Parrocel 1862, pp. 234f; Parrocel 1890; Raimbault 1928; Sanchez 2004

### Pastels

J.112.101 AUTOPORTRAIT, pstl/ppr, 44.4x34. , inscr. *verso* "M. Arnulphy père peint par lui-même. Donné à M. Gaspard Grégoire, peintre" (Aix-en-Provence, musée Granet, inv. 999.0.1286. Mme Bastiani, arrière-petite-nièce d'Arnulphy, Marseille; acqu. 1846. Don comte Pierre de Demandolx-Dedons 1951). Exh.: Aix 1974, no. 97 n.r. Lit.: Archibald 1962, fig. 1 ☐



J.112.103 AUTOPORTRAIT, pstl/pchm, 62x49, sd ✓  
"C. Arnulphy Peint par Luy même 1756" (Aix-en-Provence, musée Granet, inv. 968.02.001. Le fils de l'artiste, Joseph-Claude Arnulphy (1733–1792); sa fille, Rose-Bibiane (1771–1847), épouse Antoine-Luc Méry (1759–1832); desc. Simon-Généreux Méry; Joseph Méry, Marseille, 1962; don 1968). Exh.: Marseille 1928, no. 166; Aix 1974, no. 98 n.r. Lit.: Alauzen 1962, repr.; Coutagne & al. 2007, fig. 107 ☐



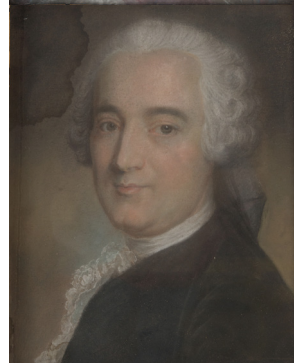
J.112.107 Mme Balthazar de BAYOL DE PEYRESC, [née Marie-Louise-Françoise de Flotte (1727–1799), [∞ 1755 Balthazar de Bayol, sgr de Peyresc (1715–1782), chevalier de Saint-Louis, major commandant de la ville de Saint-Tropez], pstl/ppr, 52.6x44.9 (Aix-en-Provence, musée Granet, dep.: Pavillon de Vendôme. Don Mlle Pourcin de Gastaud 1933). Exh.: Aix 1974, no. 99 n.r.; Aix-en-Provence 2014 ☐



J.112.109 ??Le duc de BOURBON, pstl (PC 2007) [new attr.] φαδν



J.112.111 Jean-Baptiste-Laurent BOYER de Fonscolombe (1716–1788), conseiller au parlement, collectionneur; & pendant: J.112.112 femme, née Jeanne d'Albert de Sainte-Hippolyte (1718–1795), pstl, 40x37, one s *verso* "C. Arnulphy Pinxit" (comte de Saporta, château de Fonscolombe, Basses-Alpes, 1890–1928; desc.: Marseille, De Baecque, 22.XI.2014, Lot 3 repr., est. €600–800, €600). Lit.: A.-M. de La Tour-Keyrié, ed., *Curiosités particulières de la ville d'Aix*, Aix, 1890, p. 139, "très beau"; Raimbault 1928, no. 32/35 n.r. (J.-B.L. & dame de la famille) ☐



J.112.115 ~repl. (*Monsieur*), m/u (comtesse Antoine de Saporta, Le Moulin Blanc, Bouches-en-Rhône, 1928)

J.112.116 Une religieuse de la famille BOYER de Fonscolombe, pstl, 40x37 (comte de Saporta, château de Fonscolombe, Basses-Alpes, 1928). Lit.: Raimbault 1928, no. 34

J.112.117 Le père de JANÉTY, supérieur des Grands Carmes d'Aix, pstl, 62x48 (M. d'Ille, Aix-en-Provence, 1928). Lit.: Raimbault 1928, no. 23

J.112.118 Une religieuse de la famille RAVANAS, pstl, 64x50 (don: Mme d'Eyraud-Ravanas; Dr Latil, Aix-en-Provence, 1928). Lit.: Raimbaud 1928, no. 7

J.112.119 Homme en habit prune, pstl, 39x31, sd ← “Arnulphy pinxit/1756” (Manosque, hôtel des ventes du Luberon, 17.II.2007) φ



J.112.121 Jeune fille jouant au bilboquet, pstl, 45x38, sd 1760 (M. Chaubet, Paris, 1928). Lit.: Raimbaud 1928, no. 13

J.112.122 La sainte Vierge, pstl, 44x35, sd ← Arnulphy 1738 (Salon de Provence, Dame Marteau, 21.III.2015, Lot 155 repr., est. €1300–1400; Aix-en-Provence, Sophie Himbaut, 11.XII.2015, Lot 130 repr., est. €1000–1200) φ

