

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

AUBRY, Louis

Paris c.1721–16.VII.1806

Between 1749 and 1751 a certain “Aubry peintre” attached to the Menus plaisirs made a number of pastels of members of the royal family for prices between 288 and 300 livres each (AN O¹ 3001). They were presumably copied after other masters, probably La Tour or Nattier. He is not to be confused with his many homonyms, including the académicien Étienne Aubry (*q.v.*) or the Anne-Louis Aubry (1722–1761), peintre-doreur and “maître peintre en batimens”, rue Basse-du-Rempart, Paris; married a Marie Marguerite Demasse at Versailles Saint-Louis, in .X.1740, and died 9.I.1761).

It seems probable (as Ratouis de Limay suggested, but without more than the year of his death) that he was the Louis Aubry, peintre éventailiste, rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, who first married a Marie-Jeanne Desforges in 1756. Her inventory was closed 15.II.1757; she left a one-month old son, also Louis. At the family conference were named the child’s maternal great-uncles, Julien, Etienne, Guillaume and Robert Martin, all peintres vernisseurs du roi (inventors of vernis Martin). On 4.IX.1763 Aubry was remarried, to Marie-Louis Coquelet, the daughter of Jean-François Coquelet, de l’Académie de Saint-Luc (contract Sibire, AN MC/LXIX/10); she died in .XII.1765, leaving a 14 month old daughter, Louise-Madeleine Aubry, again the subject of a family conference in the registre de tutelles after Marie-Louise’s death. Aubry’s third marriage was to Marie-Adélaïde Fournier, in Paris, ND-de-Bonne-Nouvelle, 26.V.1766 (état civil reconstitué); she was a minor contracting through her guardian François Drouard, maître sculpteur. The marriage was attended by Aubry’s father, another Louis Aubry, maître tabletier, rue Saint-Martin (he had married Marie Richot by contrat, 21.I.1720, AN MC/XXX). A son by Marie-Adélaïde was the miniaturist Louis-François Aubry (*q.v.*). Louis Aubry died on 16.VII.1806, 75 rue Vivienne, outlived by his third wife.

An alternative possibility for the Menus Plaisir pastellist is the member of the Académie de Sain-Luc in 1772 listed by Guiffrey 1915: Guy-Noël Aubry, peintre, rue des Marais, faubourg Saint-Martin. He died in 1788 leaving two children by his wife, Anne Minot, whom he married in 1761. His parents were Noël Aubry and Anne Lefrançois who seem to have married c.1730 making his rather young for the 1748 work. Described as a cartonnier at his death, it seems less likely that he was the Menus plaisirs pastellist. A portrait of the regent, Philippe, duc d’Orléans c.1730 (Orléans, mBA) has recently been attributed to Guy-Noël Aubry, perhaps a homonym.

Bibliography

Ratouis de Limay 1946

GENEALOGIES [Aubry](#)

Pastels

- J.1152.101 Le prince Édouard [CHARLES Edward Louis Philip Casimir, Prince of Wales (1720–1788), Pa/r La Tour]
- J.1152.102 Le dauphin [LOUIS, duc de Bourgogne, dauphin (1729–1765)], 2 portraits [Pa/r La Tour]
- J.1152.103 La dauphine [MARIE-JOSÉPHE de Saxe (1731–1767)], 2 portraits [Pa/r La Tour]
- J.1152.104 Madame LOUISE de France (1737–1787), 1749
- J.1152.105 Madame LOUISE, à demi-corps
- J.1152.106 La reine [MARIE LESZCZYŃSKA (1703–1768), Pa/r La Tour]
- J.1152.107 Madame SOPHIE [de France (1734–1782)], 1749
- J.1152.108 Madame SOPHIE, à demi-corps
- J.1152.121 Joueur de vielle, pstl (acqu. 21.III.1748, duc de Valentinois). Lit.: Archives du palais de Monaco, C/338, cited Sadie Goode 2020, p. 20