

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BERTRAND, Guillaume

Paris c.1740–p.1800

Bertrand was a pupil of Carle Van Loo (at the same time as Robert West) and of Noël Hallé. He went to London, exhibiting at the Free Society in 1764 from Mr Eldridge's, Cecil Street in the Strand, before moving on to Dublin where he opened a drawing school on Arran Quay according to a newspaper advertisement of 17.XII.1765. He exhibited portraits in oil and crayon at the Society of Artists in Dublin from 1765 to 1770. Despite winning prizes from the Dublin Society in 1766 for the best full-length portrait (£11 7s. 6d) and the best original engraving, he does not seem to have been particularly successful. He had returned to Paris by 1770 (his Dublin exhibits were sent from Arran Quay until 1768; no address is given for 1769, while his final exhibits in 1770 were sent from Paris), exhibiting at the Salons from 1791 to 1800. Two pastels from the 1795 Salon were sent from Marché-Palu, près le petit Pont, no. 9 along with other works; the dimensions given in the *Registre* (but omitted in the *livret*) were an improbable 14x17 pouces. Guillaume Bertrand, "ancien professeur à Dublin, artiste peintre à Paris" was, with Bosio, Laperche and eight others, a candidate to succeed the draughtsman Charles-Édouard Chaise at the école de Fontainebleau in 1798; Moitte was appointed by the committee, which included David, Vien and Vincent.

A document of 28.II.1761 (AN MC/LXXXII/394) links "Guillaume Bertrand, peintre de l'Académie royale" with – perhaps a sister – Marie-Marguerite-Angélique Bertrand, wife of Nicolas Joly (∞ 27.VII.1743), marchand de vin, and a Roger Bertrand du Pin, pâtissier and garde de la porte d roi, Saint-Denis, who were owed money by a Jean-François Lefèvre regarding the sale of a property at Seine-Saint-Denis.

The posthumous inventory of a Guillaume Bertrand, 9 rue du Sentier, Paris was taken on 23.VIII.1820 (AN), but the name is not uncommon.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Breeze 1983; Breeze 1985; Crookshank & Glin 1994; Dublin 1969; Th. Lhuillier, "L'École centrale...", *La Révolution française*, IX, 1885, p. 412; McGuire 1939, pp. 13f; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Sanchez 2004; Saur; Strickland 1913; Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

J.151.101 Gentleman in uniform, pstl, Free Society 1764, no. 23

J.151.102 Gentleman, crayons, Dublin 1767, no. 10

J.151.103 Boy, crayons, Dublin 1767, no. 11

J.151.104 Old man's head, crayons, Dublin 1767, no. 12

J.151.105 Gentleman, crayons, Dublin 1768, no. 1

J.151.106 Tête de vieillard, pstl, Salon de 1795, no. 34

J.151.107 Tête de femme, pstl, Salon de 1795, no. 35

J.151.108 Lady and her child, in the character of a Madonna, crayons, Dublin 1765, no. 5