

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BETTI, Sigismondo

Florence 1699–p.1783

A pupil of Antonio Puglieschi and Matteo Bonecchi in Florence, he travelled to Genoa in 1737 where he remained for ten years, moving to Varallo in 1747. He was best known as a fresco painter, although oil paintings and chalk drawings (e.g. one signed “del. Betti”) are known. Two pendant pastels in the Palazzo Rosso were formerly attributed to Chiappe (*q.v.*). A pastel “d’un nommé Betti, demeurant chez M. Schmidt à St Apostole” in Venice appeared to Voltaire’s correspondent, the comtesse de Bentinck (24.v.1758), “au-dessus de la Rosalba en fait de dessin, et égal à celle-ci pour le coloris”. He was still a member of the Accademia del disegno in 1783. Favaro 1975, followed by AKL, has “Giuseppe Antonio Betti, pittore a pastelli, 1761”, presumably Sigismondo.

Bibliography

Bénézit; *Une femme des Lumières: écrits et lettres de la comtesse de Bentinck, 1715–1800*, Paris, 1997, p. 88; G. Bolaffi, *Dizionario enciclopedico Bolaffi dei pittori e degli incisori italiani*, Turin, 1972; Bouillet & Chassang, *Dictionnaire universel d’histoire et de géographie*, Gabburri, *Vite di pittori*, p. 2299-IV-C288R; Elena Favaro, *L’Arte dei pittore in Venezia e i suoi statuti*, Florence, 1975, p. 159; Hoefler, *Nouvelle biographie générale*, Nagler 1835–52; Luigi Zangheri, *Gli accademici del disegno – elenco alfabetico*, Florence, 2000

Pastels

- J.152.101 AUTORITRATTO, pstl, Florence 1729; Florence 1737 (Gabburri). Lit.: Turner 1993, p. 214 n.r.
- J.152.102 Sig.ra BRIGNOLE SALE, née Pellina dite Pellinetta Lomellini, pstl/ppr, 120x88, 1738 (Genoa, Palazzo Rosso). Lit.: *Nouvelle description des beautés de Gènes et de ses environs*, Genoa, 1819, p. 143, as by Betti, m/u; p. 151 n.r., as ov. pstl, by Chiappe; David Erskine, ed., *Augustus Hervey’s journal*, London, 1953, n.r./repr. opp. p. 129, as pstl, sch. of Parodi; Gianni Guadalupi, Carlo Bitossi, *Repubblica di Genova*, Milan, 1997, I, p. 33, one repr. \emptyset



- J.152.104 ~?pendant, Rodolfo II Giulio Brignole Sale (1708–1774), ?pnt., ov. (Genoa, Palazzo Rosso). Lit.: *Nouvelle description des beautés de Gènes et de ses environs*, p. 151 n.r., as by Chiappe

- J.152.105 Papa CLEMENTE VII [Giulio di Giuliano de’ Medici (1478–1534)] col Macchiavello [Niccolò Machiavelli (1469–1527)], pstl, a/r Titian, 119x89.4 (Cardinal Silvio Valenti Gonzaga, Rome, inv. 1760, no. 724). Lit.: Pietrangeli 1961
- J.152.106 Satiro in rene, pstl, Florence 1729 (Cavaliere Francesco Maria Gabburri, Florence, 18th century inv.)
- J.152.107 Naturale, pstl, Florence 1729 (canc. Al. di Grazia)
- J.152.108 Ritratto, pstl, Florence 1737 (Gabburri)
- J.152.109 Pastel (Schmidt, Venice, 1758)