

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BOILY, Charles-Ange

Paris 1736 – Lyon 1813

Also Boily. On 23.XI.1764, on his way to see Rousseau Boswell was annoyed to have to share his coach with a stranger, but soon revised his opinion of the “genteel, clever” young French engraver of book illustrations, on his way from Holland (where he had worked for three years, engraving at least one portrait after Bolomey) to Môtiers bringing eight advance copies of *Lettres écrites de la montagne*, with instructions also (according to a letter to Rousseau from Marc-Michel Rey in Amsterdam, 5.XI.1764) to take Rousseau’s portrait in pastel with the intention of its being engraved for Rey. This does not seem to have happened, nor is there any other record of Boily working as a pastellist. A pupil of Lempereur, one of three siblings who became engravers (Louis became graveur du roi de Naples, while Anne married Pierre-François Le Fort), he set up in Morat, and is encountered up to 1780 at Fribourg before moving to Lyon.

Bibliography

F. Basan, *Supplément au Dictionnaire des graveurs...*, 1791; Bénézit; Boswell 1953, pp. 194, 197, 204; Boswell 2008, pp. 238f, 245; Madeleine Pinault Sørensen, “Rousseau et l’art du paysage”, in Frédéric Eigeldinger & al., *Jean-Jacques Rousseau et les arts visuels*, pp. 284f; Jeffares 2015c; Portalis & Béraldi; R. A. Leigh, note in *Electronic Enlightenment*