

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

CAILLEAU, Louise

France 1731–1784

The dates and first name of this artist are those given in the Paris 1933b exhibition catalogue; it is unclear if they are reliable. If the oval girl is typical, there may well be other pastels by the same hand languishing under attributions such as follower of Rosalba or of Boucher. She may have been related to André-Charles Cailleau (1731–1798), a Parisian bookseller, but does not appear to have been his sister. Nattier's daughter Madeleine-Sophie, Mme Challe mentioned in her will (1813) "ma bonne et plus ancienne amie Mlle Cailleau", who might be the pastellist (but only if the 1784 date is wrong); a group of drawings associated with Nattier passed through the sale rooms (Paris, Drouot, Thierry de Maigret, 26.III.2014, Lot 80, anonymes; what appear to have been copies were attributed to Nattier at Neuilly, Aguttes, 7.XII.2004, Lot 14), including a presumed portrait of Mlle Cailleau (the other sitters included Mlle Nattier, Mlle Balevi (?Baletti) etc.). The enfant de La Ponce may be related to Choiseul's secretary Mathieu-Pierre de La Ponce de Venon, commissaire des guerres, who married Marie-Anne Fonts de Pontchardon.

Bibliography

Ratouis de Limay 1946; Renard 1999, p. 209

Pastels

- J.1914.101 M. de LA PONCE à 10 ans, sd "Mlle Cailleau 1765" (Alexandre de Laborde 1926, 1933). Exh.: Paris 1926a; Paris 1933b, no. 5
- J.1914.102 Jeune femme, pstl, ov., sd *verso* "Mad^{lle} Cailleau [fecit] le 24 X^{bre} 1765" (Moorabool Antique Galleries, Geelong, Victoria, 2009) φ

