

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

CARO y SUREDA, María Pascuala

Palma de Mallorca 7.VII.1768–12.XII.1827

Described as an amateur and volunteer of the Real academia de San Carlos in Valencia in 1779, when she presented a pastel head of the Virgin “con el rubor que acompaña a mi Sexo”. The daughter of Don Pedro Caro y Fontes, 2. marqués de la Romana and Doña Margalida Sureda y de Togores, she took advantage of her father’s library of some 18,000 volumes, learning seven languages (including Greek and Arabic). She also studied physics and mathematics and obtained a doctorate in philosophy from the university of Valencia. In 1789 she was admitted to the convent of Santa Catalina de Siena in Palma. She published several volumes of religious poetry, *Novenas dal nacimiento de nuestro Señor Jesucristo* and *Poesías místicas*.

Christened Pascua Ana, her names are usually given as María Pascuala or Pasquala; however she is not to be confused with her sister, María (1764–1817) who married, as his first wife, Don Pietro Lante Montefeltro della Rovere (1767–p.1820); after her death in Palma de Mallorca, he married his niece. Her brother Pedro, 3. marqués de la Romana (1761–1811), was a Spanish general in the Peninsular war.

Bibliography

Diccionari biogràfic de dones, Mariángeles Pérez-Martín, “Con el rubor que acompaña a mi sexo...”, in B. A. Ruiz & al., eds, *La formación artística...*, 2018, p. 400; López Palomares 1995, pp. 40ff

Pastels

J.199.101 Cabeza de la Virgen, pstl, 1779