

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

CHARLIER, Jacques

Mazarin, près de Reims 1706 – Paris 19.II.1790
Académie de Saint-Luc; pupil of Boucher, recorded as producing miniatures for the Bâtiments du roi from 1748 on. In 1754 he was a witness at Perronneau's wedding. Marigny commissioned a portrait of his sister, but required Lépicié's advice as to its value, and it seems that he fell out of favour with the court on the death of Louis XV. "Breveté du roi, rue de Richelieu; non moins recommandable par un talent distingué que par un zèle ardent à former de bons élèves", according to the *Almanach des peintres*, 1776, which lists him among the painters of talent unaffiliated to either academy; it also lists him among the private collectors as having an excellent collection of pictures of all schools which he shows to interested amateurs and artists. (A number of anonymous pastels and some by Boucher were sold at auctions on 20.X.1778 and 3.XII.1781 and principally in the posthumous sale conducted by Boileau and Paillet on 7.IV.1790 & seq.; they are not however particularly clearly catalogued.) The following year he appears as "peintre du roi en miniature, rue Saint-Honoré, vis-à-vis le petit Hôtel de Noailles". A projected sale shortly before his death was abandoned, and taste for his work has continued to fluctuate ever since.

Although principally known as a miniaturist who produced genre pieces after Boucher and others, records suggest that he may also have worked in pastel. However the pendant young ladies, described as "style Louis XV", appear to be large miniatures rather than pastels in concept, and may perhaps be later pastiches.

Charlier's date of birth was discovered in 2010 from an annuity purchased by him in 1752 (AN MC CXV/601).

Bibliography

Arnoult 2014, p. 67; Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; *Catalogue des tableaux au pastel, par feu M. Charlier, peintre, par Paillet, vente à Paris en 1790*; Chatelus 1991, p. 112; Guiffrey 1885, pp. 228ff; Guiffrey 1915, p. 218; Le Brun 1776; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Nathalie Lemoine-Bouchard, *Lettre de la miniature*, 1, .III.2010, p. 3; Pappé & al. 2008; Sanchez 2004; Saur

Pastels

J.2194.101 Buste de jeune femme, 24.5x19, s "J. Charlier"; & pendant: J.2194.102 Buste de jeune femme, 24.5x19, s "J. Charlier" (F. C. 1910. Paris, Drouot, 21.XI.1991, Lot 7 repr.). Lit.: *Intermédiaire des chercheurs et curieux*, 1910, 277, 355 Φπ



J.2194.105 Leda et le Cygne, pstl; & pendant: J.2194.106 Diane et Callisto, pstl (London, 9.XII.1936, £160)

J.2194.107 Leda et le Cygne, pstl, 67x53 ov., inscr. v "J. Charlier" (Paris, Drouot, Blanchet, 20.XII.2004, Lot 106 repr., éc. de Charlier, est. €800–1200) Φ



Cupid among clouds; & pendant (New York, Sotheby's, 29.I.1997, Lot 226 repr./n.r., attr.), v. Fragonard

J.2194.111 Dix-huit têtes, portraits & études peintes à l'huile & au pastel (Charlier; vente p.m., Paris, 1 rue Thérèse Butte S. Roch, Paillet, 7.IV.1790, Lot 109 n.r., unattr.)

J.2194.111 Une figure de femme couchée sur un lit peinte au pastel. (Charlier; vente p.m., Paris, 1 rue Thérèse Butte S. Roch, Paillet, 7.IV.1790, Lot 110 n.r., unattr.)

J.2194.112 Différents tableaux au pastel & en miniatures, la plupart d'après M. Charlier, qui seront aussi divisés sous ce n°. (Charlier; vente p.m., Paris, 1 rue Thérèse Butte S. Roch, Paillet, 7.IV.1790, Lot 115 n.r.)