

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

CRAIG, William Marshall

c.1764 – London brd 22.1.1829

Miniaturist and watercolour painter to the Queen and Duke of York, drawing-master to Princess Charlotte of Wales. He may have been born in London, Liverpool or Manchester. He was married at least three times, firstly, on 12.IX.1787 in Manchester Cathedral, to Elizabeth Worrall; secondly, signing the register of St Pancras Chapel on 8.VIII.1809 as a widower, when he married Elizabeth Boyce; and on 20.V.1821 he married Maria Dutton at St Marylebone. He was buried at St Pancras Parish Chapel on 22.1.1829 aged 65.

He exhibited prolifically at the Royal Academy between 1788 and 1827, initially from Manchester. He published *A course of lectures on drawing, painting and engraving* in 1821 in which he expressed emphatically his “opinion that the use of crayons, for producing pictures, should be positively rejected” on grounds of fragility. According to Sée, “his pastels are somewhat affected but nevertheless quite creditable work”; none is known today.

Bibliography

Alexander 2021; Oxford DNB; Sée 1911