

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

DU MOUCEAU, Andreas Lorenz

Landau in der Pfalz 1768 – Würzburg 1816
Practically nothing about the miniaturist and engraver can be gleaned from the standard art dictionaries, unless one consults his own article in Meusel. Du Mouceau was born in Alsace; his father was an officer in the military government at Landau (shown in the *État militaire* from 1768, when he was adjoint, to 1775 when he was major); he served as an officer in the *régiment Royal-Hesse-Darmstadt* in the French service. He was garrisoned at Strasbourg when the Revolution broke out, and was one of the officers who signed an address to the *Assemblée nationale*; one of his fellow officers was Kajetan, Graf Gumpenberg (1760–1824) of Munich, who is said to have married one of his two sisters (although she does not appear in the *Geschichte der Familie von Gumpenberg*, Würzburg, 1856). By 1793 his parents were both dead. He emigrated during the Revolution and became a captain in the counterrevolutionary force raised by the cardinal de Rohan 1794–96. During this period, inspired by the cardinal's art collection, his talent for art and science emerged. He was taught engraving by the Hofmedaillieur J. M. Bückle in Durlach, and in 1796 he moved to Ansbach, where he began to practise as a miniaturist and engraver, as well as developing an interest in scientific instruments. In 1809 he was appointed Hofmechaniker, Optiker and Dentist in Würzburg.



A small pastel was sold in 2011 with an identical miniature, both from the collection at St. Emmeran, and both versions of the oval pastel in the Hessische Hausstiftung. The miniature is signed and dated (1801), as are other miniatures which have appeared on the market. Du Mouceau does not mention pastel painting among his interests, and it is unlikely that he was responsible for the primary image which probably dates from the 1780s. But he may have copied it first in pastel before making his miniature.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Meusel 1808, I, pp. 186f; *Allgemeine Literatur-Zeitung*, 171, .VII.1816, col. 575; *Oberbayerisches Archiv*, CIV, 1979, pp. 82ff; *Lettre de la miniature*, 9, .XI.2011, p. 3

Pastels

MARIE LUISE ALBERTINE von Hessen
Darmstadt, née Gräfin von Leiningen-Dachsberg-Heidesheim (1729–1818)

~pstl, 44x36 ov. (Hessische Hausstiftung, inv. 8891),
v. German sch.

~version, min./ivory, Ø6.0, sd “Du Monceau
01” [1801], verso St. Emmeran (Heidelberg,
Antiquitäten Metz, 16.VII.2011, Lot 484 n.r.)

J.2882.101 ~version, pstl/ppr, 29.5x24, verso St.
Emmeran inv. 4598 (Heidelberg, Antiquitäten
Metz, 16.VII.2011, Lot 484 repr., €4400) øß