

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

ELISABETH CHRISTINE

Königin von Preußen, née von Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel

Wolfenbüttel 1715 – Schloß Schönhausen 1797
Friedrich der Große's wife was a keen amateur musician, author, painter, draughtsman and engraver. She was taught by Pesne, and made some genre pictures in pastel in the 1730s. In her correspondence with her sister-in-law, Charlotte Herzogin von Braunschweig-Wolfenbüttel, there is a discussion of a pastel of the queen and of her late husband, shown as a child, made by Johann Heinrich Schröder (*q.v.*) on his visit to Berlin 1789. In a codicil to her will made in Berlin, 7.IV.1796, she lists a number of specific bequests of portraits, among them, left to her grand-nephew, later Friedrich Wilhelm III., “Das Portrait in Pastell, aus den letzten Jahren” [of Friedrich der Große] and “Das Portrait ihres Bruders Ferdinand in Pastell”; the artists are not specified.

Bibliography

AKL; Friedrich Wilhelm von Hahnke, *Elisabeth Christine, Königin von Preussen, Gemahlin Friedrichs des Großen*, Berlin, 1848