

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## **FACHE, Pierre-Nicolas**

Paris 1751–30.X.1821

Fache, a miniaturist and draughtsman, is recorded from signed and dated miniatures from 1779 on. It seems very probable that he was the “peintre” Pierre-Nicolas Fache, *reçu maître éventailiste* 26.VIII.1771 in Paris (AN Y9331), and identified as the nephew of the deceased Jean Mussard in the registres de tutelles (AN Y5077A, 11.I.1781), and as a “peintre en miniature” in a document of 3.XII.1782 (notoriété Tollier, AN ET/X/703). He was recorded at various addresses in Paris: rue Aumaire, 15 rue Chapon, rue de Montmorency, rue Pavée St Antoine and hôtel Lamoignon. He was the son of Nicolas Fache, “maître tabletier, portraitiste”, who was witness to the marriage in Paris of an enamellist, Claude Philipart (14.VII.1762, AN MC xxx/374). Pierre-Nicolas married Marie-Clotilde de Nainville in 1778; their daughter was Clotilde-Angélique (1779–1835), while a son, Nicolas-Pierre (1781–1840), was a peintre en bâtiment. A divorce took place in 1793, and on 16.I.1794, Fache married Charlotte-Marguerite Ropra.

What is known of the miniaturist’s training emerges in this advertisement in *Les Affiches américaines* on 16.X.1781 (p. 411):

M. Fache, Peintre, élève de M. Wateau neveu, Peintre de l’Ecole Flamande, se proposant de partir pour France sous six mois, a l’honneur d’offrir au Public ses talens dans son art. Il ose se flatter que les personnes qui l’honoreront de leur confiance pour le Portrait, soit à l’huile, soit au pastel, auront lieu d’être satisfaites de la correction de ses desseins, de la vérité de ses couleurs & de la célérité de l’exécution. Il donnera des leçons de dessaint, &c. Sa demeure est rue saint-Sauveur, chez M<sup>de</sup> Gautherot.

Back in Paris, he exhibited at the salon de la Jeunesse in 1791 (rue Chapon) and in the salon of 1793 (same address) and 1795 (rue des Mauvais-Garçons). Only miniatures are known.

Another Pierre Fache (Valenciennes 1756–p.1783) is also recorded as a peintre in Paris (cartes de sûreté).

## **Bibliography**

Lemoine-Bouchard; Sanchez 2004