

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GARDINER, William Nelson

Dublin 1766 – London 1814

Admitted to the Royal Academy Schools on 27.III.1788 (aged “21 11 June last”). He was an engraver, assistant to Bartolozzi, draughtsman, and, after 1801 when his sight failed, bookseller. According to his autobiographical note he worked for B. Jones (*q.v.*), some of whose profiles were in pastel:

Chance led me to connect myself with a Mr Jones in the Strand, who made what he called “reflecting mirrors” and cut profile shades in brass foil, which were denominated “polite remembrances to friends”; my employ was to daub the portraits of any who were fools enough to sit to me. At this employment I got, most justly, neither praise nor profit.

Bibliography

Biographica hibernica, II, p. 175; Strickland 1913;
Waterhouse 1981