

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GOLTZIUS, Hendrik

Venlo 1558 – Haarlem 1617

The Dutch painter and printmaker made some fine drawings in coloured chalk on blue paper. Meder places this work in the 1580s and to the period of Goltzius's trip to Italy in 1590–91. He probably refers to sheets such as the striking self-portrait, now thought to date to c.1593, in the Albertina, which uses watercolour and gouache as well as chalk, but not it seems pastel. Norgate mentions that "Henry Goltzius of Harlem showed mee some of his doeing in dry colours upon writting vellim after the life, the faces about the bignes of a Jacobus, exceeding well and neatly done." Barrow (probably drawing also on Alexander Browne), says that he had seen "little pieces extremely well done...(the faces about the bigness of a *Jacobus*) and also some done by the same hand in *Crayons*, which at a small distance you would have taken for limning. Some he drew upon the rough side of *velum*, and some on the smooth side of parchment, being rubb'd in with small stubbed pencils, and finished with sharp pointed *red* or *black* chalk. His crayons were about the length of a finger, and about the thickness of a goose quill."

Bibliography

Brieger 1921; Barrow 1735, *s.v.* Crayons; Lavallée 1949, p. 81; Mander 1604; Meder 1919, p. 138; Norgate 1919; Norgate 1997, pp. 101, 196f

Pastels

J.3528.101 Head of Christ, crayons (William Sykes; sale p.m., London, 2.III.1725 & seq., Lot 305. London, The Green Doors, Little Piazza, Covent Garden, 18.I.1726, Lot 305)

J.3528.102 =?Head, crayons (Solomon Gautier; London, Covent Garden, 1.II.1725, Lot 503 part)