

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GAZOLA, contessa, née Maria Massimiliana Guarienti

Verona 1712–p.1767

Amateur miniaturist, pastellist and illuminator. Maria Massimiliana, contessa de' Guarienti e Raal married conte Andrea Gazola (or Gazzola) (1695–1776), giurisdicente del vicariato di ca' di Campagna etc., before 1730, when she was half the age of her husband. A genealogy for their son Giambattista Gazola was published by Giulio Cesare Becelli in 1731. We learn from a letter of marchese Scipione Maffei to Dr Richard Mead of the couple's scientific experiments, Massimiliana in particular being an early pioneer in electrical research. Gazola was also known for his important collection of fish fossils from Mount Bolca. According to Séguier 1752 she was a pupil either of Rosalba or of Angelica Le Gru Perrotti (*qq.v.*; the text of Séguier's draft is ambiguous), "qui dans un age que les personnes de sa condition donnent aux plaisirs a bien voulu s'en servir pour s'appliquer a peindre au pastel."

Bibliography

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Pastels

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