

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

GÜNTHER, Georg Christoph

Öhringen 1736 – Nürnberg 1777

At the age of 26 this engraver published a *Praktische Anweisung zur Pastellmalerey* in Nürnberg (1762), with a further edition in 1792. A practical manual for amateur and professional artists, it was evidently written by a practitioner (indeed the title page proclaims him as “Pastellmahler und Kupferstecher”). However no picture by Günther survives. Among the innovations in the treatise are two pigment charts printed in colour with numbered indicators; much of the rest of the work prescribes which colour to use for which part of the drawing using these numbers. The author describes the development of a new green pigment, with advice from his pupil, the amateur (and distinguished mathematician) Professor Lowitz (*q.v.*). Likewise he gives a description of the wax crayons invented by another Göttingen mathematician, Tobias Mayer (*q.v.*).

Bibliography

Bénézit; R&L; Sulzer 1798, III, p. 719; Treatises