

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

KETTLE, Tilly

London 1734 – ?Aleppo 1786

Trained in London as a portraitist; exhibited pastels and oil paintings at the Incorporated Society from 1765. He travelled to India in 1769, where he enjoyed considerable success, returning to London in 1776. He exhibited at the Royal Academy until 1783, when financial problems led him to move to Dublin. Three years later he died on his way back to India overland; he was last recorded in Aleppo. According to Sée, his pastels are influenced by Cotes but hotter in colour, displaying elegance and certainty of drawing. The pastel attributed to him in 1994 seems however to be a typical work by Gardner, to whom it is now restored, while that in a 1927 sale seems to be typical of the numerous anonymous pastels created by the Delineator and similar devices; it too probably has nothing to do with Kettle

Bibliography

Bénézit; Grove 1996; Oxford DNB; Sée 1911; Waterhouse 1981; Wright 2006

Pastels

Helen SENIOR (1763–1837) and her sister (New York, Sotheby's Arcade, 20.VII.1994, Lot 17 repr., attr. Kettle), v. Gardner

J.4284.102 Officer in uniform, profile découpage, pstl/ppr, 15x12 ov. (Ernest Renton; Émile Gross; Xavier Haas; New York, Anderson, 13–14.I.1927, Lot 150 repr., as in naval uniform). Exh.: Les Dessinateurs anglais [details n/k], 1920, no. 41 [?attr.] φαν

