Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LANE, William

England 1746 – Hammersmith 1819

Portraitist in oil and chalk; initially an engraver in precious stones. He was no doubt the William Lane of Nassau Street, Soho, who wrote to the Society of Artists 12.VIII.1772 requesting permission to draw in the Duke of Richmond's gallery. He was later recorded at 130 Pall Mall 1778–85, 3 Old Bond Street 1787; 59 Poland Street 1789. He exhibited, mainly miniatures, at the Royal Academy 1798–1815 from Hamilton Street, Piccadilly and other addresses.

A large group of drawings (mostly on grey paper prepared with pink, executed in a material which may be pastel but is used graphically like black chalk) descended within the artist's family and are now in the Ashmolean. (The exact link with the donor, the daughter of Reginald Lane Poole, a great-grandson of the Rev. Dr Theophilus Lane, remains unclear, as does that with the Anne Louisa Lane who exhibited miniatures from the same address.) One is described as in the manner of Rosalba, but comparisons with Kauffman are probably safer. The portrait of the American scientist Benjamin Thompson was probably done after the subject, a British sympathiser, emigrated to England following the war of independence.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Brown 1982; Foskett 1987; Oxford DNB; Royal Academy archives; Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

J.448.101 John ALLEN [(1771–1843), MD, author, master of Dulwich College, friend of Lord Holland], crayons (Holland House 1820). Lit.: Faulkner 1820, p. 168

J.448.102 John ALLNUTT (1773–1863), wine merchant and collector of British art, pstl, 39.7x30.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 875 n.r.

J.448.103 ?John BRAHAM (1774–1856), tenor, pstl, 39.7x30.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 876 n.r.

J.448.104 Mr COKE, pstl, 37.8x30.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 877 n.r.

J.448.105 George Legge, 3rd Earl of DARTMOUTH (1755–1810), statesman, pstl, 44.7x32 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 878 n.r.

J.448.106 William, 5th Duke of DEVONSHIRE (1748–1811), pstl, 66x53, 1811 (desc.: 6th Marquess Townshend, Raynham Hall; London, Christie's, 5–7.III.1904, Lot 103; 100 gns; C. Davis. Panshanger House; desc.: London, Bonhams Knightsbridge, 30.IV.2014, Lot 272 repr., as anon. a/r Reynolds, est. £3–5000, b/i). Lit.: Durham 1926, p. 21 n.r.; Duleep Singh 1928, II, p. 199, no. 10 n.r.; Garlick 1976, p. 69. A/r Reynolds pnt. 775 (Althorp). Lit.: Mannings 337 φν

~prep. chlk drawing, ov. (PC 2013)

J.448.109 ~version, 23x15 (Aynhoe. PC 2014)

J.448.11 Georgiana, Duchess of DEVONSHIRE (1757–1806), pstl, 66x53, 1809 (Desc.: 6th Marquess Townshend, Raynham Hall; London, Christie's, 5–7.III.1904, Lot 104; 95 gns; C. Davis). Lit.: Durham 1926, p. 21 n.r.; Duleep Singh 1928, II, p. 199, no. 9 n.r. A/r Reynolds

J.448.111 Charles James FOX (1749–1806), life-size bust, facing front, head to right, light blue coat, white cravat, waistocat and powdered hair, cr. drg/ppr, 76x64 (Royal Collection RCIN 452763. Prince Regent, acqu. 1808; Buckingham Palace 1909). Lit.: Cust 1909, p. 247 n.r.; Mannings 2000, no. 674f, anon.; Ingamells 2004, p. 166f n.r. A/r Reynolds pnt., 1782 (Holkham) [cf. versions by Samuel Cotes] φν

J.448.113 GEORGE IV as Prince of Wales, pstl, 41.2x31.1 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 881 n.r.

J.448.114 Mary Charlotte MAXWELL, pstl/ppr gr., 29.5x22, sd 1799 (Lascelles; Woolbeding House, Midhurst; London, Sotheby's, 19.XI.1970, Lot 48 n.r.)

J.448.115 Horatio Walpole, 2nd Earl of ORFORD (1752–1822), pstl, 39.3x27.5 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 879 n.r.

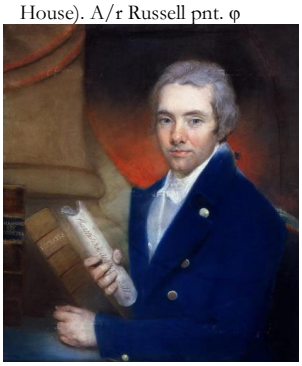
J.448.116 [Mrs ??]William SIDDONS (1744–1803), actor, [née Sarah Kemble (1755–1831), actress], crayons, Royal Academy 1785, no. 469. Lit.: *Morning herald*, 12.III.1785; Whitley 1928, II, pp. 35f, as error for Mrs Siddons; Highfill & al., XIV, 1991, p. 44, as of Mrs Siddons

J.448.117 Sir James Edward SMITH (1759–1828), botanist, founder of the Linnean Society, pstl, 29x22.2 (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 880 n.r.

J.448.118 Sir Benjamin THOMPSON, later Graf von Rumford (1753–1814), physicist, pstl/ppr, 47x36.5, c.1780 (Concord, New Hampshire Historical Society, 1979.201. Acqu. 1979).

J.448.119 The late Earl of Upper Ossory [John Fitzpatrick, 2nd Earl of UPPER OSSORY (1745–1818spm), MP, FRS], crayons (Holland House 1820). Lit.: Faulkner 1820, p. 168

J.448.12 William WILBERFORCE (1759–1833), pstl/ppr, 74x61 (Kingston-upon-Hull, Hull City Museums and Art Galleries, Wilberforce House). A/r Russell pnt. φ



J.448.122 Eight portraits of unknown gentlemen, pstl, c.40x30, one sd "W. Lane/Del. 1809" (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 882–88, 893 n.r.

J.448.123 Lady, drawing, pstl/ppr, 39.6x27.5 (Oxford, Ashmolean, inv. WA 1946.391. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 889, pl. 325 φσ

J.448.125 Girl with pink headdress, chlk, pstl/ppr, 25.8x19.8 (Oxford, Ashmolean, inv. WA 1946.394. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 892 φσ

J.448.127 Two other portraits of unknown females, pstl (Oxford, Ashmolean. Desc. Dorothy Lane Poole; don 1946). Lit.: Brown 1982, no. 890–91 n.r.

J.448.128 Two portraits, cr. clr, inscr. *verso* "W. Lane delt 1799. Hamilton St., Piccadilly" (Walter F. Tiffen, Salisbury, 1870). Lit.: *The Athenæum*, 22.X.1870, p. 536 n.r., in hard coloured chalks, the heads 4 in. in length