

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### LEGENDRE, Louis-Pierre

Paris c.1730 – Bruxelles 22.v.1795

Also Le Gendre; painter of portraits, landscapes and allegorical scenes. His biographical details are uncertain, although sketched in a memorandum of 6.XI.1780 in the papers of the court of Charles de Lorraine, appealing against a decision to exclude him (and several other artists) from the list of court pensioners. This tells us that he was born in Paris (c.1730, or 1732 if the report of the inquiry is to be believed), and had been in England before passing through Brussels c.1769 with the intention of returning to Paris. Attracting the attention of prince Charles, he remained in Brussels working for the court for some four years before resuming his intention of going back to Paris – to which, according to the account, prince Charles expressed his displeasure since he was the only one of his artists who worked in all three media (“pour la mignature, en huile et en pastelle”) and offered him a pension of 800 florins to stay. Pierre-Louis-Alexandre Legendre married Petronille-Françoise-Josèphe Marielle (1745–1772) in the parish of SS Michel et Gudule, 15.II.1768 (the memorandum has 1767). She came from a good but poor family, but died four years later after an accident, leaving two daughters: the elder had as godparents comte Charles de Cobenzl and Marie-Caroline Murray, the count's mistress.

After the death of prince Charles in 1780 Legendre went to Paris: a letter of 20.v.1782 gave his address as rue Neuve des bons enfants, Pars.

He died in Brussels, rue Royale, 22.v.1795, and was buried in the same parish three days later (neither parish record discloses age or profession).

Several passing references to commissions survive: Legendre executed for Cobenzl “le 14 juillet 1768 un portrait en pastel de son Excellence pour 78.6 florins”, while in an undated letter to Mme de Vaux, he sent her an account for “deux de vos portraits historiés en pastel et un petit, une bordure et deux glaces, pour le tout huit louis.” Three entries in Charles de Lorraine's posthumous inventory (*v. COLLECTORS*) are identified only by the initials L.G, which Ansiaux & Lavalleye assign to Legendre.

### Bibliography

Ansiaux & Lavalleye 1936; Bénézit; Marcel Borgi, “Le théâtre du baron Louis de Vaux”, *Revue franco-belge*, .VI.1936, pp. 321f; Dechaux & al. 1995; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Schidlöf 1964–65

### Pastels

J.4706.101 CHARLES-ALEXANDRE, duc de Lorraine [Herzog Karl von Lothringen] (1712–1780), en armure, m/u  
~grav.: A. du Boulois c.1775

J.4706.102 Johann Karl Philipp Graf COBENZL (1712–1770), chev. Toison d'or 1759, ministre plénipotentiaire d'Autriche à Bruxelles 1753–70, pstl (comm. 1768, f.78.6). Lit.: Carlo Bronne, *Madame de Nettine*, 1969, p. 136 n.r.; Bruxelles 1987, p. 212  
~version, min. Lit.: Schidlöf 1964

~version, en pied, pnt.

J.4706.103 Viscountess DILLON, née Henrietta Phipps (1757–1782), pstl, 61x43 (Basildon Park, National Trust, L/BAS/P/77, anon.). Lit.: Jeffares 2006, p. 217 n.r., attr. Guérin [?]; cf. author of Marie Christine Herzogin von Teschen, MV 5408] [new attr., ?] φαα

J.4706.105 ~version, watercolour (Clendon Park, National Trust, inv. 1441564)

J.4706.106 =/?repl., Henrietta Phipps, Viscountess Dillon, ¾ length, in white dress, her right arm resting on a chair, pstl, 34x28 (Harold Arthur, 17<sup>th</sup> Viscount Dillon; London Sotheby's, 24.v.1933, as by Louis Le Gendre, £32; Goukassow)

J.4706.1065 Jeanne-Étiennette DU TARTE (1740–1788), dite Mlle Rosalide, actrice, pstl, 71x54, sd ← “Le Gendre p/1761” (PC 2016; Brussels, Arenberg, 19.X.2019, Lot 7 repr., est. €500–600, €850). Exh.: Hingene 2016. Lit.: Serge Migom, “Het galante netwerk van der Servandoni's”, *Kasteel d'Ursel magazine*, 46, .V.–.VII.2016, p. 8 repr. φαα



J.4706.107 Marie-Justine-Benoîte Cabaret du Ronceray, dite Mme FAVART (1727–1772), rôle de la jeune sultane dans *Soliman II ou Les Trois sultanes* de Ch.-S. Favart, 1761, m/u  
~grav. César Corbutt, a/r Louis-Pierre Le Gendre, 1761  
~grav. Johann Simon Negges

J.4706.109 Marie-Angélique Servandoni, dite Angélique d'HANNETAIRE (1749–1822), actrice, maîtresse du vicomte Desandrouins, puis du prince de Ligne, pstl  
~grav. De La Rue

J.4706.111 Marie Caroline, dite Mimi, MURRAY (1741–1831), maîtresse du comte Cobenzl, à sa toilette, m/u. Lit.: Carlo Bronne, *Madame de Nettine*, 1969, p. 136 n.r.; Schidlöf 1964

J.4706.1113 La baronne (Louis) de VAUX, née Marie-Élisabeth de Tassillon de Terlinden (1733–1783), pstl (desc.: Jean de Vaux, Liège 1933). Lit.: *Belgisch tijdschrift voor ontheidekunde en kunstgeschiedenis*. 1936, p. 317 n.r.

J.4706.114 Un petit garçon se mirant dans le miroir, pstl, 51x54, par L.G. (Charles-Alexandre de Lorraine, inv. p.m. 16.X.1780, no. 7, 20 livres)

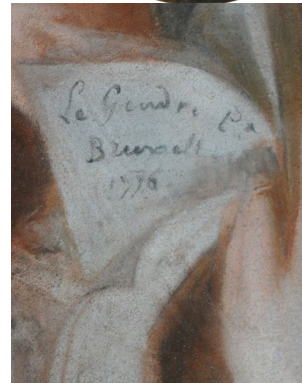
J.4706.1115 Dame de qualité, pstl/ppr, 54x45, sd ↘ “L. Le Gendre 1780” (Brussels,

Vanderkindere, 13.II.2007, Lot 39 repr., €950) φ



J.4706.1117 Une jeune demoiselle dévidant un peloton de filet, pstl, 34x38, par L.G. (Charles-Alexandre de Lorraine, inv. p.m. 16.X.1780, no. 6, 30 livres) [a/r Greuze]

J.4706.112 Homme et fille, pstl/ppr, 41x33 ov., sd ↘ “Le Gendre Pxt/Bruxelles/1776” (Monroe, Connecticut, Fairfield Auction, 20.VII.2014, Lot 163 repr., éc. fr., \$500–700) [new attr.] φv



J.4706.113 Une perdrix dans la manière Goltzius, pstl, 54x43, par L.G. (Charles-Alexandre de Lorraine, inv. p.m. 16.X.1780, no. 3, 20 livres)

J.4706.115 Portrait, pstl (P.-J. de Marneffe; Bruxelles, Mataigne, 24.V.1830 & seq., Lot 761)