

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## LE METTAIS, Pierre-Charles

Fécamp 19.VII.1726 – Paris 29.III.1759

Pupil of Boucher (after whose work he made pastel copies); Pierre-Charles(-Joseph) Le Mettais, Lemettay, or Mettay was the son of Pierre Le Mettay, an orfèvre in Paris, and his wife, Marianne Marcotte. He won the prix de Rome in 1748, and worked in Rome from 1749 to 1753, where his religious paintings show the influence of de Troy. He switched to marine painting, travelling to Turin, where a brother Pierre-Joseph was also mentioned (but is now thought to be a confusion). He returned to France and was *agréé* by the Académie royale in 1757. His names are given as Pierre-Charles at his burial at Saint-Roch, which was attended by Anton de Peters.

### Bibliography

Baudi di Vesme 1963–68; Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Gilles Chomer, “Le peintre Pierre-Charles Le Mettay (1726–1759)”, *Bulletin de la Société de l’histoire de l’art français*, 1981; Grove 1996; Guiffrey 1915, p. 362; Philippe-Jacques-Étienne-Vincent Guilbert, *Mémoires biographiques...*, Rouen, 1812, II, pp. 136f; Mariette 1851–60; Sanchez 2004, *s.v.* Mettay

### Pastels

- J.474.101 Trois académies de femmes, pstl, a/r Boucher (Joseph-Jean-Baptiste Albouy, dit Dazincourt; Paris, Joullain, 17.XII.1764 & seq., Lot 346, 16 livres 6; Jean-Baptiste-Pierre Le Brun)
- J.474.102 Étude de femme vue par derrière, pstl a/r Boucher (Lallée; Paris, Dufresne, Joullain, 24.IV.1780 & seq., Lot 38, 5 livres 9)
- J.474.103 Femme couchée sur un lit, un Satyre qui veut en approcher est repoussé par l’Amour, “dans le got du pastel, par Metay” (Paris, Remy, 21.XI.1763, Lot 217, 14 livres 1; Hamont)
- J.474.104 Quatre jolies têtes de femmes, par Mettay & Mlle de Villebrune, pstl (Neyman; Paris, Basan, 8.VII.1776, Lot 1246, 24 livres)
- J.474.105 Quatorze têtes, les unes au pastel, les autres au crayon, par Mety, Quantin & al. (Paris, Helle, Remy, 13–22.XII.1762, Lot 61, 6 livres 2; Le Clair)
- J.474.106 Tête de Bacchus, couronné de pampre & de raisins, & pendant: J.474.107 une Bacchante vûe par le dos, pstl (Bailly, Peters & al.; Paris, Helle, Glomy, 26.I.1767 & seq., Lot 64, 14 livres 1; Joullain)
- J.474.108 Jésus-Christ élevé en croix, grande composition, encre, bistre, pstl (Philippe Caffieri; Paris Chariot, Joullain, 10–17.X.1775, Lot 63 part, 6 livres 1; Alliette)