

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LOIR, Marie-Anne

Paris 10.XII.1705–11.V.1783

Also Marianne; sister of Alexis Loir (*q.v.*, including for the family background); known to, if not a pupil of, Jean-François de Troy, who left her a watch and a snuffbox in his will. A passage in Vien's memoirs suggests that she was a pupil also of Hubert Drouais. She is said erroneously to have travelled with her brother to Rome. In the 1760s she visited Pau. She was an *associée* of the Académie de Marseille in 1762 (her morceau de réception was a portrait of Dandré-Bardon).

Loir's biographical details have been clarified by Voiriot 2019 and Sadie Goode 2020 (who do not however discuss her pastels): we published here in 2014 (before Voiriot or the AKL article) the Parisian notarial document of 21.VIII.1783 (AN MC XXXI/232) which confirmed her death (she was buried at Paris, Saint-Roch) and nominated as her heirs her brother Alexis and sisters Louise-Henriette and Vincente.

The attribution of pastels to her is complicated by the fact that few if any signed examples remain, and have been confused with signed pastels by Glain (*q.v.*); there are likely to be confusions too with her brother's pastels. The example of Mlle de Harville, apparently signed on the back, is very different from Loir's oil portraits, whose compositions are quite distinctive.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Guillaume Faroult, “‘La Vielleuse’ par Marie-Anne Loir au musée de Riom”, *Bulletin de la Société de l'histoire de l'art français*, 2003, pp. 241–56; Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 294; Greer 2001; Grove 1996; Lafond 1892; Los Angeles 1976b, p. 167f; Nattier 1999, pp. 31ff; Parrocel 1890, II, p. 285f; Sadie Goode 2020; Salmon 1999a; Sanchez 2004; Tokyo 2011; Voiriot 2019; Voiriot 2024

GENEALOGIES [Loir](#)

Pastels

J.4952.101 Marie-Anne de HARVILLE (1729–1752), de la Selle en Brie, fille du marquis de Harville, morte de la petite-vérole, pstl/ppr, 54x44.5, inscr. *verso* “Portrait de dlle Marie-anne/de harville, age de dix sept ans/et demie, fait au mois d'octobre/en mil sept cent quarante six”, 1746 (Paris PC 2002–11). Exh.: Tokyo 2011, no. 19 φ



L'enfant au bourdon (Paris, Ader, Picard, 22.VI.1990, Lot 109), v. F.-H. Drouais

Jeune femme en buste, sd 1755 (Versailles, Palais des congrès, Chapelle, 2.VI.1971, Lot 81 repr.), v. Glain

J.4952.106 Femme vue de $\frac{3}{4}$ vers la g., les cheveux poudrés ornés de fleurs, corsage de velours bleu décolleté, pstl (Charles Petit de Meurville; Paris, Drouot, 26–28.V.1904, Lot 36 n.r., H1750)

J.4952.107 Femme Louis XV, collier et bracelet de perles, costume de satin jaune bordé de fourrures, pstl (Charles Petit de Meurville; Paris, Drouot, 26–28.V.1904, Lot 37 n.r., b/i)

J.4952.1075 Jeune femme tenant un masque, pstl, 39x31 (Paris, Drouot, Baudoin, 22.VI.1921, Lot 15 n.r.)

J.4952.108 Jeune femme, pstl/ppr, 54.5x44, inscr. v. “Loir” (Paris, Ferri, 24.VI.1998, Lot 46 n.r., attr., est. H4–5000, H4000)

Anon. related pastels

La marquise DU CHÂTELET, née Gabrielle-Émilie Le Tonnelier de Breteuil (1706–1749), pnt., 101x80 (Bordeaux, inv. M5848). Lit.: Lafond 1892, p. 376 n.r.; Goodman 2000, repr.

~grav. Delvaux (FD 375)

~version, pstl (château de Breteuil). Exh.: Lunéville 2017, no. 9 *bis* repr. Lit.: Charles-Gaffiot 2008, p. 98 φ



~cop., pstl (Hippolyte Walferdin; Paris, Delbergue-Cormont, 18.V.1860, Lot 59 n.r., as éc. fr., portrait de Mme du Châtelet, assise près d'une sphère, H21) [new attr., ?]