

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LEBRETON, Jean-François

Bonchamp 1761 – p.1844

Also Le Breton; pupil of Vincent and David; professeur de dessin et de perspective at the Institution des sourds-muets. The only recorded painting is a portrait (at Pontoise) which received the premier prix Montyon in 1834. A drawing dedicated by him to “Isabey père” in 1844 testifies to his friendship with another David pupil. His daughter and pupil Mme Adèle Jarry de Mancy (1794–1854) collaborated with him and published a work expounding his teaching methods. According to his biographer du Rozoir, in the “époque de sa première jeunesse, il sculpta un Christ, composa quelques tableaux d’église, et dessina au pastel plusieurs portraits.” There is no further evidence beyond the inscription that the pastel sold in 2008 is by this Lebreton, nor is any other pastel by him known so far.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Charles Gabot, *Dictionnaire des artistes de l’école française, au XIX^e siècle*, 1831; Ch. du Rozoir, in Jarry de Mancy, *Portraits et histoire des hommes utiles...*, Paris, 1841, IV, p. 249–58, p. 251; *Genava*, v–vi, 1927, p. 13

Pastels

J.4678.101 Jeune femme, robe bleue, perles et plumes aux cheveux, 44x32 ov., inscr. *verso* “Pastel par Lebreton 1791” (Royan, Geoffroy, 20.IV.2008, Lot 87 repr., est. €400–600; Royan, Geoffroy, 26.VII.2008, Lot 112 repr., est. €300–500) φα

