

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

LÉLU, Pierre

Paris 13.VIII.1741–9.VI.1810

Pupil of Boucher and Doyen; painter, draughtsman and engraver, known for religious and history paintings and landscapes and a few portraits. He travelled to Italy c.1761, c.1775, and 1789; Spain and Portugal c.1775. In 1777 he was made a member of the académie at Marseille. He exhibited in the Paris salon of 1793. In Paris on 20.I.1779 he married Angélique Prout, by whom he had two sons: Jean-Baptiste-Pierre, a composer, and Charles-Joseph, a painter. His vente p.m., Paris, Hôtel de Bullion, Poultier, Regnault-Delalande, 23.IV.1811 & seq.), included a large collection of pictures as well as “des boîtes à pastel” (Lot 414 [part]), the only indication that he may have been a pastellist. He persuaded his pupil, the 16-year old Prosper de Baudicour (c.1804), to buy the versions of Boucher’s pastels of his daughters which he claimed to have seen the master himself draw.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Grove 2000