

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### **PORTER, William**

*fl.* London 1788–1802

Portraitist in oil, miniature and pastel; according to Waterhouse, he entered Royal Academy Schools on 31.XII.1791 “aged 15”. (This may be a confusion with Sir Robert Ker Porter (1777–1842), painter, writer and diplomat who was admitted to the schools 18.II.1791.) He had however exhibited crayons from 1788 (from Oxford Street); presumably the critic of the *Bee* was being ironic when he described the five portraits in the 1788 exhibition as “All the same family, by the striking resemblance to each other”. The reviewer in the *True Briton* in 1800 however thought his small portraits in crayons “excellent”: the comment is the only indication of the medium of these works which were omitted from Jeffares 2006. They were sent to the Royal Academy 1800 exhibition from Great Newport Street. The medium is not specified for his submissions in 1799 (from Henrietta Street), 1801 (where his subjects seem to have been Scottish) or 1802 (32 Newman Street).

J.5992.116 A child, m/u, Royal Academy 1801, no. 423

### **Bibliography**

Bénézit; Sée 1911; Waterhouse 1981

### **Salon critiques**

Anon., *The bee; or, the exhibition exhibited in a new light: being a complete catalogue-raisonné of all the pictures [Royal Academy 1788]*, London, 1788

All the same family, by the striking resemblance to each other.

### **Pastels**

J.5992.101 Miss AUBIN, m/u, Royal Academy 1802, no. 453

J.5992.102 Mrs BRUN, Royal Academy 1800, no. 659

J.5992.103 Miss GOMM, Royal Academy 1800, no. 364

=?Sophia Gomm (–1817), sister of Sir William Gomm (Gomm; London, Christie's, 6.III.1914, Lot 1 n.r.) [*v. English seb.*]

J.5992.105 Miss G. GORDON, m/u, Royal Academy 1801, no. 577

J.5992.106 Mrs Inchbold [Mrs Joseph INCHBALD, née Elizabeth Simpson (1753–1821), actress], Royal Academy 1800, no. 402

J.5992.107 Miss C. JONES, m/u, Royal Academy 1801, no. 518

J.5992.108 Vice-Admiral [Thomas] MACKENZIE [(1753–1813), vice admiral of thw White], m/u, Royal Academy 1801, no. 543

J.5992.109 Mrs MARTIN [née Catherine Fanshaw], in blue dress, with her two sons [Admiral Sir William Fanshawe Martin and Henry Byam Martin], pstl, 25x20 ov. ([sitter's son] Admiral Sir William Fanshawe Martin, Bt; sale p.m., London, Christie's, 26.I.1923, as by “Porter”; 55 gns; Agnew) [attr.]

J.5992.11 Mr NUNN, m/u, Royal Academy 1799, no. 518

J.5992.111 Miss URQUHART, Royal Academy 1800, no. 592

J.5992.112 A young lady, m/u, Royal Academy 1799, no. 520

J.5992.113 A lady, Royal Academy 1800, no. 660

J.5992.114 Five portraits, crayons, Royal Academy 1788, no. 172

J.5992.115 Portrait in a highland dress, m/u, Royal Academy 1801, no. 385