

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

RESTOUT, Jean-Bernard

Paris 22.II.1732–18.VII.1797

Son of Jean Restout (*q.v.*) and Marie-Anne Hallé, he was awarded the prix de Rome in 1758 and studied there between 1761 and 1765. He was *agrégé* 1765, *reçu* 1769, professeur 1771, and seemed destined for a successful official career as a history painter until he refused to submit his works to the Salon jury and was required to resign from the Académie. His subsequent output was very small. The signed autoportrait was done while he was imprisoned at Saint Lazare during the Revolution; no doubt the absence of materials caused him to work in an unfamiliar medium. The relationship with an unsigned version is curious: even the lady shown on the snuff-box is different (Restout never married).

La Tour mentioned him with two other pastellists in his first testament of 20.X.1768 (ten months after the death of his father, La Tour's close friend): "M^{rs} Restout, Montjoye, Ensiaume partageront mes crayons de pastels et couleurs et toutes mes études qui ne seront pas sous verre ou glace et qui ne sont pas collez sur des cartons ou des toiles". Moreover one of his early biographers (François Regnault, MS, Willk-Brocard 2017, p. 188) mentioned that after having learned with his father, he had also "pour maître Latour, célèbre peintre de portrait. Cet artiste sut voir dans les précoces dispositions de son élève les talens futurs de [Jean-Bernard] Restout."

Willk-Brocard finds influences of La Tour in several of his works (among them a female portrait, 95 P, inspired by Mme Masse), and lists a portrait of his master (61 D) inferred from what appears to be a confused report of a Moitte engraving.

Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Grandjean 1988; Grove 1996; Gouzi 2000; Heim, Béraud & Heim 1989, p. 324f; Paris, Bibliothèque de l'INHA, Collections Jacques Doucet, Autographes, Carton 25. Peintres, MF BXIII, fol. 10 754-10757. *Notes sur la vie de Jean-Bernard Restout*; Pommier 1991, pp. 19–27; Princeton 1977, p. 88f; François Regnault, *Jean-Bernard Restout*, c.1796 (ms, Bibliothèque Doucet; v. Gouzi 2000, p. 461f); Rubin 1980; Sanchez 2004; Toledo 1975; Warsaw 2009; Nicole Willk-Brocard, private communication 2008; Willk-Brocard 2017

GENEALOGIES Hallé

Pastels

J.6164.101 AUTOPORTRAIT tenant une miniature, pstl, 46.5x37.5, sd v "Restout Pan 1794", inscr. "3ème de la Rép. fran. 5ème de la liberté a St Lazare" (Rouen, mBA, inv. AG 1938.14.1. P. Pote; acqu. 1938). Exh.: Rouen 2013, no. 111 repr. Lit.: Grandjean 1988, p. 326 repr.; Willk-Brocard 2017, no. 114D, repr. p. 127 Φ



Photo courtesy musée des Beaux-Arts de Rouen

J.6164.104 ~version, pstl, 40x30 (Paris, Drouot, .II.2002, vente sans catalogue; PC 2005, attr. Hoin). Lit.: Jean-Jacques Poquin, "Les Restout", *Le Marmontel*, 37, .XII.2010, p. 55 repr.; Willk-Brocard 2017, no. 115D, repr. p. 129, ?attr. [new attr. 2005, ?] Φβv



Photo courtesy www.Lagar do Olhar Feliz

J.6164.107 *Homme au chapeau noir*, pstl/toile préparé (PC 2015; Paris, *Artcurial*, 13.XI.2015, Lot 88 repr., *éc. fr.*; Paris, *Artcurial*, 20.I.2016, Lot 469 repr.), v. *Éc.fr.* .J.9.3923