

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

SABATINI y Vanvitelli, Mariana, Sra La Grua

?Madrid/Parma 1771 – Rome 1838

The daughter of the Italian architect Francisco Sabatini (1721–1797) who worked in Spain from 1760. He was promoted to the rank of lieutenant general in the Engineers, honoured as a caballero di Santiago, and appointed to the Real Academia de Bellas Artes de San Fernando. He married the daughter of his teacher, the architect Luigi Vanvitelli (*q.v.*). Their daughter Mariana, or María Ana, was admitted to the Real Academia in 1790 with the dual rank of honor and merit. Her *morceaux de réception* included a number of *têtes d'expression*. She was one of seven women who exhibited at the first public exhibition in Madrid in 1793, and is said to have worked “á pastel ó á color seco”. In 1795 in Madrid she married a soldier and diplomat, Don Girolamo La Grua y Talamanca. He was appointed to Genoa later that year, Stockholm in 1797, Parma 1801 and subsequently served in Rome, Sicily, Trieste, Malta and Sicily; his wife does not seem to have continued as an artist after their marriage.

Bibliography

Continuacion del Memorial literario, 1794; Étienvre 2006; Ozanam & Ozanam 1998; Smith 2006; Tiepolo 1999

Pastels

J.6436.101 Cabezas, pstl, Academia de San Fernando 1794