

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

SANDERS, John, Sr

fl. c.1750 – c.1783

John Sanders, or Saunders, artist in oil and watercolour and possibly pastel; exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1771 to 1774 (Great Ormond Street). His work is confused with that of his son and of another John Saunders, *qq.v.* As the entry for 1775 is for “John Sanders, Jr” (again from Great Ormond Street), it is assumed that this is the son of the 1771–74 exhibitor, who is most unlikely to be the John Saunders born in 1682. While it is tempting to assume that the addition of “Jr” is simply a clarification, and there are only two artists: (the father, John Saunders (1682–) and the son John Sanders Jr (1750–1825) who exhibited continuously from 1771), there are extant oil paintings and watercolours from 1771–74 which suggest a continental training and differ from the later paintings of Sanders Jr. Further confusion arises from a miniaturist, Joseph Saunders, who exhibited at the Royal Academy from 1778 to 1800 (some of his miniatures appear to relate to pastels by John Russell).

Bibliography

Sée 1911; Waterhouse 1981

Pastels

J6534.101 A child and dog, crayons, Royal Academy 1773, no. 267

J6534.103 A child asleep, crayons, Royal Academy 1774, no. 266