

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

SCHUNCKO, Anton

Teplá 1712 – Vienna 1770

Also Schümko, Schungho, Schunco; Antonius, Antonin etc. Bohemian painter, born near Pilsen. He was presumably the Antonius Schuncko Mahler recorded in the accounts of Kloster Böblingen in Böhmen, 8.x.1736. According to Fanti (1767), Antoni Schuncko was in the service of Graf von Ulfeld, the Austrian ambassador in Constantinople 1740–41, and Liotard became friendly with him there, learning from Schuncko “un poco meglio la maniera di dipinger con pastelli”. No pastel by Schuncko is known; Liotard was already familiar with pastel, and Fanti’s text is otherwise hostile to him.

“Herr Antonius Schuncko von Pilsen aus Böhmen” was awarded second prize in painting at the Vienna Akademie on 1.IV.1744, and was among the second class of painters in the list of academicians presented to the court in Vienna on 22.II.1745. Three years later he was married in the church of St Stephan. In the Vienna Staatscalendar for 1765 (pp. 7, 104), Anton Schuncko is listed as an Honorarius under the Vienna Academy; Antoni Schuncko appears on the same page as a painter in the Akademie, while a Franz Anton Schuncko, perhaps a son (although Valeš 2013 gives both forenames to Anton), is listed as a Mahlerey-Schätzmeister, at the same address (nächst dem rothen Thurn, in dem Schneiderischen Haus). In the 1760 edition (pp. 7, 71), Antoni Schuncko is listed among the academicians, while Johann Schuncko is listed as a Mahlerey-Beschauer und Schätz-Meister. Johann Wenzel Schuncko (1700–1763) may have been the father of Anton by his first marriage; J. W.’s brother Karl, also a Steinmetzmeister, was witness to Haydn’s marriage at St Stephen’s, 1760 (although one source gives Karl’s date of death as 1759).

Bibliography

Fanti 1767, p. 136; Mraz 2007; R&L, pp. 43, 77, 81, 709; *Franz Anton Maulbertsch und der Wiener Akademiestil*, exh. cat., Sigmaringen, 1994, p. 48; Heinz Schöny, *Wiener Künstler-Abnen: genealogische Daten u. Abnenlisten wiener Maler*, 1975, II, p. 240; Tomáš Valeš, “Michael Angelo Unterberger und seine Nachfolger im Dienst des böhmischen und mährischen Adels”, *Österreichische Zeitschrift für Kunst und Denkmalpflege*, LXVII, 2013, pp. 174–83