

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

SPILBERG, Adriana

Amsterdam c.1657–p.1697

Daughter of the German painter Johann Spilberg (or Spielberg), d. J. (1619–1690), a pupil of Govaert Flinck who preferred to live in Amsterdam but whose services were demanded by successive Palatine electors. In 1681 she moved with her mother to Düsseldorf, where the Kurfürst Johann Wilhelm offered her a palace position which she declined in order to cultivate her talent. In 1684 she married the painter Wilhelm Breekveld; he died three years later. In 1697 she was remarried, to the Dutch painter Eglon Hendrik van der Neer (*q.v.*). She was reputedly a skilful portraitist in oils and pastel (Houbraken described her as “konstig in Postil, of met Krión naar ’t leven”), but no example of the latter is known for certain.

Bibliography

Balkema 1844, p. 297; Bénézit; Jean-Baptiste Descamps, *La Vie des peintres flamands...*, Paris, 1754, II, pp. 273ff; Greer 2001; Michaud 1843; Staring 1948