

**SUBLEYRAS, Mme Pierre, née  
Maria Felice Tibaldi**

Rome 19.XI.1707–1770

The wife of the French painter herself worked initially as a painter, but being unable to tolerate the smell of oil, she turned to miniature, specialising in copies after old masters. She apparently also occasionally worked in pastel. She married Pierre Subleyras (*q.v.*) in 1739. In 1742 she became a member of the Accademia di San Luca in Rome. She also, along with Subleyras, was admitted to the Accademia dell' Arcadia in 1743, under the name of Asteria Aretusa. During Subleyras's final illness (culminating in his death in 1749), Pope Benedict XIV had asked Père Léonard de Port-Maurice to support the dying painter's family, which he did by buying one of Tibaldi's miniatures for 1000 sovereigns. Widowed, she was responsible for four children aged between 3 and 8. On the death of Père Léonard de Saint-Maurice, she was commissioned by the monks at saint Bonaventure au Palatin to make his portrait in pastel. She taught miniature at the Accademia di San Luca, where she was reçu in 1742. She subsequently travelled to Germany.

Recent studies have established a significant body of her miniatures, but no work in pastel has survived except for the copy of her husband's portrait of Benoît XIV reattributed to her in Lesur 2023, [J.702.601](#). Lesur also lists the unattributed pastels of Subleyras and his wife under the latter's name, as uncertain; they remain in this dictionary at [J.94.1092](#) & [J.94.1093](#), although the suggested authorship has been recorded in this Dictionary for some time. (Réau noted that the command of reflections and shadows in her pastels was admired, but he is copying and misreading Pahin de La Blancherie).

**Bibliography**

Bénézit; Lesur 2023; Levati 1822, V/III, p. 172; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Pahin de La Blancherie, *Nouvelles de la république des lettres et des arts*, 1787, p. 396; Petrucci 2010; Philadelphia 2000a, p. 440; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Réau 1924b; Subleyras 1987

[J.702.141](#) Cardinal Silvio Valenti GONZAGA (1690–1756), en buste, pstl, a/r Pierre Subleyras pnt., Lesur 318P or G P Pannini pnt., Petrucci fig. 1101 (Galerie Giovanni Pratesi 2010). Lit.: Petrucci 2010, I, p. 82; III, p. 882, fig. 1399 [*recte* 1299]; Lesur 2023, no. 35 MFT n.r., ?attr. φα



[J.702.151](#) Père Léonard de PORT-MAURICE ( – 1751), pstl, c.1751 (comm. p.1751). Lit.: Lesur 2023, no. 16 MFT n.r.

[J.702.181](#) Un cardinale, pstl (Galerie Giovanni Pratesi 2010). Lit.: Petrucci 2010, I, p. 82; III, p. 882, fig. 1298 repr., attr. φα

