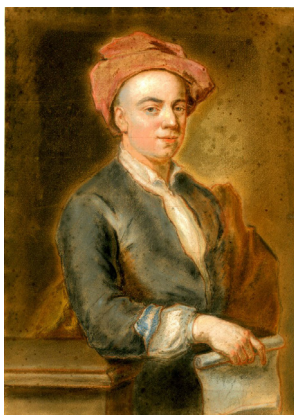


VANDERBANK, John

London 1694–1739

Johann van der Banck, known as John Vanderbank, was the son of a tapestry weaver of Dutch origins. From 1711 he was a pupil at Kneller's academy, but in 1720 he joined Louis Chéron (*q.v.*) in establishing the first St Martin's Lane academy; there were 33 subscribers, including established artists such as Louis Laguerre, William Kent and Giuseppe Grisoni; younger artists included Joseph Highmore, Bartholomew Dandridge, George Knapton and William Hogarth, with Arthur Pond one of the youngest and least prepared. Leading an extravagant lifestyle, Vanderbank was forced to quit England in 1724 to avoid his creditors, but returned by 1727 and resumed his career as a history painter, portraitist and illustrator. On 23.vi.1737 he took on John Robinson as an apprentice for five years for a premium of £157 10s. He normally worked in oil but produced many drawings; however virtually no pastels survive. His painting technique has been described as "lively", in the sense of a Hogarthian lack of finish; the portraits are brightly, sometimes crudely lit.



Bibliography

Bénézit, *s.v.* Banck; Lippincott 1983; New Haven 1979; Oxford DNB; Walpole 1828, p. 53f; Waterhouse 1981; Wright 2006; Register of duties paid for apprentices' indentures, 1710–1811

Pastels

J.7414.101 ?SELF-PORTRAIT in red coat, white wig, pstl, 58.5x43 (Sir Edward Coates; London, Sotheby's, 22.vi.1922, Lot 2 n.r., 40 gns; Newstead)

J.7414.106 Man in a brown coat, pstl/ppr, 57x42.5 (Barnard Castle, Bowes Museum, inv. 1975.31.9/BM) φ



Photo courtesy The Bowes Museum, County Durham

Artist holding a scroll of paper, pnt., sd 1729

J.7414.11 ~version, cr. clr/ppr, 38x28 (British Museum, inv. 1956.0714.63. Mrs B. M. Whitehead; acqu. 1956) φβ