

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

## Online edition

### VIEN, Joseph-Marie

Montpellier 18.VI.1716 – Paris 27.III.1809  
*Agrégé* 1751; *reçu* 1754; chevalier de Saint-Michel 1775; premier peintre du roi 1789; sénateur, comte de l'Empire 1799. Vien was at the heart of the French art establishment throughout the second half of the century. Was he a pastellist? A handful of possible examples are not founded with sufficient certainty to establish the case; three at least seem to have been confused with the work of an obscure Dutch pastellist called Hien (*q.v.*). However Vien did experiment with encaustic and other processes, exhibiting six small pictures in this medium in the 1755 salon. They have not survived; but some idea of the Tête de Vierge (Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, no. 109) can be obtained from the crayon-manner engraving by Jean-Charles François (1759), which bears the curious legend “peint par sa Majesté” [Marie Leszczyńska, *q.v.*].

A poor pastel copy of a painting of his second son caused some confusion until the original arrived in 2020. The boy was baptised in ix.1765 with Pigalle and Mme Roslin as his godparents.

#### Bibliography

Aubert 1867; Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Bonnet 2002; Cambridge 1999; Gaechtgens 1974; Gaechtgens 1976; Gaechtgens 1980; Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988; Gaechtgens 1989; Gendre 1983; Grove 2000; Le Breton 1809; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Paris 1974b; Paris 1984b, pp. 410–28; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Rice 1979; Rosenberg 1968; Sanchez 2004; Seznec & Adhémar 1957–67; Toledo 1975; Warsaw 2009; Wildenstein 1921, p. 74f; Wright 1992

#### Pastels

*Nicolo de BIELKE* (Rome, Galleria Doria Pamphij).

Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 217, no. 64 n.r., rejected [v. Hien]

LARIVE dans *Gengis-Khan* (Paris, Comédie-Française). Exh.: Bordeaux 1980, no. 185 repr.

Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 219, no. 81 n.r., ?attr. [v. Éc. fr.]

J.7568.101 ?MARIE LESZCZYŃSKA (1703–1768), pstl, 81x61 (Pierre-Marie Duval; Paris, Charpentier, 7.XII.1951, Lot 4, attr., f143,000 avec pendant: inconnu, *infra*). Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 228 n.r.

J.7568.103 Le notaire PONTIGNON de Versailles, en habit lilas-rose, gilet de brocart, pstl, 60x50, sd → “Vien 1759” (Yves Le Moyne; Paris, 5.II.1912, Lot 65 n.r., f1850). Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 226 n.r.

Jean-Marie VIEN (1765–1788), fils de l'auteur, pnt., 46x37.5 (Troyes, Boisseau Pomez, 25.IV.2020, Lot 438)

J.7568.104 ~cop., pstl, 54x43, c.1783 (Béziers, mBA, inv. 70-1-1, no. 1391. Acqu. 1970). Lit.: Cat. musée 1976, II, p. 37, no. 128; Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, no. 247 repr. [??attr.] φπ



J.7568.106 Jean-Marie VIEN, pstl gr./ppr bl., 20.8x16.3 (Béziers, mBA, inv. M.J. 87-370. Famille Vien PC). Lit.: Cat. musée 1976, II, p. 199, no. 1950; Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, no. 447 n.r., [??]attr. φ?α



J.7568.108 Le messager fidèle, pstl, 71x60 ov. (Paris, Drouot, 14.XII.1912, Lot 16). Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 226 n.r.

J.7568.109 Un dessinateur, pstl, 81x61 (Pierre-Marie Duval; Paris, Charpentier, 7.XII.1951, Lot 5, attr., avec pendant: Marie Leszczyńska, *supra*). Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 228 n.r.

*Dame* (Boston, Foryth Wickes. Turner, Cailleux). Exh.: Paris 1927a, no. 132, pl. 29 [v. Hien]

J.7568.112 Tête de Madeleine, pstl, a/r Guido Reni, 64.7x54 ov. (Langres, musée d'Art et d'Histoire, inv. 1238.81, réserve musée du Breuil. Don M. de Chambrulard). Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 221, no. 11, as pnt. φα



J.7568.114 Femme nue étendue sur des coussins, pstl (Albert Besnard; Paris, Charpentier, 31.V.–1.VI.1934, Lot 221, f210). Lit.: Gaechtgens & Lugand 1988, p. 227 n.r.

J.7568.115 Portraits, pstl, “par Viel”, Salon de Toulouse 1755, no. 91

#### Anon. related pastels

Femme qui sort des bains, pnt.

J.7568.117 ~cop., pstl, 89x66 (Chartres, Lelièvre, Maiche, Paris, 24.X.1999, repr., éc. fr., fin XVIII<sup>e</sup> – début XIX<sup>e</sup>) [new attr.] φν