

# Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

## VINCENT DE MONTPETIT, Arnauld

Mâcon 1713 – Paris 1800

Like Boze, Montpetit (or Monpetit) was an amateur inventor, winning a government award for his ideas in 1793; he also published works on both art and engineering. He was interested in the problem of fixing pastel, considering that the various inventions of Saint-Michel and others all resulted in darkening the colours of pastel, but Lorient's was the best. Montpetit's best known invention was a method of applying oil paint to the inside of glass, a development of the technique of glass transfer painting from engravings, but intended to eliminate contact between the surface of the oil painting and the atmosphere for conservation reasons rather than as a method of painting quickly. (The process interested other inventors at the time, notably a M. de La Martinière who presented his process to the Académie des sciences on 4.II.1769.)

A number of these so-called eleudoric paintings have survived, notably one of Louis XV (1774; Versailles MV 8452), and some of them have been described incorrectly as pastels. Whether the records of works which were so described but which are now lost are also of eleudoric paintings is not known.

Montpetit was a member of the Académie de Saint-Luc and exhibited there in 1774. A certain Leblanc (*q.v.*) recorded that he was a pupil of "Montpetit, Peintre du roi" in a 1784 advertisement. Montpetit's pastel (from rue du Gros-Chenêt) was shown several times at the Salon de la Correspondance in 1782. His wife and daughter seem to have worked with him, and Mme de Montpetit opened a studio specialising in eleudoric painting and preservation. After their deaths the discovery was forgotten.

### Bibliography

Bellier de La Chavignerie & Auvray; Bénézit; Chatelus 1991, pp. 24f, 46, 83ff; Guiffrey 1915, p. 398; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Lowengard 2008; Mariette 1851–60; Massing 1993; Ratouis de Limay 1946; Salmon 2004b, pp. 36–38; Sanchez 2004, *s.v.* Montpetit

### Pastels

J.762.101 Marguerite [?Véronique] LE PEYRE (1752–), jeune fille de Salency, âgée de 23 ans, la première qui ait reçu le prix de la rose, après l'arrêt du parlement, qui, en 1775, a maintenu cette belle institution, dans ses anciens privilèges, pstl, 55x45, inscr. "Veronique Lepere couronné en 1775" Salon de la Correspondance, 21.II.; 28.II.; 7.III.; 21.III.1782 (Paris PC 2002). Lit.: Ratouis de Limay 1946, as Marguerite Le Peyre; Salmon 2004b, repr. clr φ

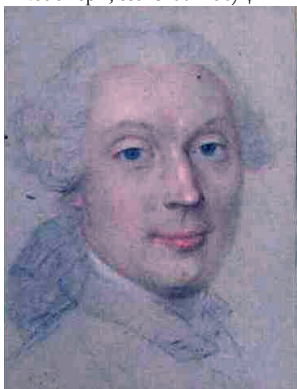


J.762.103 MARIE-ANTOINETTE (1755–1793), 1770, m/u, peint sur une vase, Académie de Saint-Luc de 1774, no. 103 (rejected by royal family; presented to Joseph II). Lit.: *Mercur de France*, .x.1770, pp. 172–74

~cop. Charles de Chatillon, *q.v.*

J.762.105 Mlle de VILAR, pstl, 40x30, s "De Montpetit" (Dr F. Collet, Paris, 1934). Exh.: Paris 1934, no. 142

J.762.106 Homme à la lavalère blanche, trois crayons [?reh. de pstl], 23.5x17.5 (Orléans, Dupuis, Semont, Pousse-Cornet, 22.X.2006, Lot 5 repr., est. €100–150) φ



J.762.108 Homme au catogan noir, trois crayons, 17x12.8 (Orléans, Dupuis, Semont, Pousse-Cornet, 22.X.2006, Lot 6 n.r.)

J.762.109 Homme, trois crayons, 17x12.8 (Orléans, Dupuis, Semont, Pousse-Cornet, 22.X.2006, Lot 7 n.r.)

J.762.11 Jeune homme, pstl, 23.5x17.5 (Orléans, Dupuis, Semont, Pousse-Cornet, 22.X.2006, Lot 8 repr., est. €60–90) φ

