BEAUCLERK, Lady Diana, née Spencer

London 24.III.1735 – Twickenham 1.VIII.1808
Daughter of the 3rd Duke of Marlborough (born in 1735, not 1734 as is often reported), Lady Diana Spencer married Viscount Bolingbroke in 1757 and was appointed lady-in-waiting to Queen Charlotte in 1761. After her divorce in 1768, she married Topham Beauclerk. She was recorded in Bath in 1776–77 (residing at 12 South Parade and 4 Russel Street). She specialised in subject pictures of children, and also made designs for the Wedgwood factory.

An amateur artist with imperfect draughtsmanship, her work as an illustrator (of Dryden and Walpole) was nevertheless admired by Reynolds and Walpole (who said she "painted well in crayons"), and engraved by Bartolozzi. She drew using a range of techniques, and a number of recorded works described as in pastel include other media. She also "drew caricatures admirably and cut them out in paper like Monsr. Hubert of Geneva" (Walpole).

She was cited (as the "Countess of Bolingbrooke" [sic]) as a satisfied client in an advertisement for Jurine's method of fixing crayons in the *Gazetteer & new daily advertiser*, 28.I.1765.

Bibliography

David Alexander, in Gaze 1997; Bénézit; Erskine 1903; Greer 2001; Grove; Hicks 2001; Oxford DNB; Cynthia Roman, "The art of Lady Diana Beauclerk", in New Haven 2009, pp. 154–69; Saur; Sée 1911; Sloan 2000; Sloman 2002, p. 200; Walpole 1828, p. xviii f; Walpole 1937; Waterhouse 1981; Index of Bath artists

Pastels

J.135.101 SELF-PORTRAIT in a Rubens costume (Blenheim). Lit.: Hicks 2001, repr. φ

J.135.103 SELF-PORTRAIT, ¾, facing, seated, holding her palette in her left hand, an upraised brush in the right, gch., pstl/ppr, 58.5x43 (Xavier Haas; New York, Anderson, 20–21.I.1927, Lot 28 n.r., $60)

SELF-PORTRAIT as Terpsichore (Donnington, Dreweatt Neate, 5.IV.2000, Lot 101, as self-portrait of Lady Diana Beauclerk), v. s.v. M. W. Peters

J.135.105 Mary (1766–1851) and Elizabeth (1766–1793) BEAUCLERK, pstl/ppr, 61x83.5, c.1780 (Farmington, Lewis Walpole Library. Mr Morrison 1911. London, Christie's, 16.V.1918, Lot 19 n.r., 18 gns; Huggins. Paris, Drouot, 30.VI.1947, Fr9800. London, Sotheby's, 16.VII.1998, Lot 30 repr., est. £5–7000; London, Sotheby's, 15.VII.1999, Lot 51 repr., est. £2–3000, £2990). Exh.: Paris 1911, no. 3; Paris 1919a, no. 2; Nice 1934, no. 410. Lit.: Sée 1911, p. 219 repr. clr; Sloan 2000, p. 239 repr.; Hicks 2001 Φ

~grav. Bartolozzi 1780

J.135.108 George Richard, 4th Viscount St John, 3rd Viscount BOLINGBROKE (1761–1824), the artist's son, learning to write, Ø76.2 rnd., c.1765 (Lydiard Park, Swindon, inv. 1992/22). Lit.: Hicks 2001, repr. Φσ

Photo courtesy Lydiard Park, Swindon

J.135.111 George Richard, Viscount BOLINGBROKE with George Selwyn's pug Raton, pstl, 73.5x58, c.1767 (Lascelles, Woolbeding House, Midhurst; London, Sotheby's, 19.XI.1970, Lot 52 repr., £550). Lit.: Arthur Oswald, "Woolbeding, Sussex", *Country life*, 15.VIII.1947, p. 331 repr. Φ

Photo courtesy Sotheby's

J.135.114 [=J.135.132] George Richard, Viscount BOLINGBROKE, in formal dress; & pendant:
J.135.115 [=J.135.133]: brother, Frederick St John (1765–1844), pstl, 44.2x33.5 (desc.: Mrs Edward Charles Ponsonby Lascelles, née Leila Winifred Leonor Kennett-Barrington (1911–1979), and her daughter Alice Leila Lascelles (1914–), Woolbeding House, Midhurst; London, Sotheby's, 19.XI.1970, Lot 63 repr., £460; Gerald M. Norman Gallery, London, c.1971; Winifred Williams, London, for Mrs Ernest W. Franklin, Charlotte, North Carolina; Hillsborough, North Carolina, Leland Little, 12.III.2025, Lot 1012 repr., unidentified, $5500; Guy Peppiatt Fine Art, Master drawings, New York, 2026) Φ

J.135.119 ~cop. (*George*), pstl, 44.5x34 (Joseph W. Haley, of Pride's Crossing, Massachusetts; Beverly, Kaminski, 27.VI.2026, Lot 127 repr., as French, 19th cnentury, unidentified, est. $500–800) [new identification] φν

J.135.116 Duchess of DEVONSHIRE, née Lady Georgiana Spencer (1757–1806), as a child, holding flowers, pstl, a/r John Russell, 59.5x44.5 (Lascelles; Woolbeding House, Midhurst; London, Sotheby's, 19.XI.1970, Lot 51 n.r.)

J.135.117 Georgiana, Duchess of DEVONSHIRE, 1778

J.135.118 =?drawing (Rachel Lloyd (1723–1803) of Danyrallt, housekeeper at Kensington Palace; legs: Countess Dowager Spencer, [née Margaret Georgiana Poyntz (1737–1814)] for Lavinia, Countess Spencer). Lit.: *Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorian*, 1971, p. 245

J.135.119 ~cop., watercolour (Royal Collection RL 13567). Lit.: Oppé 1950, no. 60; *Connoisseur*, .V.1922 repr.; Hicks 2001 repr., both as of original pastel, as at Royal Collection φ

~grav. Bartolozzi

J.135.122 Sir Everard FAWKENER (1694–1758), ambassador to the Porte

J.135.123 La comtesse de GRAMONT, née Elizabeth Hamilton (1641–1708), m/u, a/r Sir Peter Lely (W. H. Grenfell 1903). Lit.: Erskine 1903, repr. Φ

J.135.125 ?Marquis of HUNTLY [George Gordon, 5th Duke of Gordon (1770–1836)], bust, as a child, pstl/ppr, 61x46 (?Marquis of Huntly). Exh.: London 1867, no. 502 n.r. [cat. omits painter, has Beauclerc as subject and Huntly as lender]

The present Lord Pembroke [?George Augustus, Lord Herbert, 11th Earl of PEMBROKE (1759–1827), general], when a child in a frock, m/u (Wilton House 1795). Lit.: *Ædes Pembrochianæ*, 1795, p. 120, as by Miss Lisle

J.135.127 Georgiana, Countess Dowager SPENCER, [née Margaret Georgiana Poyntz (1737–1814)], m/u (Rachel Lloyd (1723–1803) of Danyrallt, housekeeper at Kensington Palace; legs: Elizabeth, Countess of Pembroke, [née Lady Elizabeth Spencer (1737–1811)]). Lit.: *Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorian*, 1971, p. 244

J.135.128 John SPENCER (1767–1831) of Wheatfield, MP, son of Lord Charles Spencer, with his dog, pstl (Antony Spencer of Wheatfield 1903). Lit.: Erskine 1903, repr. φ

St John, v. Bolingbroke

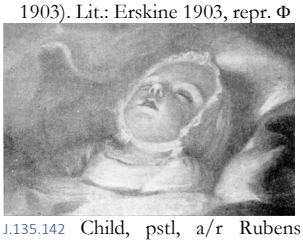
J.135.129 [?]Countess WALDEGRAVE, née Lady Elizabeth Laura Waldegrave (1760–1816), pstl/ppr, 56x44.5 (Carbisdale Castle; London, Sotheby's, 20.V.2015, Lot 38 repr., est. £600–800, £7500) φδ

J.135.131 Head of a boy wearing crimson, pstl, a/r Rubens, 34x28.5, 1745 (Lady Trevor; sale, 1762. Lascelles, Woolbeding House, Midhurst; London, Sotheby's, 19.XI.1970, Lot 50 n.r.)

J.135.137 Boy wearing a red coat, pstl/ppr, 25.4x20.4 ov. (James Thursby-Pelham. London, Christie's, 7.XI.1995, Lot 70 n.r., est. £250–350, £160. Paula Peyraud; New York, Bloomsbury, 6.V.2009, Lot 7 repr., est. $700–1000, $550) φ

J.135.139 Girl, crayons (Rachel Lloyd (1723–1803) of Danyrallt, housekeeper at Kensington Palace; legs: Elizabeth, Countess of Pembroke, [née Lady Elizabeth Spencer (1737–1811)]). Lit.: *Transactions of the Honourable Society of Cymmrodorian*, 1971, p. 244

J.135.14 Baby, asleep, pstl (Duke of Marlborough 1903). Lit.: Erskine 1903, repr. Φ



J.135.142 Child, pstl, a/r Rubens (Duke of Marlborough 1903). Lit.: Erskine 1903, repr. Φ

J.135.151 Head, crayons, a/r head at Blenheim ((Elizabeth), Lady Dowager Trevor (c.1709–1782); Bath, Trimnell, 18.V.1782, Lot 46)

J.135.152 Head, crayons, a/r head at Blenheim ((Elizabeth), Lady Dowager Trevor (c.1709–1782); Bath, Trimnell, 18.V.1782, Lot 47)

J.135.153 Head, crayons, a/r head at Blenheim ((Elizabeth), Lady Dowager Trevor (c.1709–1782); Bath, Trimnell, 18.V.1782, Lot 48)