BERNERO, Luigi

Turin 1775–1842

Luigi Bernero was the second son of the sculptor Giovanni Battista Bernero (1736–1796), from Cavallerleone, active in Turin from 1770. Luigi and his brother Vittorio Amedeo were born in 1775 and 1773 respectively (or possibly the other way round); each was active as both painter and sculptor. In 1793 Luigi was awarded the first prize in drawing at the Accademia; he was possibly a student of Laurent Pécheux. In 1794 he was admitted to the Compagnia di San Luca in Turin; three years later he and his brother were appointed directors of the guild. In 1794 he married Graglia or Margarita Calliano (1776–1838), the daughter of a furrier Bernardo and Genovefa Crosa (her brothers Raffaele Antonio and Giovanni Battista were painters); his daughter Margherita Adelaide married the engraver and painter Angelo Boucheron. One record has him in Alessandria in 1810. He was recorded as an artist in the royal service, "col titolo di Pittore di ritratti", in the Turin 1824 *Calentario generale pe' regii stati*.

The identified portraits in pastel seem to be early nineteenth century, although two unknown subjects probably belong to the Directoire period on costume grounds; one small oval is dated 1794. His inscriptions are in French, spelling his forename as Lovis.

Bibliography

Baudi di Vesme 1963–68, I, pp. 119ff; Bénézit; Turin 1980

Pastels

J.148.101 Carlo Tancredi Falletti, Marchese di BAROLO (1782–1838), pstl/ppr, 25.6x20; & pendant: J.148.102 Marchesa, née [Giulia] Juliette-Françoise-Victurnienne Colbert de Maulévrier (1786–1864), pstl/ppr, 25.6x20, inscr. *verso* "par Luis Bernero à Turin", p.1806 (Turin, Palazzo Barolo, Opera Pia Barolo, inv. 127/126). Exh.: Turin 1980, no. 249/248 repr. φ

J.148.1025 Enrico, marchese BIRAGO di Vische (1758–1806), e la sua famiglia: moglie, née Luisa Perrone (1772–1805); Luise Carola (1792–1863), Giuseppina (1794–1848), e Carlo Emanuele (1797–1862), pstl/ppr, c.1802 (Rome, Casa Museo Mario Praz. Acqu. 1942). Lit.: Mario Praz, *La casa della vita*, 1979, p. 124 n.r. φ

J.148.103 CARLO ALBERTO, re di Sardegna 1831 (1798–1849), pstl/ppr, 49.5x38.5 (acqu. San Remo, 1925, 200 lire. PC 2024; Paris, Christie's, 13.III.2024, Lot 437 repr., attr., €600–800) [new attr.] φv

J.148.105 CARLO FELICE Giuseppe Maria, duca del Genevese, re di Sardegna 1821 (1765–1831), pstl, 65x59 (Milan, Porro, 9.X.2005, Lot 3 repr.) φ

J.148.106 Un membro della famiglia COLBERT, ?fratello di Giulia di Barolo, pstl, 65x59 (Turin, Palazzo Barolo) φ

J.148.107 ?Modesto PAROLETTI, pstl/ppr, 63x50, inscr. *verso* "Fecit Anno 1818. 2 Aprilis. da/L.Bernerio/Taurinensis" (Milan, Finarte, 20.XII.2007, Lot 1159 repr., est. €1500–2000, b/i). Exh.: Turin 1980 φ

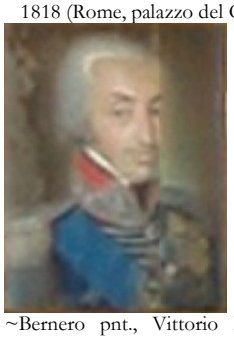
J.148.108 Gaspard della ROVERE (17 –1816), colonel de cavalerie pstl/ppr, 26x20; & pendant: J.148.1082 Marchese Luigi della Rovere (17 –18), pstl/ppr, 26x20, inscr. *verso* "Luigi Bernero fece", p.1806 (Genoa, Cambi, 19.V.2021, Lot 147 repr., est. €1000–1500, b/i) φ

J.148.1084 Giovanni Pietro SORDI (1784–1841), pstl/ppr, 19x16 ov., inscr. *verso* 1794 (Milan, Maison Bibelot, 10–24.VII.2020, Lot 48 repr., est. €350–400) φ

J.148.1085 [Paolo Giuseppe], cardinale SOLARO [(1743–1824)], pstl. Exh.: Turin 1820, no. 189 n.r.

J.148.109 Un conte SOMIS, pstl (famiglia Mattirolo, Turin). Lit.: Baudi di Vesme 1963–68, I, p. 125 n.r.

J.148.11 VITTORIO EMANUELE I di Savoia (1759–1824); & pendant: J.148.111 sua figlia, Maria Teresa, duchesa di Parma (1803–1879), pstl, 1818 (Rome, palazzo del Quirinale) φ



~Bernero pnt., Vittorio Emanuele with his family (Recconigi)

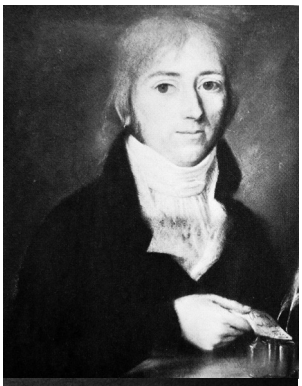
J.148.1101 ~version (Vittorio Emanuele alone), pstl/ppr, 40.4x33, p.1818; & J.148.1102 ?cop. (Royal House of Savoy; London, Christie's, 15.X.2019, Lot 69 repr./r.r., attr./circle, est. £800) φβ

~numerous repetitions in various media by Bernero & al.

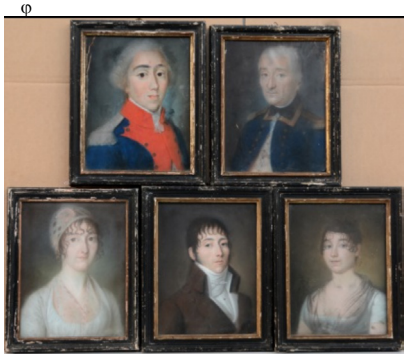
J.148.1103 Officier avec la croix de la Légion d'honneur, pstl, 25x18, sd *verso* "fait par Lovis Bernero – Alessandrie/1805" (Paris, Gros & Delettrez, 9.IV.2026, Lot 35 repr., est. €600–800, €600) φ

J.148.1105 Homme en habit bleu, pstl, 26.5x20, s *verso* "Lovis Bernero [Peintre] de Turin/fait à Alessandrie/…/le 30 janvier 1810" (Paris, Drouot, Brice, Pescheteau-Badin, 13.XII.2024, Lot 3 repr., as by Louis Bernon, est. €500–600) [new attr.] φν

J.148.112 Inconnu, pstl/ppr, 29.3x24.2; & pendant: J.148.113 inconnue, pstl/ppr, 29.3x24.2, inscr. *verso* "par Luis Bernero à Turin", c.1795–99 (PC Torino 1980). Exh.: Turin 1980, no. 247a/b repr. φ



J.148.116 Nobiluomo; & pendant: J.148.117 nobildonna, pstl/pchm, 34x27.5 ov. (Galleria Lazzarini, Turin, 2007). Lit.: Piergiorgio Dragone, *Pittori dell' Ottocento in Piemonte. Arte e cultura figurativa 1800–1830*, Turin, 2002 φ

J.148.12 Nobiluomo; & pendant: J.148.121 nobildonna, pstl, 27x20, s *verso* "Luigi Bernero fece" (Paris, Drouot, Herbette, 20.III.2016, Lot 41 repr., est. €400–700) φ

J.148.201 5 pastelli, pstl, 27.5x21.5 (Milan, Il Ponte, 7.v.2019, Lot 448 repr., est. €800–900) φ