

Neil Jeffares, *Dictionary of pastellists before 1800*

Online edition

BARDIN, Ambroise-Marguerite, Mme Pierre-François Mollière

Charmentray 20.V.1768 – Paris 26.III.1842

Portraitist in oil, miniature and pastellist; pupil of her father Jean Bardin (1732–1809), directeur de l'école de dessin d'Orléans and himself a former pupil of Lagrenée l'aîné and Pierre. Her mother was Marie-Madeleine Le Gein (c.1742–1805). On 11.II.1793 at Orléans she married Pierre-François Mollière (1753–1814), a drawing teacher and assistant of Bardin at the école de dessin; they later established a porcelain factory. A “Mlle Bardin sœur” advertised pastel and other drawing materials in the *Journal de Loiret*, 23.XI.1791 (*v. Suppliers*), from the école: Jean Bardin and his wife had at least two other children (one of whom Étienne-Alexandre, baron Bardin, was a general: the parrain at his baptism, in 1774, was the engraver Étienne Fessard), but no sister is recorded. However, Ambroise-Marguerite's marrain (she was baptised at Charmentray, 22.V.1768, two days after her birth) was “demoiselle Marguerite Bardin tante de l'enfant”. A list of the patriotic donations of citizens of Orléans (published in the *Journal de Loiret*, 4.XII.1789, p. 3) included MM. Bardin père and fils, as well as “Mme Bardin”, “Mlle Bardin” and “Mlle Bardin tante”. This suggests that the art supplier must have been Bardin's sister rather than his daughter.

Bibliography

Bénézit; Jean-Louis Ducoins, “Jean Bardin peintre à Charmentraye”, <http://www.histoireclaye77.org/ville/charmentray/jean-bardin-peintre-a-charmentray-2/>; Lemoine-Bouchard 2008; Orléans état civil; Base Léonore

Pastels

J.1254.101 AUTOPORTRAIT peignant le portrait de son père Jean Bardin (1732–1809), pstl/ppr, 78.8x66, sd ← “p. Mlle A. Bardin/1791” (Orléans, mBA, inv. 87.7.1. Paris, Drouot, Libert, Castor, 3.XII.1987, Lot 11, F58,000; don de la Société des Amis du musée d'Orléans). Exh.: Orléans 2002, no. 61; exh. *Jean Bardin (1732–1809), le feu sacré*, Orléans, mBA, 2022. Lit.: Klinka-Ballesteros 2005, no. 23 n.r. φ

