

## Online edition

**VOLAIRE, Jacques-Antoine, chevalier**

Toulon 1729 – Naples a.1802

Jacques-Antoine (as he often signed), or Pierre-Jacques (as he appears on his baptismal record), Volaire, or Volière, trained in the family workshop in Toulon, set up by his father – a painter originally from Nantes, believed to be Jacques-Auguste Volaire (1685–1768). After working as an assistant to Joseph Vernet, who came to Toulon in 1754 to paint the ports of France, Volaire travelled to Rome around 1763, becoming a member of the *Accademia di San Luca*. He specialised in landscapes and, after his move to Naples in 1767, in views of Vesuvius. The popularity of his nocturnal pictures was no doubt enhanced by the eruption of 1771. Among the confusions about this artist are the two *Masines*, medium unspiced, offered for sale at the Salon de Toulouse in 1752, which Mennet suggests may be the pastels at Agen; if so they may be by the father.

**Bibliography**

Émile Bech-Satiello, *Le Chevalier Volaire: ses joies françaises à Naples au XVIII<sup>e</sup> siècle*, Naples, 2004; Émile Bech-Satiello, *Pierre Jacques Volaire 1729–1799*, Paris, 2010; Bellier de La Chaigne et Arzay, *Bénédict, Gervey, Mennet* 1972; Paris 2005b; Sanchez 2004; Warsaw 2009

**Pastels**

1774.101 Une *Masine*, & pendant: 1774.102 une *scène Masine*, m/s, Salon de Toulouse 1752, no. 35/36 (atelier de M. Volaire, à vendre)

1774.103 "Deux vues des bords de la méditerranée, & pendant: 1774.104 groupe de pêcheurs; pttl, 52x64, s. v. "A. Volaire"/"J.-A. Volaire" (Agen, hôtel de la préfecture. Duc d'Aiguillon, château d'Aiguillon; vente 1790; acqu. duchesse d'Aiguillon, not paid, seized). Lit: "Ancienne collection d'Aiguillon", *Revue universelle des arts*, XIII, 1861, pp. 197f, "bien conservés, remarquables par la beauté des ciels"; *Inventory général des richesses d'art de la France*, 1891, v, p. 286 n.r.; "Actes de Toulon", *Archiv de l'art français*, X, 1894, p. 356 n.r.; Mennet 1972, p. 28

1774.105 *Scène maritime*, 52x65, s. "J. A. Volaire" (Héritage inv. OP-18866). Edn.: St Petersburg 2001, no. 7 repr. Lit: *Kasencas* 1960, no. 22 repr. ♀



1774.107 *Scène maritime*, pttl/ppp, 52x65, s. "J. A. Volaire", 1774 (Héritage inv. OP-18867). Götting Office, Leininger; acqu. 1929. Edn.: St Petersburg 2001, no. 8 repr. Lit: *Kasencas* 1960, no. 23 repr. ♀



1774.108 *Quatre paysages & masines*, bien peints, pttl, 54.1x65 (Paris, Chastot, Paillet, 30.XI.1778 & seq., Lot 177, divided into two sets of pendants, 204 livres, Olive)

1774.111 *Pêcheurs au bord de la mer*, & pendant: 1774.112 pttl/ppp, 53.2x65, oee s. v. "J. A. Volaire" (Lady Cavendish. New York, Sotheby's, 14.I.1992, Lot 99 repr./n.r., est. \$15–20,000, \$15,000) ♀



From *Inventory* (London)

1774.114 *Figures watching the eruption of Vesuvius at night* (London, Boehms, & VII.1993, circle) ♀



1774.116 *Pêcheurs au clair de lune*, pttl, 51.5x62, s. v. "J. A. Volaire" (Paris, Drouot, Tajan, 26.XI.1996, Lot 196 repr., attr., est. E20–30,000) ♀



1774.118 *Salons embarking for America*; & pendant: 1774.119 *Salons returning from America*, pttl, 53.5x63.5 (New York, Christie's, 24.I.2001, Lot 130 repr., est. \$20–30,000, \$26,000) ♀

