

## *Guides to Research at the Hirsch Library*

### ***Portrait of Louise-Antoinette-Scholastique Guéhéneuc, Madame la Maréchale Lannes, Duchesse de Montebello with her Children***

**by François Pascal Simon Gérard (1770-1837)**

French, 1814 A.D.

Oil on canvas, 102 3/8 x 72 1/16 inches (260 x 183 cm)

**Accession Number: 2007.1202**

In an age of expanding democracy and archeological discoveries from antiquity, the neoclassical style sought to revive the aesthetic ideals of ancient Greece and Rome. Neoclassic artists used classical forms to express their ideas about courage, sacrifice, and love of country.

One practitioner of this style was François Pascal Simon Gérard who worked under Jacques-Louis David, one of the preeminent painters of the neoclassical movement. Gérard was a much sought after court and society painter in the France in the age of Louis XVI, during the revolution, and during Napoleon's reign.

Portrayed here are Louise Antoinette Guéhéneuc and her five children. She was the wife of one of Napoleon's favored generals, Maréchal Lannes. Following her husband's death in 1809, she became lady-in-waiting to Napoleon's second empress, Marie Louise. In 1814, the year this painting was commissioned, she retired from public life and devoted herself to her children.



Before researching a work of art from the MFAH collection, it is helpful to view the work first hand. The information in books and journals will be more meaningful if you have taken advantage of the opportunity to inspect the object itself.

“Reference” books can be found on the library's main floor, and “Ready Reference” books are behind the information desk. Other books can be obtained by asking at the information desk.

#### ***General Art Surveys***

Janson's *History of Art*, 7<sup>th</sup> ed., 2007. (Chapter 24)

N 5300 .J3 2007 Ready Ref.

*Gardner's Art through the Ages*. 12<sup>th</sup> ed., 2005. (Chapter 28)

N 5300 .G25 2005 Ready Ref.

Stokstad, Marilyn. *Art History*, 1995. (Chapter 26)

N 5300 .S923 1995 Ready Ref.

#### ***Object Specific Information***

Sotheby's *Art of the Enlightenment* [auction catalog], Jan. 27, 2005

[Ask at reference desk ephemera, to be cataloged]

#### ***Gérard***

Detroit Institute of the Arts. *French Painting 1774-1830: The Age of Revolution*, 1974. (Pages 431-39)

ND 546.5 N4 D43

Royal Academy of Arts and Victoria and Albert Museum. *The Age of Neo-classicism*, 1972. (Pages 66-9, 351-2)

NX 452.5 N4 A33 1972

### ***Lannes Family and Their World***

- “Lannes, Jean.” *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 1983. Vol. VI, page 35. AE 5 .E363 1983 v. VI Ref.
- Palmer, Alan. *Marie Louise and Napoleon: The Emperor’s Second Wife*, 2001. [on order]

### ***Neoclassicism and Romanticism***

- Crow, Thomas. *Emulation: David, Drouais, and Girodet in the Art of Revolutionary France*, 2006. N 6846.5 .N4 C76 2006
- Praz, Mario. *On Neoclassicism*, 1969. N 64 .N4 P72913 1969
- Honour, Hugh. *Neo-classicism*, 1968. N 6425 .N4 H6
- Brookner, Anita. *Romanticism and Its Discontents*, 2000. N 6847.5 .R6 B76 2000
- Paulson, Ronald. *Representations of Revolution, 1789-1820*, 1983. NX 452.5 N4 P3 1983
- Vaughn, William. *Romantic Art*, 1978. N 6465 .R6 V38 1978b

### ***Napoleonic France and French History***

- Maurois, André. *An Illustrated History of France*, 1957. (Pages 107-134) DC 39 .M383
- Boime, Albert. *Art in an Age of Bonapartism, 1800-1815*, 1991. N 6757 .B64 1991
- Jones, C. *The Cambridge Illustrated History of France*, 1994. DC 33 .J66 1994

### ***Society and Customs***

- Zieseniss, Charles O. *The Age of Napoleon: Costume from Revolution to Empire, 1789-1815*, 1989. GT 860 .A34 1989
- Letheve, Jacques. *Daily Life of French Artists in the Nineteenth Century*, 1972. N 6847 .L413 1972b

This reference guide is just the tip of the iceberg on helpful resources in the library’s holdings. Many of the suggested resources above have their own **bibliographies**. Each of these may lead you to other resources that would also be helpful in your research here in the museum or in another library. To find additional resources, use keywords such as “Napoleonic” and “Neoclassicism” in the **on-line catalog** and **periodical indexes**. Once you find a few relevant titles, pay attention to the subject headings to identify similar materials.

### **Examples of useful subject headings are:**

*Gérard, François*  
*Painting, French-19th century*  
*Neoclassicism (Art)-France*  
*France, History-Consulate and First Empire, 1799-1815*  
*Napoleon I, Emperor of the French, 1769-1821*

For guidelines about writing it may be helpful to look at **Sylvan Barnet’s A Short Guide to Writing about Art**, which includes tips for looking, reading, and writing about art. Ask for it at the reference desk. We also have several citation manuals.

At every stage of your work, please allow the library staff to help you. The Library phone number is 713-639-7325.