



Smithsonian Associates

# Lost and Found: A Rediscovered Masterpiece Blooms at the National Gallery of Art

*Aaron Wile*

Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m. ET

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## Suggested Readings

### Women and Art in Eighteenth-Century France

Sheriff, Mary. *Moved by Love: Inspired Artists and Deviant Women in Eighteenth-Century France*. University of Chicago Press, 2004.

*A dense, penetrating study of the ways in which notions of artistic creativity and inspiration in eighteenth-century France were shaped by contemporary discourses on women, gender, and sexuality.*

Spies-Gans, Paris. *A Revolution on Canvas: The Rise of Women Artists in Britain and France, 1760-1830*.

*A major study of the rise of women artists in London and Paris at the end of the eighteenth century. Using quantitative methods, it challenges the long-held belief that few women worked as professional artists during this time. Special attention is paid to women history painters. Vallayer-Coster is discussed only in passing.*

### Anne Vallayer-Coster

Kahng, Eik, ed. *Anne Vallayer-Coster: Painter to the Court of Marie Antoinette*. Dallas: Dallas Museum of Art; New Haven: Yale University Press, 2002.

*This exhibition catalogue remains the only comprehensive English-language Vallayer-Coster. Includes essays on the artist's biography, her relationship to Chardin, her patrons and collectors, the status of women artists in eighteenth-century France, and her painting technique.*

## **Élisabeth Vigée Le Brun**

Baillio, Joseph, Katharine Baetjet, and Paul Lang, eds. *Vigée Le Brun*. New York: Metropolitan Museum of Art; New Haven: Yale University Press, 2016.

*The catalogue for the most recent exhibition on Vigée Le Brun.*

Sheriff, Mary D. *The Exceptional Woman: Elisabeth Vigée-Lebrun and the Cultural Politics of Art*. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1996.

*A classic feminist study of Vigée Le Brun. Explore the contradictory position of “woman-artist” in the moral, philosophical, professional, and medical debates about women in eighteenth-century France.*

Vigée Le Brun, Élisabeth. *The Memoirs of Élisabeth Vigée-Le Brun*. Translated by Sian Evans. London: Camden Press, 1989.

*Written in 1835, Vigée Le Brun’s lively memoirs, though not always accurate, are filled with gossipy anecdotes and impressions of her famous friends and clients.*

## **Adélaïde Labille-Guiard**

Auricchio, Laura. *Adélaïde Labille-Guiard: Artist in the Age of Revolution*. Los Angeles: Getty Press, 2009.

*The first English-language study of Labille-Guiard, exploring the influence of gender and the French Revolution on her career.*

Quinn, Bridget. *Portrait of a Woman: Art, Rivalry, and Revolution in the Life of Adélaïde Labille-Guiard Hardcover*. San Francisco: Chronicle Books, 2024.

*A lively biography intended for a general audience.*