

Charles-Alexandre Lesueur

Born 1 January 1778 in Le Havre (Seine-Maritime)

Embarked officially as assistant gunner 4th class on board the *Géographe*

Employed by Baudin in a private capacity as artist for his personal journal

Became one of the two principal artists for the expedition following the departure at the Île de France of the three artists officially appointed for that purpose

His drawings feature, with those of Nicolas-Martin Petit, in the *Atlas* volumes that were published to accompany the historical account of the voyage

Age on departure from Le Havre: 22

Died 12 December 1846 at Sainte Adresse, near Le Havre, after a life devoted to drawing and natural history that took him notably to the United States, where he frequented William Maclure and Robert Owen, and that eventually led to his appointment, shortly before his death, as founding director of the Museum of Natural History in Le Havre

Further information:

- Gabrielle Baglione & Cédric Crémière, *Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, peintre voyageur: un trésor oublié*, Paris, Édition de Conti, 2009.
- Jacqueline Bonnemains, “Quelques références historiques autour de l’œuvre artistique de Charles-Alexandre Lesueur (1778-1846)”, *Bulletin trimestriel de la Société géologique de Normandie et des Amis du muséum du Havre*, LXXIV, 1, 1987.
- Jacqueline Bonnemains, “Origine de la collection Lesueur du Muséum d’Histoire Naturelle du Havre”, *Annales du Muséum du Havre*, 49, septembre 1995, pp. 1-23 (revised edition – 1st edition was in *Annales du Muséum du Havre*, 38, août 1986, pp. 1-16).
- Jacqueline Bonnemains, “The Artists of the Baudin Expedition, Charles-Alexandre Lesueur and Nicolas-Martin Petit” (translated by Jean Fornasiero & John West-Sooby), in Sarah Thomas (ed.), *The Encounter, 1802: Art of the Flinders and Baudin Voyages*, Adelaide, Art Gallery of South Australia, 2002, pp. 126-139.
- Gérard Breton, “Charles-Alexandre Lesueur (1778-1846) – l’art au service des sciences naturelles”, *Annales du Muséum du Havre*, 8, 1977, pp. 1-12.
- Édouard Herriot, “Notice biographique sur Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, naturaliste né au Havre”, *La Porte Océane*, Paris, Hachette, 1932.
- Philippe Manneville, “Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, sa famille, son enfance – Jean-Baptiste Denis Lesueur”, *Annales du Muséum du Havre*, 14, 1979, pp. 1-38.
- Eugène Marcel, *Notice biographique sur M. Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, naturaliste né au Havre*, Paris, Lemale, 1858.
- André Maury, “Charles-Alexandre Lesueur, voyageur et peintre naturaliste havrais (1778-1846)”, *The French American Review*, 1, 1948, pp. 161-173.
- Bauke Ritsert Rinsma, *Alexandre Lesueur*, t. 1, *Un explorateur et artiste français au pays de Thomas Jefferson*, Le Havre, Éditions du Havre de Grâce, 2007.
- Tulard, Jean, “Charles-Alexandre Lesueur”, in J. Tulard (éd.), *Dictionnaire Napoléon*, Paris, Fayard, 1987, p. 1070.