

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE LIBRARY COLLECTION

Books of enduring scholarly value

Art and Architecture

From the middle of the eighteenth century, with the growth of travel at home and abroad and the increase in leisure for the wealthier classes, the arts became the subject of more widespread appreciation and discussion. The rapid expansion of book and periodical publishing in this area both reflected and encouraged interest in art and art history among the wider reading public. This series throws light on the development of visual culture and aesthetics. It covers topics from the Grand Tour to the great exhibitions of the nineteenth century, and includes art criticism and biography.

Nollekens and His Times

The sculptor Joseph Nollekens (1737–1823) was famed for his portrait busts of leading figures of his day. While working in Italy in the 1760s, he established contacts among a group of aristocratic British patrons, going on to become London's most fashionable sculptor upon his return to England in 1771. The draughtsman and antiquary John Thomas Smith (1766–1833) had been at one time a pupil of Nollekens. It is believed that this anecdotal two-volume biography, first published in 1828, was written as an act of revenge. Having been promised a considerable legacy in the sculptor's will, Smith was disappointed to receive only an executor's fee. The work contains little analysis concerning the sculptor's art, relating instead much gossip and anecdotes of a personal nature. Nonetheless, it presents a vivid picture of the London art world at that time. Volume 2 covers the infamous will and provides biographical sketches of Nollekens' contemporaries.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Cambridge University Press has long been a pioneer in the reissuing of out-of-print titles from its own backlist, producing digital reprints of books that are still sought after by scholars and students but could not be reprinted economically using traditional technology. The Cambridge Library Collection extends this activity to a wider range of books which are still of importance to researchers and professionals, either for the source material they contain, or as landmarks in the history of their academic discipline.

Drawing from the world-renowned collections in the Cambridge University Library and other partner libraries, and guided by the advice of experts in each subject area, Cambridge University Press is using state-of-the-art scanning machines in its own Printing House to capture the content of each book selected for inclusion. The files are processed to give a consistently clear, crisp image, and the books finished to the high quality standard for which the Press is recognised around the world. The latest print-on-demand technology ensures that the books will remain available indefinitely, and that orders for single or multiple copies can quickly be supplied.

The Cambridge Library Collection brings back to life books of enduring scholarly value (including out-of-copyright works originally issued by other publishers) across a wide range of disciplines in the humanities and social sciences and in science and technology.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

Nollekens and His Times

*Comprehending a Life
of that Celebrated Sculptor,
and Memoirs of Several
Contemporary Artists*

VOLUME 2

JOHN THOMAS SMITH



CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CAMBRIDGE
UNIVERSITY PRESS

University Printing House, Cambridge, CB2 8BS, United Kingdom

Published in the United States of America by Cambridge University Press, New York

Cambridge University Press is part of the University of Cambridge.
It furthers the University's mission by disseminating knowledge in the pursuit of
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

www.cambridge.org

Information on this title: www.cambridge.org/9781108068970

© in this compilation Cambridge University Press 2014

This edition first published 1828

This digitally printed version 2014

ISBN 978-1-108-06897-0 Paperback

This book reproduces the text of the original edition. The content and language reflect
the beliefs, practices and terminology of their time, and have not been updated.

Cambridge University Press wishes to make clear that the book, unless originally published
by Cambridge, is not being republished by, in association or collaboration with, or
with the endorsement or approval of, the original publisher or its successors in title.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

NOLLEKENS
AND HIS TIMES:
COMPREHENDING A
LIFE OF THAT CELEBRATED SCULPTOR;
AND MEMOIRS OF SEVERAL
CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS,
FROM THE TIME OF
ROUBILIAC, HOGARTH, AND REYNOLDS,
TO THAT OF
FUSELI, FLAXMAN, AND BLAKE.
BY
JOHN THOMAS SMITH,
KEEPER OF THE PRINTS AND DRAWINGS IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM.
IN TWO VOLUMES.
VOL. II.
LONDON:
HENRY COLBURN, NEW BURLINGTON STREET.
1828.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

LONDON :

PRINTED BY S. AND R. BENTLEY,

Dorset Street, Fleet Street.

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS

OF

THE SECOND VOLUME.

CHAPTER XV.

Cause of Mr. Nollekens dismissing his Confessor. Songs of his youthful days. His bed. Unquiet nights productive of charity. Liberality to his domestics. Coarseness of his food and manner of eating. Inferiority of his wardrobe, and meanness of his domestic arrangements. Character of his drawings and those of other Sculptors. His Monumental designs and models. Infirmity of his latter days and death. Attested copy of his Will and Codicils p. 1

CHAPTER XVI.

Funeral of Mr. Nollekens. His wardrobe. List of his intended bequests. Professional anecdotes of him. Modelling in full dress. Taking casts from dead subjects. His mask of Mr. Pitt. Statue erected at Cambridge. Mrs. Siddons's remarks on it. Economy and profits of the Sculptor. Bust of Lord Londonderry. Economy in fuel. Fuseli's opinion of Nollekens. His bust of Mr. Coutts; anecdotes of its execution. His collection of casts and

a

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

iv

CONTENTS.

models. Wigs painted by Lely and Kneller. Wycherley and Fielding wigs. Old system of wig-stealing. Mr. Nollekens's features and likeness in his busts. His busts of Mr. Fox 35

CHAPTER XVII.

Sale of Mr. Nollekens's collection of Sculpture. Mending antiques. Sale of his prints, &c. Account of his seated female figure. Patrons of modern English Sculptors. Antique foot. Sir Joshua Reynolds's throne-chair. List of busts, monuments, and statues, executed by Nollekens. Chronological list of all his sculptures exhibited at the Royal Academy, from 1771 to 1816. Conclusion . 61

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES AND ANECDOTES
OF SEVERAL ARTISTS AND OTHERS, CON-
TEMPORARY WITH NOLLEKENS.

	Page
ROUBILIAC	89
SCHEEMAKERS	100
RYSBRACK	114
LIART	117
CERACCHI	119
LOCATELLI	122
PROCTER	127

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

CONTENTS.

v

	Page
ZOFFANY	133
SHERWIN	139
GAINSBOROUGH	149
BACON	156
WILTON	167
BANKS	185
CARLINI	202
WARE, AND HIS COMPANIONS AT OLD SLAUGHTER'S	206
RECOLLECTIONS OF PUBLIC CHARAC- TERS SOMETIME INHABITANTS OF ST. MAR- TIN'S LANE	221
STRANGE	245
VIVARES AND WOOLLETT	249
ZUCCARELLI	254
LARON	255
MACKLIN	275
PATTERSON, THE AUCTIONEER	278
CUSSANS	284
OPIE	286
REYNOLDS	291
KEATE	300
DEARE	302
MAJOR	333
MORLAND	336
HOGARTH	340
BARRY	346
LEGAT	351

Cambridge University Press

978-1-108-06897-0 - Nollekens and His Times: Comprehending a Life of that Celebrated Sculptor, and Memoirs of Several Contemporary Artists: Volume 2

John Thomas Smith

Frontmatter

[More information](#)

vi

CONTENTS.

	Page.
HUMPHREY	357
WEST	369
HALL	389
COSWAY	392
HARLOW	408
FUSELI	415
FLAXMAN	434
BLAKE	454