**Henry Garland (‘H. Guirlandi’), 1829–1902 [Draft]**

A sculptor in marble, primarily of portrait busts and decorative ones of female figures from Classical mythology. Garland was son of William Garland, a carpenter in Exeter, where he was baptised on 10 May 1829. He was most probably born early that year given that his age at death was noted as 72. In the 1851 census his occupation was recorded, still in Exeter, as a carver and gilder but he had married and moved to London by 1856, the year and place of birth of his own son, William, as noted in the 1861 census. This lists him as a ‘Sculptor’ living at 5 John Street, Chelsea. Between 1867 and 1878 he exhibited five works at the Royal Academy from 5 King Street, Chelsea (Miss C. Evans, Portrait of a Child, Bust of a Girl, Spring [a bust], and Euphrosyne [a bust]). His address in the 1891 census, was 129 Sydney Street, Chelsea. He died at 29 Park Walk, Chelsea, on 19 February 1902, leaving effects of £63 at probate: his widow, Harriet, was his administrator.

The similarity of some of Garland’s mythological busts to examples by the American sculptor, Hiram Powers, who became celebrated in Europe after moving to Florence in 1837, suggests the fashionable, decorative market he was aiming to supply. Another way he also appealed to it was by varying his signature: using identical inscribed letter forms this can be either ‘H. Garland’ or ‘H. Guirlandi’, as a spuriously Italian *alter ego*. Online search produces more of the latter than the former, so the tactic seems to have been effective and until well after his death. On 16 April 1921, for example, the *Bucks Herald* included a sale advertisement for a bust of Queen Alexandra on a pedestal (for 10 guineas) by ‘the famous Italian sculptor, H. Guirlandi’: another version, dated to about 1883 and presented to the National Portrait Gallery in 1939, is signed ‘H. Garland’.

*Summarised from Art UK discussion on the bust of ‘Clytie’, signed ‘H.Guirlandi’ in the Russell-Cotes Museum, which also has a similar one by Hiram Powers (SC86).*

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