

John Charles Felix Rossi (1762-1839)



The sculptor J. C. F. Rossi was born in Nottingham, his father being an Italian doctor. He studied sculpture under Locatelli and became a student at the Royal Academy Schools, exhibiting there for the first time in the following year. He formed a partnership with a mason-sculptor called J. Bingley, and drawing on his early training in terra cotta, made a variety of terra cotta and stone statues. He flourished in the 1790s, winning commissions

for architectural sculpture on important buildings, and designing four monuments in St Paul's.

He began his own ceramic stone business, with a kiln, cottage and stables in Lisson Grove. Here he made the angels, now gilded, which surround the cupola of St Marylebone church, for which he was paid £300 in 1814.