

Giovanni Maria Baratta

Italian sculptor and architect
(17th century)

Son of Jacopo, older brother of Francesco and Isidoro, he is named in a document of 1651 as "Magister Joannes Maria Baratta qm. Iacobi de loco Montis Marcelli Lunen, Sarzanen.". He went to Rome with his brother Francesco. There is no news until 1644, the year in which Cardinal Camillo Pamphili, who had taken him in great sympathy and "always carried it forward because he had advanced in architecture", employed him at the villa Pamphili on the Janiculum. The villa was designed by Algardi and the part that Baratta had there has not yet been established. The same patron occupied it, always under the Algardi, at the restoration of S. Niccolò da Tolentino from 1651. After the death of the Algardi (1654), Baratta finished the church by designing the beautiful Baroque facade. Also Cardinal Camillo Pamphili commissioned him to decorate the Villanova chapel in the church of S. Agostino, richly adorned with reliefs and statues of Ercole Ferrata, Domenico Guidi and Giuseppe Peroni. In 1660 he became a member of the Academy of S. Luca and in the same period he was assistant, together with Antonio del Grande, of C. Rainaldi for the completion of the church of S. Agnese in Piazza Navona; on the contrary, the project (about 1666) of the towers is attributed to Baratta. He would also have worked at the Pamphili palace in Piazza Navona.

The date of his death is not known, but he survived his brother Francesco and was still alive when Passeri remembered him as "architect" between the years 1673 and 1679.

by Hugh Honour - Biographical Dictionary of Italians - Volume 5 (1963)

Translated from:

[http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/giovanni-maria-baratta_\(Dizionario-Biografico\)](http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/giovanni-maria-baratta_(Dizionario-Biografico))