

2018 –19 EXHIBITION PROGRAMME

Over the next two years the Rembrandt House Museum will be staging a varied programme of exhibitions. In 2018, for example, we will encounter Rembrandt as a people watcher and Rembrandt as the source of inspiration for the French avant-garde. In 2019 we will mark the 350th anniversary of his death and look back on his life and work as part of the national celebrations of *Rembrandt and the Golden Age*. In four special anniversary exhibitions we will present Rembrandt as a networker and maker, give an impression of the museum's 108 years of collecting and look at the Rembrandt House through the eyes of contemporary artist Folkert de Jong.



Rembrandt the People Watcher

Etchings from the Rembrandt House Collection

Part 1: 3 March – 27 May 2018

Part 2: 2 June – 2 September 2018

Rembrandt was a keen observer. He wanted to know what moved people, to capture their dramas, large and small. In the spring and summer, the Rembrandt House Museum is staging a two-part exhibition with highlights from its collection of etchings. At its heart will be Rembrandt's portrayal of people. Loving mothers with children playing, beggars and street musicians, old people with distinctive heads – in this exhibition you can look over Rembrandt's shoulder.

The Rembrandt House owns many of Rembrandt's etchings of scenes from everyday life. They are striking in their directness and the loose, sketchy manner, and attest to Rembrandt's remarkable powers of observation. As works on paper are fragile and cannot be exposed to the light for too long, this exhibition will be in two parts, each with a different selection of etchings.



Rembrandt in Paris

Manet, Meryon, Degas and the Rediscovery of Etching (1830-90)

21 September 2018 – 6 January 2019

Many French avant-garde artists, Impressionists and Post-Impressionists, including Manet, Meryon and Degas looked to Rembrandt. They saw him as an anti-academic forerunner, an artist who was able to capture the world around him directly, without worrying about the traditional rules of art – particularly in his etchings. Rembrandt inspired many artists to take up the etching needle, and this ultimately led to the revival of French etching.

This exhibition showcases Rembrandt's major influence on etching in nineteenth-century Paris. It features the most magnificent views: impressive landscapes, views of the city and observations of people – all in the spirit of Rembrandt. The Rembrandt House will be presenting two superb new acquisitions in this exhibition: an etching by Manet and an early drawing by Degas.

2019: The Year of Rembrandt and the Golden Age

As part of the national celebration of *Rembrandt and the Golden Age* there will be special activities and exhibitions throughout the Netherlands. The Rembrandt House Museum, the Rijksmuseum, Museum de Lakenhal, the Mauritshuis, Amsterdam Museum and the Fries Museum have special programmes focusing on the master himself.



Rembrandt's Social Network

Family, Friends and Acquaintances

1 February – 19 May 2019

The Rembrandt House's staging of *Rembrandt's Social Network* marks the start of Rembrandt Year 2019, three and a half centuries after his death. This exhibition will be devoted to Rembrandt's friends and acquaintances and the role they played in his life and work – for even a great artist like Rembrandt was no lonely genius. A good networker, he used his social network actively and determinedly. He had a family and friends who helped him, who bought his paintings, who lent him money and challenged him artistically.

Rembrandt's social network will be explored through some major figures in his life – his childhood friend Jan Lievens, the art connoisseur Jan Six, Abraham Francen, who stood by him in difficult times, artist friends such as Roelant Roghman and, of course, his wife's family, the Uylenburghs, his 'blood relations'. The informality of the paintings, drawings and prints is striking and the exhibition includes work by Rembrandt that has rarely if ever been seen in the Netherlands.



Highlights?

108 Years of Collecting by the Rembrandt House

7 June – 1 September 2019

The Rembrandt House is not just Rembrandt's former home and workshop; for more than a century it has been a museum with its own collection. The collection consists primarily of works on paper. Rembrandt's etchings are of course well represented, but the museum also has prints by his predecessors and contemporaries as well as by modern and contemporary artists who were inspired by Rembrandt.

This exhibition will feature the most remarkable examples from the museum's collection. Discover the surprising selection of old and new, big and small, fine and sketchy. You will see work by such artists as Rembrandt, Hercules Segers, Edgar Degas and Pablo Picasso, and also by Horst Janssen, Willem den Ouden, Charles Donker and Glenn Brown.



Rembrandt Laboratory

Rembrandt's Technique Unpicked

21 September 2019 – 16 February 2020

How did Rembrandt make his paintings and etchings? And how do we go about investigating this today? In the autumn of 2019, Rembrandt's former workshop will be transformed into a laboratory-like setting, in which the new insights and the master's secrets will be revealed. Follow Rembrandt's hand as he painted; see what was added to the painting by others and consider the dilemmas of researchers and conservators.

This exhibition will bring the world of research into materials and techniques to life. In recent years scientists and restorers have subjected various works of art by Rembrandt to the latest analytical methods. This has often produced surprising and ground-breaking results. Now visitors will be able to experience the scientific methods and techniques for themselves, in the place where the works of art were made.

This exhibition is staged in collaboration with the Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam.



Folkert de Jong

The Perception of Rembrandt

1 October 2019 – 29 March 2020

In the autumn of 2019, the internationally-renowned Dutch sculptor Folkert de Jong (1972) will take over Rembrandt's former home and workshop. He is fascinated by today's need to re-experience the past. In the museum he will go in search of the DNA of the Rembrandt House: exactly what that is, and how do we see (invisible) traces of the residents and Rembrandt himself?

This quest for the history of the place will engender new works of art that will occupy a subtle place in the house, giving Folkert de Jong the chance to show how Rembrandt is portrayed in film and theatre, for example. He will create an installation in the courtyard around Rembrandt's bankruptcy and the inventory of his estate.

Folkert de Jong's research coincides with the investigation the museum team is conducting into the museum presentation ahead of the expansion and restoration of the Rembrandt House.