

## Exhibitions 2021 | The Rembrandt House Museum



### **New Acquisitions in The Rembrandt House Museum**

From February 2021

From the reopening of the museum, we will present a number of new acquisitions – gifts, long-term loans and purchases – crisscrossing through the permanent installation in Rembrandt's old house. Come get to know remarkable paintings by Rembrandt's pupils and associates, and let yourself be surprised by contemporary art in unexpected places.

### **Back to Then: Rembrandt's Courtyard**

From April 2021

At the beginning of 2021 a new chapter will be added to the story of Rembrandt's house: the inner courtyard will be set up based on historical sources. This was the place where among other things the cesspool was and where Rembrandt went to use the outhouse. The completion of the renovation is anticipated in April.

### **Hansken, Rembrandt's Elephant**

1 May – 25 July 2021

Hansken was the most famous elephant in the seventeenth century. The only elephant in Europe at that time, she travelled to markets, fairs and courts. When Hansken was in Amsterdam Rembrandt saw her and drew her a number of times—a perfect excuse for The Rembrandt House Museum to bring Hansken's story to life again in this exhibition for young and old.

Hansken's story is amazing, but at the same time moving. She had to endure a great deal during her life; she was forced to make long journeys and perform very frequently. This exhibition will also consider animal welfare and suffering from a contemporary perspective. *Hansken, Rembrandt's Elephant* features drawings and etchings by Rembrandt and his contemporaries, paintings and a digital map on which you can trace Hansken's route through Europe. Astonishingly, Hansken's skull has been preserved and will be brought in from Italy especially for this exhibition.

**Hello Rembrandt!**

14 August – 28 November 2021

*Hello Rembrandt!* is an interactive exhibition for young explorers from approximately 7 to 12 years old. Get to know Rembrandt's masterpieces by looking and doing. Try out Rembrandt's lighting, see how many layers a painting is built up, or dive into a pigment cabinet with all the pigments that Rembrandt used to make his paint. Through various interactive components and digital screens and a photo booth with Rembrandtesque lighting you can learn more about how Rembrandt went to work. What better place to do that than in Rembrandt's own home? From the very start the visit feels like an adventure.

*Hello Rembrandt!* was initiated and developed by the Mauritshuis, Den Haag and was presented there in the summer of 2019.

**Hat on for Rembrandt**

14 August – 28 November 2021

In *Hat on for Rembrandt* photographic portraits of children are paired with etchings by Rembrandt. In these artworks you'll see the most beautiful, crazy and most extravagant head coverings. This series of photos was the product of the multi-year art project Hat on for Rembrandt by Stichting Kunsteducatie De Rode Loper op School (The Red Carpet at School Art Foundation). Elementary school children designed a hat and had their portraits taken, in the spirit of Rembrandt, by photographer Marije van der Hoeven. The results are playful, moving, and surprising. The proud young creators reflect on who they may have been in the past.

*Hat on for Rembrandt* is an initiative by Stichting Kunsteducatie de Rode Loper op School. Many thanks to Amsterdam Fonds voor de Kunst and Fonds voor Cultuurparticipatie.

**Raw. The Aversion to Idealization**

18 December 2021 – 10 April 2022

Showing things as they are, not idealizing – that is the core of the work of Rembrandt's work, but also of many artists working today. They look with the same observance and unfiltered gaze at people and the human body, but then nearly four hundred years later. The group exhibition *Raw. The aversion to idealization* showcases the work of eleven contemporary artists, including Melanie Bonajo, Natasja Kensmil, Rineke Dijkstra, Alex Farrar and Verena Blok. Although their art takes various forms – from painting, photography and video art to three-dimensional installations – they have something important in common: in their work they challenge taboos about the body and question (prevailing) beauty ideals. Their art is honest and unenhanced. *Raw. The aversion to idealization* is the first in a new series of exhibitions of contemporary art in The Rembrandt House Museum.