

TECHNICAL ART HISTORY COLLOQUIUM

Genre Paintings: Beneath the Surface



Detail of Jan Steen, 1625/1626 – 1679,
A Pig Belongs in the Sty, c. 1674 – 1678, Mauritshuis, The Hague

The Technical Art History Colloquium is organised by Sven Dupré (Utrecht University and University of Amsterdam, PI ERC ARTECHNE), Arjan de Koomen (University of Amsterdam, Coordinator MA Technical Art History), and Abbie Vandivere (Paintings Conservator, Mauritshuis, The Hague & University of Amsterdam, Coordinator MA Technical Art History). Monthly meetings take place on Thursdays, usually in Utrecht and Amsterdam. The sixth edition of the Technical Art History Colloquium will take place at the Mauritshuis, The Hague.

Date and time: Thursday October 13, 2016, 15:00 – 16:00 (presentations)
16:00 – (visit to the exhibition)

Location: Mauritshuis, Plein 29, The Hague
Room: Kunstwerkplaats (next to Exhibition)

Lectures by:

Dr. Abbie Vandivere, Paintings Conservator, Mauritshuis
Dr. Elmer Kolfin, Specialist in Dutch Art 1500-1800, University of Amsterdam

Followed by a visit to the exhibition:

At Home in Holland:
Vermeer and his Contemporaries from the British Royal Collection

**In order to ensure that you will be accommodated, please RSVP
by Thursday October 6: a.vandivere@mauritshuis.nl**

Please specify whether or not you would like to visit the exhibition at 16:00.

Admission to the lectures is free, but limited to 30 people.

20 attendees of the colloquium will receive timed entry to the exhibition at 16:00.
Please bring your Museumkaart or ICOM pass.
The €2.50 exhibition surcharge will be waived.

Presentation: **Beneath the Surface: Technical examination of genre paintings at the Mauritshuis** *Abbie Vandivere*

Dr. Vandivere will present some technical information that was gathered for the forthcoming catalogue *Genre Painting in the Mauritshuis*. The museum's paintings conservators have examined 84 works by 41 artists. They investigated whether it was possible to draw a parallel between technique and the subject matter that distinguishes 'high' and 'low' genre paintings (*burgerlijke genre* and *boerengenie*). Similarities and differences between each part of the layer structure – the support, preparatory layers, underdrawing and the paint layers – will be discussed.

Presentation: **Humour in Genre Paintings** *Elmer Kolfin*

Dr. Kolfin will elaborate on the correlation between iconography and technique, then will discuss humour in genre paintings.

Exhibition: **At Home in Holland:
Vermeer and his Contemporaries from the British Royal Collection**

A royal visit from Great Britain: in the autumn of 2016, the Mauritshuis will exhibit a selection of seventeenth-century Dutch paintings from the British Royal Collection. The selection contains representations of daily life as depicted by painters of the Dutch Golden Age, and offers an exceptional chance to see over twenty masterpieces from the Royal Collection, the largest loan of paintings to a Dutch museum to date. The Royal Collection, held in trust by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, contains unique highlights from the oeuvres of famous painters such as Gerard ter Borch, Pieter de Hooch, Gabriel Metsu, and Jan Steen. The highlight of the exhibition is *The Music Lesson* by Johannes Vermeer. *At Home in Holland* will be on view at the Mauritshuis until 8 January 2016.



<https://www.mauritshuis.nl/en/discover/exhibitions/royal-collection/>

Upcoming TAH colloquia:

- 17 November 2016 (Amsterdam)
- 12 January 2017 (Amsterdam)
- 9 February 2017 (Utrecht)

The format of the colloquium is open, but there will always be substantial time for audience discussion. All those interested are welcome.

For more information, please contact j.briggeman@uu.nl

To RSVP for the October 13 colloquium, please contact: a.vandivere@maurithuis.nl