Close Encounters (The Hague, 22 Sep 22)

RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History, The Hague, Sep 22, 2022
Deadline: Mar 1, 2022

RKD - Netherlands Institute for Art History

Call for Papers
Close Encounters: Cross-Cultural Exchange between the Low Countries and Britain 1500-1800

22 September 2022 (Deadline 1 March 2022; Call opens 23 December 2021)
The Hague, RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History
Academic committee: Karen Hearn (University College London), Angela Jager (RKD), Sander Karst (University of Amsterdam), Rieke van Leeuwen (RKD), David A.H.B.Taylor (Independent; previously National Trust and National Galleries Scotland) and Joanna Woodall (Courtauld Institute of Art, London)

The risks and challenges of migration are of compelling interest today. Over the last thirty years, research on early modern artists' migration and on cultural exchange between the Low Countries and Britain has advanced rapidly, and has addressed many themes. The Dutch and Flemish artists' communities in London, and the careers of individual artists at the English/British and Scottish courts, in particular, have received attention, as has the history of the collecting of Netherlandish art in the UK.
On 22 September 2022, a symposium at the RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History will mark the launch of the heavily annotated and illustrated digital English language version of Horst Gerson's chapter on 'England' from his Ausbreitung und Nachwirkung der holländischen Malerei des 17. Jahrhunderts of 1942 (The Dispersal and Legacies of Dutch 17th-Century Painting). For historians of Dutch 17th-century painting, in 1942, Gerson's study of the integration of Dutch art in Britain was largely uncharted territory, although earlier British art historians, including Horace Walpole and C.H. Collins Baker, had been well aware of the involvement of Netherlandish migrants and visitors in art in the British Isles. The launch of the translated and annotated version of Gerson's text marks the perfect occasion to discuss, contextualize, and rethink his original ideas in the light of present and developing knowledge.
The organizers welcome unpublished contributions on a broad range of areas relating to Dutch and Flemish artists, artisans and art production in Britain. These include: painting, drawing, graphic arts, tapestry, sculpture and architecture, collecting and the art market, as well as the contribution of Dutch and Flemish migrants to many forms of material culture.
Papers will be 20 minutes long, and might address the following themes and questions:
• Fresh approaches to the careers of practitioners from the Low Countries at the English/British and Scottish courts, and in UK urban centres (including monographic studies).
• How did those courts and urban centres function as hubs of cross-cultural exchange between individuals, and of production?

• Less-studied works by Dutch and Flemish artists and artisans who were active in Britain between 1500 and 1800.
• What were the workshop practices and techniques employed by Dutch and Flemish artists and artisans in Britain, and how did these inter-act with local artistic traditions and impact on technical and art literature?
• What were the social networks and professional relationships that linked and supported Netherlandish and British makers, art dealers and collectors?
• What was the market for Dutch and Flemish artistic goods in Britain, and how did it develop over time?

Proposals

Please submit a preliminary title, abstract (max. 300 words) and a short CV to Angela Jager (jager@rkd.nl) and Rieke van Leeuwen (leeuwen@rkd.nl) before 1 March 2022. Speakers will be notified by 1 April 2022. Selected presentations will be considered for publication.

Close Encounters will be a hybrid symposium to allow for national and international COVID-19 restrictions. Speakers and attendees may choose whether to participate in person or online. For those presenters who decide to come to The Hague, travel and accommodation expenses will be covered (in consultation with the organization).

Reference:

CFP: Close Encounters (The Hague, 22 Sep 22). In: ArtHist.net, Jan 5, 2022 (accessed Nov 24, 2026), <https://arthist.net/archive/35607>.