

# Provisional Programme - Summer School 2024

*Museum objects as evidence: challenging the narrative*  
**Unseen makers, unseen owners, untold stories**

Rijksmuseum & Bard Graduate Center

8 July – 19 July 2024

## GENERAL PLANNING & COORDINATION

**Barbara Tedder** (Manager Academic Programmes, Rijksmuseum)

## PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

**Idelette van Leeuwen** (Head of paper and photo conservation, Rijksmuseum)

**Eveline Sint Nicolaas** (Senior Curator of History, Rijksmuseum)

**Lea Grüter** (Provenance specialist WWII, Rijksmuseum)

**Ittai Weinryb** (Associate Professor of Art History and Material Culture, Bard Graduate Center)

## Monday 8 July - Introduction

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw Room B (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

### Morning

8:30	Opening & registration
9:00	Welcome by Taco Dibbits (General Director, Rijksmuseum)
9:05	INTRODUCTION of participants through objects by Summer School Committee: Barbara Tedder, Idelette van Leeuwen, Eveline Sint Nicolaas, Lea Grüter and Ittai Weinryb
10:00	TOUR of the Atelier building and RCE apparatus 'science for art historians'
11:00	KEYNOTE: Multidisciplinary approaches to the object by Ittai Weinryb
12:00	LUNCH BREAK

### Afternoon

13:00	TOUR: History of the Rijksmuseum, its collection and shifting focus. Visit to the Galleries of the Rijksmuseum with focus on Gallery of Honour and the Nightwatch by Rembrandt, with Valika Smeulders (Head of History, Rijksmuseum) and Esther van Duijn (Conservator paintings, Rijksmuseum).
15:00	COFFEE in Picnick
15:45	WORKSHOP: Blueprint (including a visit to the library after coffee before start of the workshop)
17:30	End of the programme

## Tuesday 9 July - Reading the object

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

### Morning

8:30	COFFEE
9:00	WORKSHOP: Material, form, function: joint study of five objects from the Rijksmuseum collection, selected for the exhibition 'Daily life in the 17th century' (2025) by Martijn de Rooij (Anthropologist Rijksmuseum), Maartje Brattinga (Curator of Glass, Rijksmuseum), Marijn Stolk (Archaeologist, Rijksmuseum)
10:30	SEMINAR by the curatorial team of the exhibition 'Daily life in the 17th century' (2025). An interdisciplinary look at the 17th century.

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

*Location: Rijksmuseum Main Building (Museumstraat 1, Amsterdam)*

Afternoon

13:00 TOUR: Can you read 'gender' from objects? Visit to the Summer exhibition 'Point of View'. Gender in the Rijksmuseum collection' with the curatorial team: Maria Holtrop (Curator of History, Rijksmuseum), Charles Kang (Curator of Eighteenth- and Nineteenth-Century Drawings, Rijksmuseum) and Marion Anker (Academic Assistant History Department, Rijksmuseum)

14:30 COFFEE (Picknick)

15:00 'Point of View' and school project (Vocational Education) by Merel Brugman (Educator, Rijksmuseum)

16:00 Reflection & Discussion

17:00 End of the programme

**Wednesday 10 July - Biography of the object**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Main Building (Museumstraat 1, Amsterdam) and Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

Morning

8:30 COFFEE

9:00 OBJECTS IN FOCUS: The biography of a diamond. Visit to gallery 1.17 where the Banjarmasin diamond is on display with Harm Stevens Curator of History, Rijksmuseum) and Suzanne van Leeuwen (Curator and Conservator of Jewelry, Rijksmuseum)

10:30 WORKSHOP Jewelry & Diamonds by Suzanne van Leeuwen and Ellen van Bork (Conservator of Metals, Rijksmuseum)

12:00 LUNCH

Afternoon

13:00 Walk to the Jewish Cultural Quarters

13:30 TOUR: Unseen owners. What can the object tell us about its pre-museum history and significance for people and their experiences? Visit to exhibition 'Robbed' in collaboration with the Jewish Cultural Quarter, with Mara Lagerweij (Provenance specialist WWII, Rijksmuseum), Lea Grüter (Provenance specialist WWII, Rijksmuseum) and Julie Marthe Cohen (Curator Jewish Cultural Quarter)

17:00 Reflection & Discussion

18:00 End of the programme

**Thursday 11 July - Objects as evidence**

*Location: CCNL, Amersfoort*

Morning

8:30 Departure to CCNL

9:30 OBJECTS IN FOCUS: Unseen Fingerprints found on 3D photography ceramics, researched in collaboration with the Forensic Institute of the Netherlands, by Dzemila Sero (Migeliën Gerritzen Fellow, Rijksmuseum)

OBJECTS IN FOCUS: Unseen makers. Objects made by people in slavery, by Stephanie Archangel (Curator of History, Rijksmuseum) and Eveline Sint Nicolaas (Senior Curator of History, Rijksmuseum)

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

Afternoon

13:00 OBJECTS IN FOCUS: A 'tronco' or multiple footstock. How can material-technical research challenge the existing narrative? By Marta Dominguez Delmás (Dendrochronologist, Guest Researcher Rijksmuseum) and Stephanie Archangel (Curator of History, Rijksmuseum)  
OBJECTS IN FOCUS: Findings from shipwrecks, how can they challenge the narrative? by Jeroen ter Brugge (Curator of maritime collections, Rijksmuseum)  
16:00 Reflection & Discussion  
17:00 End of the programme

#### Evening

18:30 GROUP DINNER (location TBD)

### **Friday 12 July – Damage, loss, and decay**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

#### Morning

8:30 COFFEE  
9:00 OBJECTS IN FOCUS: To keep or not to keep, the value of loss and decay. Marjolein Koek (Conservator of textile, Rijksmuseum) and Lea Grüter (Provenance specialist WWII, Rijksmuseum) about research and treatment of costumes made of fragile material  
11:00 Rijksmuseum Go Green project: the rediscovery of old restoration methods on a non-chemical base (Han Zhou, PhD candidate, AHM, University of Amsterdam)  
12:00 LUNCH BREAK

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

#### Afternoon

13:30 OBJECTS IN FOCUS: Furniture Conservation & Contested materials: ivory, tortoise, tropical wood, and mother of pearl, by Alexander Dencher (Curator of Furniture, Rijksmuseum), Iskander Breebaart (Conservator of Furniture, Rijksmuseum) and Cynthia Kok (Mellon Fellow, Rijksmuseum) followed by a visit to the Galleries.  
OBJECTS IN FOCUS: The portraits of the Governors General and the story of their poor condition. Gallery 1.5 with Harm Stevens (Curator of History, Rijksmuseum)  
17:00 Reflection & Discussion  
18:00 End of the programme

### WEEKEND

### **Monday 15 July - Issues of authenticity**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

#### Morning

8:30 COFFEE  
9:00 WORKSHOP 3d scanning by Frans Pegt (Photographer, Rijksmuseum)  
  
WORKSHOP Challenging the Museum's narrative of Authenticity and Exploring parallel object realities through innovative storytelling technologies. (e.g., restitution of the Kandy Canon to Sri Lanka) *Speakers to be confirmed*

11:30 Reflection & Discussion with Jan de Hond (Curator of History, Rijksmuseum and involved in the Colonial Restitution Project)

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

### Afternoon

13:00 TOUR: The authenticity of the real object and the absence of its original religious and cultural context. Visit to the Asian Pavilion and Medieval Galleries with Menno Fitski (Head of Asian Art, Rijksmuseum), Ching-Ling Wang (Curator Chinese Art, Rijksmuseum) and Matthias Ubl (Curator Early Netherlandish, Italian and German Paintings and Stained Glass, Rijksmuseum)

16:00 Reflection & Discussion

17:00 End of the programme

## **Tuesday 16 July - Reconstructing the object**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

### Morning

9:00 WORKSHOP: Reconstructing 17<sup>th</sup> century iron gall ink and drawings with Birgit Reissland (Senior researcher, RCE) and Idelette van Leeuwen (Head of paper and photo conservation, Rijksmuseum).

11:00 Looking at 17<sup>th</sup> century ink drawings; What did 17th century ink drawings look like when they were first drawn? Does the change in appearance affect how we see them now?

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

### Afternoon

13:00 Original sound? What does it take to reconstruct an Antwerp virginal from 1640. (BK-KOG-595, attributed to Ioannis Ruckers); Can we recreate the original sound using a reconstruction of a historical instrument. Tamar Hestrin-Grader (PhD Candidate, ACPA, Universiteit Leiden) a.o.

16:00 Reflection & Discussion

17:00 End of the programme

## **Wednesday 17 July - Meaning through display**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

### Morning

9:00 TOUR: Women & Rijksmuseum: towards a balanced representation on display. We revisit the Gallery of Honour in search for women related objects and stories, with Marion Anker (Scientific Researcher at the History Department, Rijksmuseum) & Jenny Reynaerts (Chair project Women in the Rijksmuseum)

WORKSHOP: Change of tone and function of the text labels Rijksmuseum, Wieneke 't Hoen (Senior Educator, Rijksmuseum) plus workshop on writing your own label.

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

*Location: 'Huis Trompenburg' in 's-Gravenland*

### Afternoon

13:00 Departure by coach from Rijksmuseum

- 14:00 The house of a naval hero? Visit to the original residence of admiral Cornelis Tromp 'Huis Trompenburg' in 's-Gravenland with Jeroen ter Brugge (Curator of Maritime Collections, Rijksmuseum)
- 16:00 Reflection & Discussion
- 17:00 End of the programme, return to Amsterdam

#### **Thursday 18 July - Reimagining the object**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

##### Morning

- 8:30 COFFEE
- 9:00 Intangible Heritage: Oral Sources in the Rijksmuseum, had can the add to the museum narrative? By Eveline Sint Nicolaas (Senior Curator of History, Rijksmuseum)
- 12:00 LUNCH BREAK

##### Afternoon

- 13:00 Intangible Heritage: Smell or Olfactory Storytelling in the Rijksmuseum Snuffboxes in the Rijksmuseum collection by Josephine Koopmans (Huizinga Fellow, Rijksmuseum and associated to Odeuropa) followed by a visit to the galleries and workshop.
- 16:00 Reflection & Discussion
- 17:00 End of the programme

#### **Friday 19 July - Thinking of the future**

*Location: Rijksmuseum Ateliergebouw (Hobbemastraat 22, Amsterdam)*

##### Morning

- 8:30 COFFEE
- 9:00 EPILOGUE: 'So where do objects get us? Bard Graduate Centre
- 10:00 Presentation of so far unseen narratives in the Rijksmuseum for Board of Directors, recommendations from Summer School candidates for the Redesign of the Rijksmuseum (2027-).
- 12:00 LUNCH BREAK
- 13:00 End of the programme

\* Please note that although we do not intend to change the programme and the line-up of speakers, alterations may occur due to unforeseen circumstances.

