



JULY–SEPTEMBER 2025

HOW CONTRIBUTIONS HELPED

The Rijksmuseum is for everyone, but we would be nowhere without our benefactors. All contributions, large and small, play a crucial role in bringing people, art and history together. Thanks to the contributions, we are able to realise a broad range of projects, activities and special acquisitions for the collection. This support enables us to preserve and share our cultural heritage. Together, we are creating a lasting impact that reaches beyond the walls of our museum. Enjoy a look at the highlights of the third quarter of 2025.

Roos Munten, Head of Development

RIJKS MUSEUM

Would you also like to contribute and expand the Rijksmuseum's impact? Check out www.rijksmuseum.nl/en/support for the various ways of doing so. You can also contact us at +31 20 6747000 or e-mail us at development@rijksmuseum.nl.



1 JULY

GIFT BEN AKKERMANN PAINTING

Thanks to a gift from **Anneke and Ot van der Sluis**, the Rijksmuseum added a remarkable painting by Ben Akkerman (1920–2010) to the collection. The radiant yellow, precise patterning and striking diamond shape give the work a vibrant presence. Akkerman drew inspiration from the Twente landscape around his home city of Enschede. From the 1970s onward, his paintings became increasingly abstract – almost objects in themselves. He created thick panels, carrying the paint over the edges and introducing relief by working patterns into the surface. In doing so, he secured a distinctive position within Dutch painting while also aligning with international ‘Fundamental Painting.’ The work will be on view to the public in the galleries from spring 2026.



2 JULY

€1.5 MILLION AWARDED FOR ‘GELOOF, HOOP EN LIEFDE’

With the exhibition series *Geloof, Hoop en Liefde* (Faith, Hope and Love), six regional museums will bring works of art from the Rijksmuseum to every corner of the Netherlands. Guest curators from outside the museum sector will select works from the Rijksmuseum’s collection, offering fresh meanings and contexts to the national collection. In this way, an even broader audience can enjoy the Rijksmuseum’s holdings. The **VriendenLoterij** has awarded €1.5 million to the new series. For this programme, we are joining forces with Het Markiezenhof in Bergen op Zoom, Museum Gouda, Gemeentemuseum Hannemahuis in Harlingen, the Westfries Museum in Hoorn, the Stedelijk Museum Zutphen, and the Limburgs Museum in Venlo.



4 JULY-14 SEPTEMBER

FIONA TAN MONOMANIA

For the first time in its history, the Rijksmuseum gave a contemporary artist *carte blanche* to delve into the museum's extensive collections. The result was the exhibition *Fiona Tan: Monomania*. Tan's fascination with 19th-century representations of psychiatry yielded a compelling presentation that charted a journey through states of mind. The exhibition was made possible in part by the **Mondriaan Fonds** and the **Vrouwen van het Rijksmuseum Fonds**. On view were, among other works, prints from Francisco Goya to Edvard Munch, paintings by Raden Saleh, Japanese masks, and christening gowns from the Rijksmuseum's collection.



7 JULY

MINI DOCUMENTARY SIGNAAL 1 AND SIGNAAL 2

In 1964, the artist Carel Visser created two large abstract sculptures: Signaal 1 and Signaal 2. For years they stood like modern temple guardians at the entrance of the office building of the PTT Postcheque- en Girodienst (the forerunner of KPN and PostNL) in The Hague – until one day they vanished without a trace. How did these iconic works end up in the Rijksmuseum Gardens? Our partner **KPN** produced a [mini documentary](#) that vividly captures the journey of Signaal 1 and Signaal 2 over the years.



25 JULY

PRIDE EVENT AFTER HOURS

Over 300 young adults attended the special *After Hours* event at the Rijksmuseum. With support from the **VSBfonds**, a programme of workshops, lectures, and activities around gender and sexual diversity was organized. Over the next three years, the Rijksmuseum will devote special attention to this theme through events linked to Amsterdam Pride.

1 SEPTEMBER

FELLOWSHIPS 2025–2026

We are proud to welcome our new Fellows for 2025–2026. Through the Rijksmuseum Fellowship Programme we offer emerging talent the opportunity to conduct part of their research at our museum. In doing so, we aim to support high-quality academic research, strengthen ties between the Rijksmuseum and universities, and foster the exchange of knowledge. This month, Maria Puzyreva (USA), Weixuan Li (China), Victoria Ward (UK), and Leendert van der Miessen (NL) began their research. We look forward to sharing their results in a year's time. The Rijksmuseum Fellowship Programme is made possible by the **Mellon Foundation** and, via the **Rijksmuseum Fonds**, the **Miguelien Gerritzen Fonds**, the **Dr. Anton C.R. Dreesmann Fonds**, the **Johan Huizinga Fonds** and the **Annenberg Foundation**.



3 SEPTEMBER

MIZUNO'S TRIBUTE

For runners and trainer enthusiasts, our partner **Mizuno** has launched new limited-edition shoes inspired by the Rijksmuseum collection. Once again this year, Mizuno and the Rijksmuseum collaborated as part of the TCS Amsterdam Marathon 2025. The result is a limited-edition running shoe and a trainer, both inspired by early 20th-century Japanese kimonos. Previously, Mizuno released limited-edition shoes inspired by Rembrandt, cranes and Vermeer.



9 SEPTEMBER

GREENERY AT THE RIJKSMUSEUM

There is strong demand for gardeners with knowledge and a passion for planting. In a time when creating and caring for green spaces is essential for the climate and our living environment, promoting this craft and expertise is urgently needed. In collaboration with Yuverta and the Municipality of Amsterdam, the Rijksmuseum offers the training programme *Greenery at the Rijksmuseum*. In September a new cohort of MBO students started, and for one day a week over the coming year they will work in the Rijksmuseum Gardens under the guidance of their teacher and the gardens' planting designer. The students also make regular excursions to exemplary projects and nurseries, where they receive guest lectures from experts in the field. At the end of the placement they receive a certificate that supplements their diploma. We are able to make this training programme possible thanks to the support of the **Don Quixote Foundation/Rijksmuseum Fonds**.



11 SEPTEMBER

OCCUPIED CITY STEVE MCQUEEN

The Rijksmuseum is presenting two versions of the 34-hour video artwork *Occupied City* by the artist and director Steve McQueen. *Occupied City* is a portrait of Amsterdam through McQueen's eyes and is based on the book *Atlas of an Occupied City. Amsterdam 1940–1945* by Bianca Stigter. For 137 days the façade on Museum Square served as a giant projection screen, with the film shown day and night without sound. Over a period of 40 days, the film will be screened several times inside the Auditorium, with sound. The presentation of *Occupied City* at the Rijksmuseum was made possible by the **VriendenLoterij**.



23 SEPTEMBER

THE NIGHT WATCH'S LITTLE DOG UNDER THE MICROSCOPE

During Operation Night Watch a surprising discovery was made: the barking dog in Rembrandt's masterpiece turns out to be based on a drawing by Adriaen van de Venne from 1619. This demonstrates how Rembrandt took inspiration from existing drawings and then made them his own. As Taco Dibbits told the press: 'It is remarkable that even after 400 years new discoveries are still being made about one of the most studied paintings in the world.' The discovery plays a central role in the first episode of the six-part series [The Night Watch: Every Inch a Story](#). The YouTube series takes viewers behind the scenes of Rembrandt's most famous painting in six short episodes full of exciting discoveries and hidden details, with the ground-breaking restoration project Operation Night Watch as the through-line.

Main partner for Operation Night Watch
AkzoNobel

Operation Night Watch is made possible by **The Bennink Foundation, C.L. de Carvalho-Heineken, the PACCAR Foundation, Piet van der Slikke & Sandra Swelheim, the American Express Foundation, the De Rooij family, Het AutoBinck Fonds, TBRM Engineering Solutions, Dina & Kjell Johnsen, the D. Ermia family, the M. van Poecke family, Bruker Nano Analytics, the Henry M. Holterman Fonds, the Irma Theodora Fonds, the Luca Fonds, the Piek-den Hartog Fonds, the Stichting Zabawas, the Cevat Fonds, the Johanna Kast-Michel Fonds, Marjorie & Jeffrey A. Rosen, the Stichting Thurkow Fonds, the Familie Van Ogtrop Fonds, FedEx Express, Airbnb, NICAS, the Nachtwacht Fonds, the City of Amsterdam and the Amsterdam Museum.**



UNTIL 26 OCTOBER

ISAMU NOGUCHI IN THE RIJKSMUSEUM GARDENS

Isamu Noguchi in the Rijksmuseum Gardens is the twelfth instalment in the series of free garden exhibitions. Today, Noguchi is best known for his design classics such as the Akari lamps, but he was also one of the most prominent sculptors of the 20th century. The garden exhibition is open to all and has been made possible by the **Don Quixote Foundation/ Rijksmuseum Fund, Pon, and the Rijksmuseum Club.**



2025

REPRESENTATION IN THE COLLECTION

The Physical Diversity in the Rijksmuseum is the Rijksmuseum's research programme into physical and mental diversity in the collection. The project focuses on vulnerability, resilience and diversity of the body. Support from the **Bartiméus Fonds** has made the three-year posting of researcher Marte Sophie Meessen possible. In this project, she focuses on increasing and anchoring visibility and understanding around bodily diversity in art and cultural history.

2025

NEW BENEFACTORS VIA THE RIJKSMUSEUM CLUB

Our business club – the Rijksmuseum Club – makes an important contribution to the museum. Its joint membership fees help make the annual (free) sculpture exhibition in the Rijksmuseum gardens possible. Connection, however, is a two-way street, so we open our doors just a little bit extra for our corporate friends. This quarter we welcome our new club members **Rosewood Amsterdam** and **Hôtes Culture**.