

AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE MAURITSHUIS

Newsletter Summer 2011

Dear American Friends of the Mauritshuis,

Exciting developments are happening in The Hague. Although the Museum is not closing its doors to the public until April 2012, the curators and conservators are busy preparing to move the permanent collection to various locations. A travelling exhibition with major works of art from the permanent collection will take place in Japan. Vermeer's *Girl With A Pearl Earring*, together with over forty other paintings, will be on view in Tokyo and Kobe next year. Over 100 highlights from the permanent collection will go on display in a separate wing at the Gemeentemuseum (Municipal Museum) in The Hague from April 24, 2012 for a two-year period. The paintings include Vermeer's *View of Delft*, *The Bull* by Paulus Potter and *The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Nicolaes Tulp* by Rembrandt. Another planned move is that of the conservation studio to a temporary location. In the meantime, exciting exhibitions are still in the works.



DALÍ MEETS VERMEER

From September 15th on, the Mauritshuis presents modern and old masters together in *Dali Meets Vermeer: Modern Masters Come to Visit*. Masterpieces by artists such as Van Gogh, Monet and Dalí, all from Dutch collections, will be exhibited alongside highlights from the museum's own collection. The exhibition couples old and modern paintings in refreshing combinations, and displays one pair in each room of the museum. The confrontations will invite comparison and closer examination, revealing how painters of different eras grappled with the same artistic problems. Carel Blotkamp, Professor Emeritus of Modern Art at the Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam, is the exhibition's guest curator. [visit website](#)

FELLOWSHIP

This summer, Melissa Edoh, the first recipient of The Palitz-MIT Fellowship for the Study of Dutch Art, ventured to The Netherlands to research the production of batik fabrics and their export to West Africa since the 19th century. While in The Netherlands, Ms. Edoh had a chance to meet with curators and conservators at the Museum.

In September, Dina Anchin, recipient of this year's Fellowship will start her internship in the Conservation Department. One of the many tasks Dina will be involved with are writing the condition reports for all the paintings that will be moved out of the building next year.

CONSERVATION STUDIO



The Mauritshuis website presents a very interesting series of videos that show the Museum's conservator Sabrina Meloni examining and restoring Jan Steen's *Doctor's Visit* and *Dancing Peasants at an Inn*. [visit website](#) The videos give us a chance to look closely over the daily activities of the conservators in the Museum. Since very few of us have the opportunity to visit the conservation studio and see the important care that is done, the video gives a tremendous insight in this exciting work. All six videos are all available on YouTube. [visit website](#) During the Jan Steen exhibition earlier this year, Ms. Meloni restored these two paintings in a makeshift studio in the Museum's gallery. She twittered and her remarks (in Dutch) can be found at [@JanSteenMH](#).

Sabrina Meloni will present *Like the old sing, so twitter the young. Public conservation of two paintings by Jan Steen*, a lecture on the conference *Playing to the Galleries and Engaging New Audiences: The public face of conservation*, to be held on November 14, 2011 in Williamsburg, VA. [view pdf](#)

FRAMES

After being included in two successful traveling exhibitions at the Metropolitan Museum, New York and the National Gallery, London, *Madonna and Child* by Jan Gossaert is back home in the Mauritshuis. The new frame was provided with support from the American Friends. We would like to hear from you if you are interested in supporting small projects like new frames and like to become more involved!



FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN



The fundraising campaign in support of the ambitious expansion project *Mauritshuis building for the future* is under way. The museum is aiming to raise at least 5 million Euros. The expansion will enable the museum to meet the requirements and expectations of the 21st-century visitor, while still maintaining its characteristic intimate atmosphere.

The cost of the expansion project is estimated at €22 million, and a significant proportion of this sum has already been secured. Most recently, €2 million was given to the project by the European Community (EFRO Kansen voor West). The contributions of corporations, foundations and individuals are key to the success of this project. The first pledges are already in, and we are counting on our American Friends for support as well. [visit website](#)

SUPPORT THE AMERICAN FRIENDS OF THE MAURITSHUIS

The Board of the American Friends wishes to express its gratitude to our supporters who make it all possible. By joining the American Friends, you become a member of a group of patrons who care deeply about the Mauritshuis and are committed to support Dutch paintings of the Golden Age. In addition to receiving the American Friends newsletter, supporters receive invitations to museum visits, events, private gallery viewings, and much more. The American Friends is a recognized tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization and all contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please become a supporter today!

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