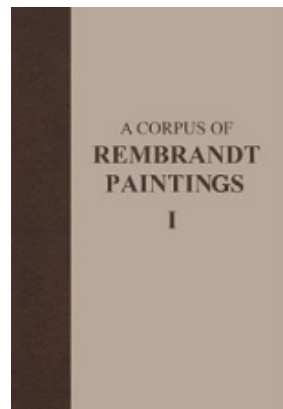


three year renewal grant • future goals • Corpus of Rembrandt Paintings online • collaboration with the Rijksmuseum: past and present • upcoming exhibition Mauritshuis • The Rembrandt Database presents: project manager Sytske Weidema



Debut of newsletter

This is the first issue of the periodical Rembrandt Database newsletter. It keeps you informed about the latest developments in the Database, new documentation, recent partners, goals, and your (potential) participation. We also welcome [your contributions](#). If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please notify us by sending an [email](#). We hope you enjoy this newsletter and take a moment to visit our [website](#).



A Corpus of Rembrandt Paintings available online

The complete first five volumes of A Corpus of Rembrandt Paintings are accessible on the Rembrandt Database website. These volumes were the product of the Rembrandt Research project, which started in 1968 with the aim of ridding Rembrandt's oeuvre of paintings that harmed the image of the painter. Because the volumes are presented online as PDF-files, they are easily searchable .

The RKD – Netherlands Institute of Art History has acquired the digital files from the publisher (Springer) to present them as part of The Rembrandt Database. All rights remain with the publisher.

The Rembrandt Database receives 3-year grant

The RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History and its partners are pleased to announce that the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded a final three-year renewal grant for the Rembrandt Database (2015-2017). Grant funds will be used to improve the platform, expand its contents, and move the resource toward full independent sustainability after 2017.

The RKD invites all holders of Rembrandt material to take part and join The Rembrandt Database and make an invaluable contribution to this landmark international scholarly endeavor. We also welcome current partners to share more or new information and documentation on The Rembrandt Database.

Future goals

- at least 500 Rembrandt paintings online by 2017
- collaboration with new partners
- revision of the current website
- independent sustainability after 2017

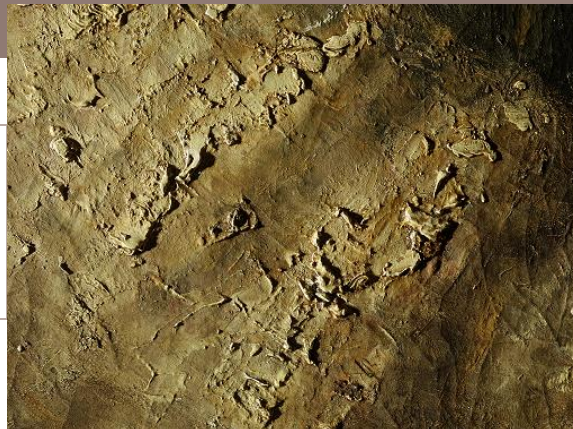
Collaboration with Rijksmuseum Amsterdam: past and present

In September 2014 no less than 1693 (technical) documents of 14 paintings from the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam were made accessible on The Rembrandt Database. Among them are documents about masterpieces such as the *Night watch*, the *Jewish bride* and the *Syndics*.

The Rijksmuseum has an important tradition of technical research of its Rembrandt paintings. This started with Van Schendel's ground breaking study in the history of restoration of the *Night watch* (together with Mertens 1947) and his publication of the complete set of X-radiographs of the *Syndics* (1956). A large part of the documents is related to the Rijksmuseum's Late Rembrandt Project of the early 1990s. During this project eight Rembrandt paintings of the Rijksmuseum were restored. All treatments were preceded and accompanied by material research. Some of the examination methods used were: x-radiography, infrared photography, sample analysis, normal light studies, ultraviolet light studies, raking light studies and stereomicroscopy.

The collaboration continues: the art historical information, conservation history and technical documentation of another group of 14 "Rembrandt" paintings will be presented on our website in the coming year, including *The holy family at night* (studio of Rembrandt) and *Tobit and Anna with the kid*.

The Rembrandt Database, raking light studies: photograph, detail (front), 10 December 2013, (record number 14815); Rembrandt, *Portrait of a couple as Isaac and Rebecca*, 1662-1666, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam, inv./cat. no. SK-C-216



Upcoming exhibition: Saul and David in the Mauritshuis

In June the Mauritshuis in The Hague will open an exhibition about Rembrandt's *Saul and David*. During this exhibition the painting will be presented for the first time since restoration on it began in 2007. The exhibition will show aspects of the research and treatment of the painting which yielded many discoveries about the creation, history and attribution of the painting. The Rembrandt Database will present technical documentation on this work.

Rembrandt? The Case of Saul and David will be on view at the Mauritshuis 11 June – 13 September 2015

Presenting Sytske Weidema



As of May Sytske succeeded Wietske Donkersloot as project manager.

Sytske graduated as an art historian from Groningen University in 2006, and specialized in Netherlandish painting and technical studies. She was a research fellow at the European Paintings Department, Metropolitan Museum of Art, 2007/08, and research assistant at the Cantor Art Center, Stanford, 2010/11. In 2012 she published the book: *Jan Gossart: The Documentary Evidence*. Sytske started working at the RKD in 2002, on Prof. Molly Faries's infrared documentation. At the Mauritshuis she focused on Rembrandt and Vermeer documentation for the database *RKDtechnical*, and in 2008 she joined the Rembrandt Database team.

Wietske remains involved with the project as manager of IT affairs and will focus on the database's IT developments.

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The Rembrandt Database is generously funded by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and coordinated by the RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History