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Ressort: Kunst, Kultur und Musik

## **Remember Me. Portraits from Dürer to Sofonisba**

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Powerful emperors, sophisticated aristocrats and wealthy bourgeoisie. A collection of Renaissance portraits from all over Europe, on a scale never before seen in the Netherlands. From 1 October, around 100 international masterpieces by world-famous artists - including Holbein, Dürer, Memling and Veronese - will be on display as part of the exhibition Don't Forget About Me. Being immortalised in a portrait was a common practice in the 15th and 16th centuries. Don't Forget About Me tells a story of ambitions, desires and lost affections: the story of how we want to be remembered.

Don't Forget About Me not is the first major exhibition of Renaissance portraits in the Netherlands. Among the masterpieces on display is the Portrait of a Maiden (circa 1470) by Petrus Christus from the Gemäldegalerie in Berlin. Other works come from, among others, the Kunstmuseum in Basel, the National Gallery in London, the Museo del Prado in Madrid and the National Gallery of Art in Washington.

Don't Forget About Me. Portraits from Dürer to Sofonisba will be on view from 1 October 2021 to 16 January 2022 in the Philips Wing of the Rijksmuseum. The exhibition has been made possible thanks to the support of Ammodo, the Rijksmuseum International Circle and the Cultural Heritage Agency of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Science.

### **Don't Forget About Me**

Since antiquity, the main purpose of portraiture has been to keep the memory of the sitter alive. Around 1500, the time of the first great flowering of Renaissance portraiture, this pictorial genre had a considerable following both north and south of the Alps. Despite some major regional differences, the common denominator of these works of art was above all the human need to

remember and be remembered.

As is still the case today, the person who asked to be portrayed wanted to appear in the best possible way and to convey an idealised image of himself. To this end, every element of the pictorial composition was well thought out: facial expression, posture, clothing, symbolic elements and the background. While some emphasised the beauty of the subjects, others emphasised their authority and social prestige. Around 1533, Charles V, Emperor of the Holy Roman Empire, wanted to emphasise his power by having himself

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portrayed as a Roman emperor. Maarten van Heemskerck's self-portrait, in which he portrayed himself as a painter, is a testimony to the social revenge of artists in Renaissance society.

Through themes such as beauty, power, ambition, love, family, thirst for knowledge and faith, Don't Forget About Me highlights how Renaissance men and women wanted to appear and be remembered.

**International Masterpieces** The exhibition brings together portraits from museums throughout Europe and the United States. The Portrait of a Girl (circa 1470) by Petrus Christus, a masterpiece of the Northern European Renaissance, from the Gemäldegalerie, will leave the renowned Berlin museum for the first time since 1994. Antonello da Messina's Ritratto d'uomo (1476), on loan from the Museo Civico d'Arte Antica di Palazzo Madama in Turin, will also be among the many works on display.

The exhibition will also include the funerary monument of Isabella of Bourbon (Jan Borman II and Renier van Thienen, 1475-76) from the Cathedral of Our Lady of Antwerp which, for the occasion, will be reunited with the ten Pleurants of the Rijksmuseum (on permanent loan from the City of Amsterdam). There will also be works by Albrecht Dürer: the Portrait of an African Man (1508) from the Albertina in Vienna and the Portrait of a Young Woman with Loose Hair in Prayer (1497) from the Städel Museum in Frankfurt. The Basel Kunstmuseum also has several works on display, including Hans Holbein II's Portraits of Jakob Meyer zum Hasen and his wife Dorothea Kannengiesser (1516).

Other paintings on display include Jan Jacobsz Snoeck's Portrait of Jan Jacobsz Snoeck (ca. 1530) by Jan Gossart from the National Gallery of Art in Washington and the famous self-portrait of Sofonisba Anguissola (ca. 1556) from the Muzeum-Zamek w Lancut.

**Design** The installation design is by Jean Michel Wilmotte, while Irma Boom was responsible for the graphic design.

**Catalogue** The exhibition is accompanied by a richly illustrated catalogue, whose graphic design is also by Irma Boom. The volume, published in English and Dutch, will be on sale from the opening day of the exhibition.

[Bericht online lesen:](#)

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