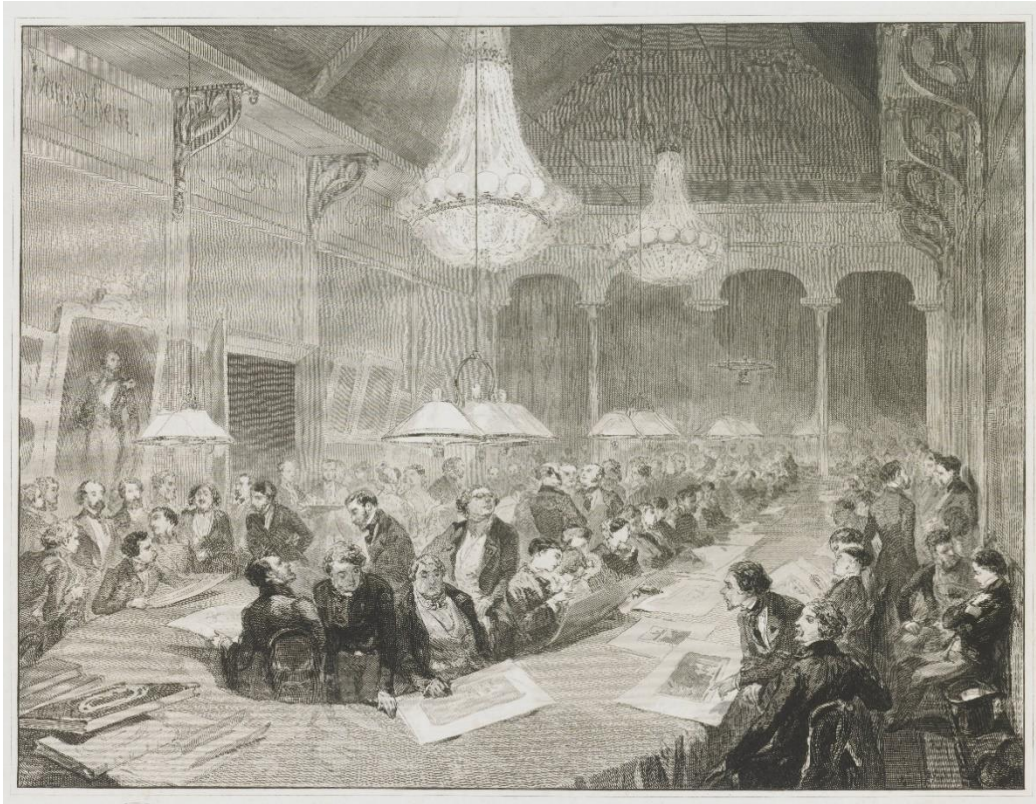


The Rijksmuseum presents:

The RPK Masterclasses: Art on Paper



Venue: Study room Rijksprentenkabinet, Rijksmuseum, Amsterdam

Dates: 13, 20 January 2025 and 2, 16 June 2025 | 13.00-17.00

Open to: RMA students and PhD candidates, max. 12 participants per Masterclass

Required prior knowledge: None

Instructors: Curators of the Rijksprentenkabinet

Instruction language: Dutch or English

ECTS: 1 ECTS per masterclass

Coordination: OSK (osk-fgw@uva.nl)

Registration: Via website under courses, registration link can be found per masterclass.

Registration deadline: 1 December 2024

The Rijksprentenkabinet is the Rijksmuseum's department of prints, drawings, and photographs and is responsible for a collection of around 750.000 objects spanning from 1440 to the present day. During the **RPK Masterclasses: Art on Paper**, you will become more acquainted with this extensive collection of the Rijksmuseum and gain hands-on experience working with objects and specialist literature in our study room. Each masterclass begins with an introductory lecture, followed by practical assignments in which participants handle and closely examine objects, and conduct research under the guidance of our curators. Participants will also be asked to hand in a final assignment within two weeks after the Masterclass. The RPK Masterclasses aim to encourage young researchers to actively engage with the Rijksmuseum's collection of works on paper; to provide students with the tools to enrich their research and to increase accessibility of the Rijksprentenkabinet study room.

In January and June 2025, the Rijksprentenkabinet will offer four different RPK Masterclasses for RMA students and PhD candidates on Mondays: 13 January, 20 January, 2 June, and 16 June.

Information

- RPK Masterclasses are suitable for groups of up to 12 students
- RPK Masterclasses cover art from the 15th-21st centuries
- Duration of the RPK Masterclasses: approximately 240 minutes
- RPK Masterclasses are offered at RMA and PhD level
- Language of instruction is Dutch or English
- For more information and registration: OSK (osk-fgw@uva.nl)

RPK Masterclass 1

Early Modern Prints. Techniques and the Creative Process

Instructors: Joyce Zelen, Huigen Leeftang and/or Erik Hinterding

Date: 13 January 2025 | 13.00-17.00

During this Masterclass, students will gain in-depth knowledge of the printmaking process by examining the most commonly used graphic techniques between circa 1400 and 1900, namely woodcut, engraving, drypoint, etching, clair-obscur woodcut, mezzotint, aquatint, color-printing, and lithography. Students will handle original tools, materials, and prints, and learn how to recognize the different techniques by closely examining prints from the rich holdings of the Rijksprentenkabinet. Together, we will explore the possibilities, as well as the limits and challenges, that artists faced when choosing a specific technique. This Masterclass helps young researchers to learn research print techniques and gain insight into the creative process of printmakers.

Literature:

Anthony Griffiths, 'What is a print?', in: A. Griffiths, *Prints and Printmaking: And Introduction to the History and Techniques*, Berkeley and Los Angeles 1993, 9-30.

Clifford S. Ackley, 'Printmaking in the Age of Rembrandt: The Quest for Printed Tone', in: C.S. Ackley, *Printmaking in the Age of Rembrandt*, exh. cat. Boston (Museum of Fine Arts) 1981, xix-xxvi

RPK Masterclass 2

Modern and Contemporary Prints & Drawings. Writing a Wall Label

Instructor: Marian Cousijn

Date: 20 January 2025 | 13.00-17.00

How do you write a good wall label? And how can you, while doing research, take advantage of the fact that some modern and contemporary artists are still alive? In this workshop, we will look at a selection of modern and contemporary prints and drawings from the collection, paying specific attention to the wide array of media used by modern and contemporary artists and to working with living artists. After an introduction which includes guidelines, practical tips and do's & don'ts, students are asked to draft a wall label about one selected work. We will review the texts together (participants are requested to bring their laptops).

Literature:

Gilda Williams, *How to write about contemporary art*. London: Thames & Hudson, 2014.

[Instead of reading a second text, we ask you to prepare for this workshop by bringing two examples of wall labels: one you like, one you do not like. You may choose examples from the Rijksmuseum but also from other museums or galleries.]

RPK Masterclass 3

Identifying the Many Functions of Photography

Instructors: Hans Rooseboom and/or Hinde Haest

Date: 2 June 2025 | 13.00-17.00

Compared to drawing and print-making, photography is a relatively young medium. After it was invented in 1839, it had to find a position and status of its own. That has to a large extent defined the way photographers – and others – saw and used this medium. Only during the early 20th century, photography developed into an independent artform with its own particular characteristics and possibilities. The Rijksmuseum aims to cover the whole history of photography, which means it collects broadly examples from all applications photography has been used for: from advertising and fashion to art, from privately used snapshots to propaganda. In this masterclass students will see, handle and discuss representative examples from all these different genres in the Rijksmuseum's rich collection and gain tools to identify the various ways photographs have been printed and circulated.

Literature:

Mattie Boom and Hans Rooseboom, *Modern Times. Photography in the 20th Century*, exh. cat. Amsterdam (Rijksmuseum) 2014, 18-33.

Mattie Boom and Hans Rooseboom (eds), *New Realities. Photography in the 19th Century*, exh. cat. (Rijksmuseum) Amsterdam 2017, 18-44.

RPK Masterclass 4

Old Master Drawings. How to Describe an Old Master Drawing?

Instructors: Charles Kang, Maud van Suylen and/or Austėja Mackelaitė

Date: 16 June 2025 | 13.00-17.00

In this session, students will learn to observe and describe drawings in a precise and historically rigorous manner. The course will begin with a physical overview of a drawing - learning to distinguish a range of supports and media that were available and/or favoured in different historical periods. Key examples from the Rijksprentenkabinet's collection, as well as historical drawing materials in the Rijksmuseum's Paper Conservation Lab will be used. The Masterclass will then move on to observing different techniques, training the students' observational capacity and equipping them with a range of vocabulary for compelling descriptions. The course will conclude with a discussion of how these skill sets can be mobilized to tackle more complex issues, such as aesthetic assessment, attribution, and dating.

Literature:

James Watrous, *The Craft of Old-Master Drawings*, Madison/London 1957, TBD.

Peter Schatborn and William W. Robinson, "The History of the Attribution of Drawings by Rembrandt and His Pupils," in Holm Bevers et. al, *Drawings By Rembrandt and His Pupils*, exh. cat. Los Angeles (J. Paul Getty Museum) 2009, 31-41.