

Hunterian Art Gallery Press Release

Glasgow has a passion for Rembrandt

This autumn, The Hunterian will stage one of the most significant exhibitions in its 200 year history. *Rembrandt and the Passion* offers visitors a unique opportunity to see one of The Hunterian's most famous paintings, Rembrandt's *Entombment Sketch*, alongside a number of key international loans, including masterpieces never seen before in Scotland.

The *Entombment Sketch* is a beautifully preserved oil painting which was purchased by Hunterian founder, Dr William Hunter, in 1771. It was the first Rembrandt painting to be added to a UK collection, making it particularly important and significant.

Featuring some 40 works, *Rembrandt and the Passion* tells the story of the *Entombment Sketch* and explains how it influenced one of the most significant commissions of Rembrandt's career - a series of seven paintings of the Passion of Christ, produced for the Prince of Orange between 1632 and 1646.

For the first time ever, the exhibition displays the *Entombment Sketch* alongside the finished *Entombment* painting from Rembrandt's famous series, on loan from the Alte Pinakothek in Munich. Other important loans include Rembrandt's drawing *The Entombment after Mantegna* from The Metropolitan Museum in New York and Rubens' *Sketch for the Descent from the Cross* from The Courtauld Gallery in London.

Recent scientific analysis has revealed new information about the *Entombment Sketch* and the exhibition presents the fascinating results, which include details of x-ray and pigment analysis, breaking new ground in scholarly research.

Rembrandt and the Passion gives an insight into Rembrandt's work, going behind the scenes in his studio and revealing his painting process and the techniques he used.

The exhibition explores how Rembrandt studied the work of other great artists, such as Leonardo da Vinci, Raphael and Rubens, how they influenced him and how he emulated their work for maximum expressive effect. Pictures that Rembrandt admired are on show alongside the works that they inspired.

Rembrandt and the Passion opens on 15 September and promises to be a must-see exhibition.

Continues...



Rembrandt van Rijn, *Entombment Sketch (detail)*, c. 1635 - 1654 © The Hunterian, University of Glasgow 2012



Rembrandt and the Passion

15 September – 2 December 2012

Hunterian Art Gallery

Admission £5.00 (£3.00 concession)

Rembrandt and the Passion is supported by KLM, Fundación Banco Santander and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. The Hunterian special exhibition programme is supported by GU Heritage Retail Ltd.

For further information contact: Peter Black, Curator, The Hunterian

Email: Peter.Black@glasgow.ac.uk Telephone: 0141 330 5430

For images contact: Harriet Gaston, Communications Manager, The Hunterian

Email: Harriet.Gaston@glasgow.ac.uk Telephone: 0141 330 3310

Hunterian Art Gallery

University of Glasgow

82 Hillhead Street

Glasgow G12 8QQ

From 15 September, open Tuesday - Saturday 10.00am - 5.00pm and Sunday 11.00am - 4.00pm

Admission to the Art Gallery is free - admission charge for some exhibitions

www.glasgow.ac.uk/hunterian

Notes for Editors

The Hunterian Art Gallery Refurbishment

The Hunterian Art Gallery is currently undergoing extensive refurbishment which will allow much greater access to our collections, almost doubling the number of works on display.

These improvements will enhance the visitor experience, allowing further enjoyment and understanding.

The Hunterian Art Gallery closes to the public on 11 June to complete the refurbishment, re-opening on 15 September with a new major exhibition dedicated to Rembrandt.

From September, visitors can expect a different look and feel to the Gallery, as well as improved access to a range of quality works by leading artists that can't be seen anywhere else in Scotland.

The Hunterian

The Hunterian is Scotland's oldest public museum and home to one of the largest collections outside the National Museums. It is one of Scotland's most important cultural assets and one of the leading university museums in the UK. Its collections have been Recognised as a Collection of National Significance.

Continues...



Built on Dr William Hunter's founding bequest, The Hunterian collections include scientific instruments used by James Watt, Joseph Lister and Lord Kelvin; outstanding Roman artefacts from the Antonine Wall; major natural and life sciences holdings; Hunter's own extensive anatomical teaching collection; one of the world's greatest numismatic collections; impressive ethnographic objects from Captain Cook's Pacific voyages and a major art collection.

The Hunterian is also home to the world's largest permanent display of the work of James McNeill Whistler, the largest single holding of the work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and The Mackintosh House, the reassembled interiors from his Glasgow home.

The Hunterian continues in its Age on Enlightenment mission to be a central resource for research and teaching in the arts, humanities and natural and medical sciences, attracting scholars and visitors from around the world.