

Room for Art

Rubens House

Antwerp 28 · 11 · '09 – 28 · 02 · '10

www.rubenshuis.be



b-excursions®



Room for Art

in 17th-Century Antwerp

28.11.'09 – 28.02.'10

At the beginning of the 17th century, the time of Rubens, a fascinating new genre of painting emerged in Antwerp. Inspired by art collectors fond of showing off their possessions, such paintings were called 'art cabinets', and what you see is ... a room full of art, as though the artist was intent on capturing **an entire museum in a single painting**. *Kunstkamers* (often referred to in English by the German term, *Kunstkammer*) are an inexhaustible **feast for the eyes** and a matchless **feast for the soul**. You can picture yourself as the special guest at a gathering of Antwerp's high society at the time of Rubens.

We know only three works by the painter Willem van Haecht (1593-1637): **three magnificent 'art cabinets'**. All three depict the impressive collection of Cornelis van der Geest (1555-1638), an eminent Antwerp art collector, who employed Van Haecht as the curator of his collection. Van Haecht's three outstanding paintings, shown here together for the first time, are the heart of this **exclusive exhibition**. Other masterpieces on display – including works by Anthony van Dyck, David Teniers and Quinten Massys – are on loan from the National Gallery in London, the Prado in Madrid, the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna, the British Royal Collection and private collections.

The exhibition will be held at the **Rubens House, a highly suitable venue**, since the master himself had an internationally renowned art collection and an 'art cabinet' of his own.

Rubens House

Wapper 9 -11, 2000 Antwerp
Tel: +32 (0)3 201 15 55
rubenshuis@stad.antwerpen.be
www.rubenshuis.be

Opening times

Tuesday – Sunday: 10 am to 5 pm
(tickets sold until 4.30 pm)
Closed Mondays, 25 and 26 December 2009
and 1 and 2 January 2010

Admission

€ 8.00 / €6.00 / €1.00 / free
Including audio tour or museum guidebook!

Groups

20 people maximum, advance booking
required: tel: +32 (0)3 201 15 55
rubenshuis@stad.antwerpen.be

Guided tours

15 people maximum: € 60.00 (plus booking fee).
Book at least 3 weeks in advance.
Antwerp Tourist Office: tel. +32 (0)3 232 01 03
toerisme@stad.antwerpen.be

How to find us

The Rubens House is within walking distance
of Antwerp's Central Station.

- By metro: 2, 3, 5, 15 (Meir)
- By car: p-route Meir Schouwburg
parking Inno, Hopland or Horta.

Access for disabled people

The Rubens House is a historic building.
The exhibition is not accessible to wheelchair
users, but they can visit the permanent
exhibition on the ground floor.

For more information

Visit us at: www.rubenshuis.be
Antwerp is the perfect place to discover
17th-century art and Rubens! For more
information, go to www.antwerpen.be.

The Hague

The exhibition is organised in close
collaboration with the Mauritshuis in
The Hague, where it will run from 25 March to
27 June 2010. More information is available
at www.mauritshuis.nl.