

Personal Tour for:
George Albertson

June 2019

Dear George,

Welcome to the Rijksmuseum! What a pleasure it is to have you visit the beautiful city of Amsterdam. Today you will explore some of your favorite Rijksmuseum items, a selection based on your given preferences; Jan Steen and Ceramics.

On page 2, you will find a map that explains what is the most time-efficient way to walk around the museum according to your preferences. But, feel free to differ from this route if you see something you find interesting as well!

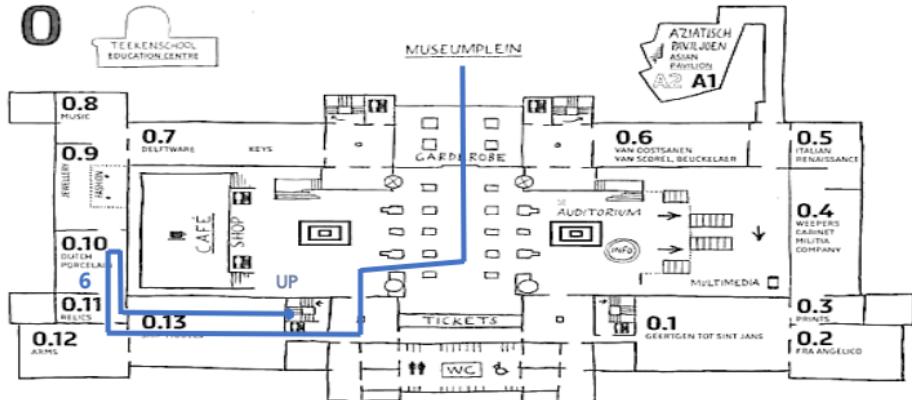
Page 3 to ... comment on Jan Steegs' paintings and the Ceramics, by giving detailed stories about the creators and the meanings of the objects.

We hope this booklet will help to make your Rijksmuseum visit everything that you hoped for.

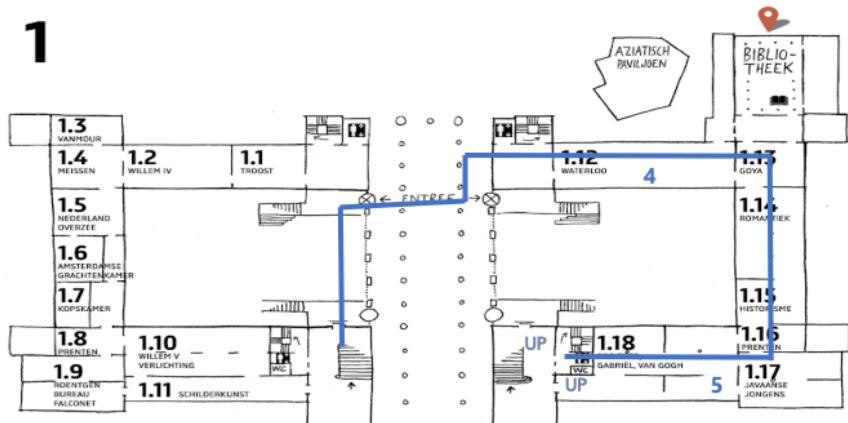
Enjoy your day at the museum!



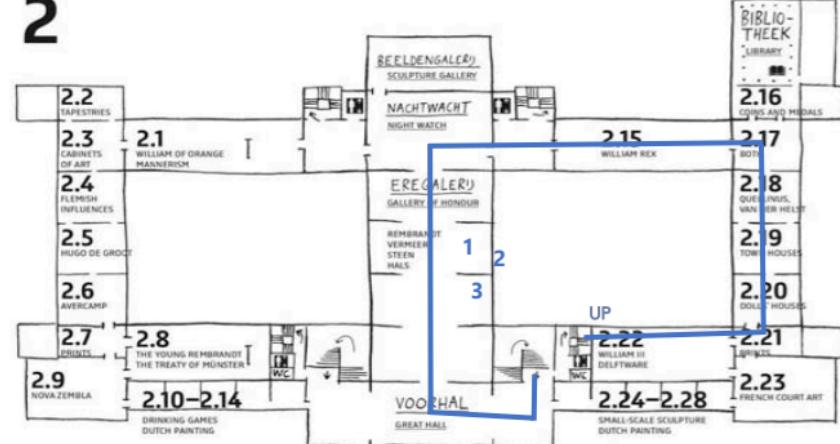
Taco Dibbits. President of The Rijksmuseum



1



2





Jan Havicksz. Steen

1655

*Adolf and Catharina Croeser,
Known as 'The Burgomaster of
Delft and his Daughter'*

On display in room 2.30

Legs wide apart and his right arm akimbo, Croeser sits on the stoop of his house on the Oude Delft canal in Delft. His thirteen-year-old daughter Catharina looks straight out at us. Jan Steen included a narrative element in this portrait: a poor woman and child beg for alms from the wealthy grain merchant. In 1657, just two years after this portrait was made, Croeser stood surety for Steen, who was seriously in debt.

- contrast between rich and poor
- village street
- beggar
- cut flowers; nosegay, bunch of flowers
- father and daughter(s) (family group)
- Oude Delft



Jan Havicksz. Steen

1670

Self Portrait

On display in room 2.30

A distinguished citizen dressed in decorous black is seated before a red curtain and tassel. Jan Steen, known primarily for his humorous scenes with simple folk, portrayed himself here as utterly self-assured. He also regularly included himself in other paintings, but then usually in a comic role.

- contrast between rich and poor
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Jan Havicksz. Steen

1668

The Merry Family

On display in room 2.30

This boisterous family is making a lot of noise: the father sings at the top of his lungs while raising a glass; the mother and grandmother chime in; and the children are either blowing into a wind instrument or smoking a long pipe. The note hanging from the mantelpiece gives away the moral of the story: 'As the old sing, so shall the young twitter.' What will become of the children if their parents set the wrong example?

- young versus old age; young and old
- family life at home
- musician(s) accompanying singer(s)
- pipe ~ tobacco
- village street
- beggar



**Meissener Porzellan
Manufaktur**
1731

Blue Macaw

On display in room 2.22

The porcelain factory at Meissen, near Dresden, was founded in 1709. It was the first European factory to produce 'true' or hard-paste porcelain, like that known in China and Japan. The manufactory was owned by Augustus the Strong, Elector of Saxony and King of Poland. All the birds and animals in this display case were made for him. They were intended for his so-called Japanese Palace, the walls of which he wished to fill with porcelain.

- BK-17496
- Amsterdam and Paris
- for Adolf Hitler's Führermuseum,



Lambertus van Eenhoorn
1692 - 1700

Flower pyramid

On display in room 2.22

Costly cut flowers could be placed in each spout of this flower pyramid, which is built up of separate elements. The model of this tall, stacked flower vase originated at the court of William and Mary, his consort, who was passionately interested in flower arrangement, porcelain and tin-glazed earthenware.

- chest, bust - AA - female human figure
- beasts of prey, predatory animals: lion
- one person playing string instrument
(plucked)
- flowers



Anonymous

1680 - 1700

Chest with nine porcelain bottles.

On display in room 2.9

The Dutch East India Company maintained good relations with Asian rulers. To promote their commercial interests, they greased palms with presents: globes, paintings, animals, and chests with bottles, like this one. The expensive aromatic oils in the bottles were the actual gift. The bottles were ordered in Japan and the chest was custommade by joiners in Batavia.

- flowers
- lotus ~ ornament
- 1670 - 1675
- Deshima
- Verenigde Oostindische Compagnie