

WALLACE COLLECTION ANNOUNCES 2021 EXHIBITIONS ON RUBENS AND FRANS HALS



Peter Paul Rubens, *The Rainbow Landscape*, c. 1636 and Frans Hals, *The Laughing Cavalier*, 1624 © Trustees of The Wallace Collection, London.

Following the extraordinary circumstances of 2020, the Wallace Collection is delighted to announce its revised 2021 exhibitions programme, which centres on two of the Wallace Collection's most revered paintings from the permanent collection, and masterpieces of Flemish and Dutch art - Peter Paul Rubens's *Rainbow Landscape* and Frans Hals's *Laughing Cavalier*.

As works of exceptional international renown, these two works will, for the first time, both be seen in the broader context of their authors' oeuvre alongside pendant and similar works.

Dr Xavier Bray, Director of the Wallace Collection, said:

"It's absolutely thrilling for me that for the first time ever, two of the finest jewels of our collection will each be shown next to other works by their artists, giving them a completely new context. It shines a much-deserved light on our rich holdings of Dutch and Flemish painting, which includes works by Van Dyck, Rembrandt and Willem Van de Velde, as well as Rubens and Frans Hals. After the difficult events of 2020, we hope that these wonderful exhibitions for 2021 bring hope, inspiration, solace and joy to all our audiences."

Rubens: Reuniting the Great Landscapes

21 April 2021 – 15 August 2021

Admission Charge

#ReunitingRubens

In partnership with VISITFLANDERS

For the first time in over two hundred years, Peter Paul Rubens's (1577-1640) two great masterpieces of landscape painting, *The Rainbow Landscape* (The Wallace Collection) and *A View of Het Steen in the Early Morning* (The National Gallery) will be reunited as part of an exhibition at the Wallace Collection.

Although kept together in Rubens's own collection, the paintings were brought to London in 1803, and separated for good with *The Rainbow Landscape* eventually entering the Wallace Collection and *A View of Het Steen in the Early Morning*, the National Gallery collection.

Painted as a companion pair, these sweeping panoramic works show Rubens's newly acquired manor house and estate, Het Steen, at Elewijt (between Brussels and Antwerp) as it was in about 1636. They both celebrate the fertile countryside of Brabant, and pay homage to the great Flemish tradition of landscape painting. The visitor to this exhibition will have a unique opportunity to experience these great paintings together and on their own, and to be immersed in their wealth of detail and ambitious scale. The exhibition will be accompanied by a documentary film, and by a richly illustrated, detailed monograph dedicated to the two paintings, available now.

Frans Hals: The Male Portrait

22 September 2021 – 30 January 2022

Admission Charge

#FransHals

In autumn 2021, The Wallace Collection will celebrate Frans Hals's (1582/3-1666) most famous and beloved painting, *The Laughing Cavalier*, painted in 1624. Since it entered the Wallace Collection in 1865 as the only work by Hals, this iconic image has never been seen together with other works by the artist, and will form the centrepiece of the exhibition.

In the first ever show to focus solely on Hals's portraits of men posing on their own, *The Laughing Cavalier* will be showcased alongside other great male portraits by Hals in order to explore his highly innovative approach to male portraiture in particular, from the beginning of his career in the 1610s until the end of his life in 1666.

This exhibition will bring together a careful selection of the artist's best male portraits from Europe and North America. In doing so, the show will aim to demonstrate how, through pose and virtuosic painterly technique, Hals completely revolutionised the male portrait into something entirely new and fresh, capturing and revealing his sitters' characters like no one else before him. It will also showcase the evolution of Hals's style, which is especially evident in his male portraits, from finely painted works to those demonstrating increasingly free and loose handling in his later years.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

For further press information please contact Kathryn Havelock or Billy Ward on press@wallacecollection.org / 07483 310811

For public information, please print 020 7560 9500 or wallacecollection.org
The Wallace Collection, Hertford House, Manchester Square, London, W1U 3BN

Tickets

Ticketing information for both exhibitions will be announced in early 2021.

Membership

Members of the Wallace Collection enjoy free unlimited entry to all Wallace Collection exhibitions, as well as exclusive previews, private views and special events, plus discounts in the Wallace Collection Shop and Restaurant. For further information please visit: www.wallacecollection.org/support-us/become-a-member/

Opening hours

Open daily, current opening hours: 10am-4pm

Social Media

Instagram: [@wallacemuseum](https://www.instagram.com/wallacemuseum)

Facebook: [@wallacecollection](https://www.facebook.com/wallacecollection)

Twitter: [@WallaceMuseum](https://twitter.com/WallaceMuseum)

YouTube: TheWallacecollection

Events

A series of events including lectures, seminars, art classes and courses will take place in relation to these exhibitions. Find out more: wallacecollection.org/whats-on

About the Wallace Collection

As one of Britain's preeminent cultural institutions, the Wallace Collection is home to one of the most significant ensembles of fine and decorative arts in the world. Highlights include oil paintings from the fourteenth to the late nineteenth centuries by artists such as Titian, Velazquez, Rubens and Van Dyck; princely arms and armour; and one of the finest collections of eighteenth-century French paintings and decorative arts. Visitors can also enjoy superb medieval and Renaissance objects, including Limoges enamel, maiolica, glass and bronzes. Displayed at Hertford House, former home to Sir Richard and Lady Wallace, this outstanding collection is displayed in a manner designed to evoke the lives and tastes of its founders, creating a special ambiance that remains an essential part of its charm. www.wallacecollection.org

Image Sheet

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21 April 2021 – 15 August 2021



Peter Paul Rubens, *The Rainbow Landscape*, c. 1636 © Trustees of The Wallace Collection, London.



Peter Paul Rubens, *A View of Het Steen in the Early Morning*, probably 1636 © Trustees of The National Gallery, London.

Frans Hals: The Male Portrait
22 September 2021 – 30 January 2022



Frans Hals, *The Laughing Cavalier*, 1624 © Trustees of The Wallace Collection, London.



Frans Hals, *Willem Coymans*, 1645. Courtesy National Gallery of Art, Washington, Andrew W. Mellon Collection, 1937.1.69.