



MUSEUM
PRINSENHOF
DELFT

**VERMEER'S
DELFT**

10 FEB-
4 JUNE 2023

Press release

Delft, 2 December 2021

Leading part for Delft in ambitious Vermeer exhibition at the Museum Prinsenhof Delft

The Museum Prinsenhof Delft is organizing an ambitious exhibition on the life of Johannes Vermeer (1632-1675) in the city of Delft, running from 10 February through 4 June 2023. On the basis of masterpieces by Delft painters, Delft pottery, Delft tapestries, archival material and biographical records, a picture of the bustling atmosphere in the 17th century city will be sketched. Never before has this been the point of departure for an exhibition on this world-famous Delft master. The exhibition will run parallel to a major Vermeer exhibition at the Rijksmuseum.

Janelle Moerman, director of the Museum Prinsenhof Delft:

“Worldwide, many exhibitions on art history have been dedicated to the work of Vermeer, on the mystery concerning his working method, his sources of inspiration and possible masters. For the first time, the context in which he created his paintings will be central to an exhibition. With Het Delft van Vermeer (Vermeer’s Delft), we look at Johannes Vermeer from the perspective of cultural history. Nowhere else could this story be better told than in Delft, the place where this Delft master was born and flourished.”

Themes and people

The exhibition is built around three principle themes: Vermeer’s personal life, the artistic climate in Delft and the socio-economic climate in the city. Each theme is introduced on the basis of a person Vermeer actually knew. With masterpieces of Delft painting, Delft tapestries, archival material and biographical records, the museum shows what Vermeer’s life in Delft must have been like and how the city would have shaped and influenced his work.

Alongside the exhibition *Het Delft van Vermeer (Vermeer’s Delft)*, a city programme will be developed in coordination with Delft entrepreneurs and cultural partners.

Vermeer at the Rijksmuseum

In the spring of 2023, parallel to the exhibition at the Museum Prinsenhof Delft, the Rijksmuseum will devote a retrospective exhibition to the 17th-century master Johannes Vermeer for the first time in its history. With loans from around the world, this promises to be the largest Vermeer exhibition ever. The exhibition is a collaborative effort of the Rijksmuseum and the Mauritshuis. Both museums will conduct research into Vermeer's artistry, his artistic choices and motivations for his compositions, as well as into the creative process of his paintings.

About the Museum Prinsenhof Delft

The Museum Prinsenhof Delft is a multifaceted and dynamic museum located in the heart of the historic city. It tells the story of five centuries of Dutch history and, in particular, Delft's role in it. Three themes closely linked to the city - William the Silent, Prince of Orange, Delft Masters and Delftware - form the basis of the programmes. Visitors are immersed in the rich past, art and culture of Delft, which continue to make the city an inspiring place to this day. The museum is housed in the former monastery that temporarily served as the court of William the Silent in the 16th century. The building is included in the Cultural Heritage Agency's list of the 100 most important national monuments.

www.prinsenhof-delft.nl

Note to the editors (not for publication)

For more information, please contact Heidi Vandamme, Marketing and Communications, +31 (0)6 295 32 686, pers-prinsenhof@delft.nl.