



The Ackland Art Museum Displays “All the Rembrandt Drawings!” in Participation with Global 350th Anniversary Celebrations

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

(Chapel Hill, N.C. — Sept. 23, 2019) — Today, the Ackland Art Museum at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill announces its first ever exhibition to present all seven of the Museum’s drawings by Rembrandt van Rijn (1606-1669), a singular genius in the history of world art. “All the Rembrandt Drawings!” opens on Friday, Oct. 4, marking the 350th anniversary of the artist’s death in 1669. The brief exhibition runs through Sunday, Oct. 20.

The Ackland is the only public university art museum in the United States to own a collection of Rembrandt's drawings. In hosting the exhibition of these seven drawings from the Museum's Peck Collection, the Ackland celebrates the legacy of Rembrandt alongside institutions such as the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam and the Museo Nacional del Prado in Madrid.

"This special presentation of Rembrandt drawings from the Peck Collection not only explores the artist's amazing technical skill and his profound insight into the human condition, but also presents an occasion to highlight the ongoing importance of the Pecks' gift to the Museum," says Dana Cowen, the Ackland's inaugural Sheldon Peck curator for European and American art before 1950. "Such a display places the Ackland among other museums worldwide that are celebrating Rembrandt's considerable artistic legacy this year and represents a rare opportunity for art lovers in North Carolina to see Rembrandt's talent as a draftsman."

The drawings in the Ackland's collection, which were created over a twenty-year period from about 1635 to 1656, depict biblical and genre scenes, figure studies and the Dutch landscape. They range widely in style and technique, and reveal how Rembrandt used the medium to refine his skills, record interesting motifs, and experiment with composition. Highlights from the group of drawings include Rembrandt's "Noli me tangere," a scene in which Christ reveals himself to Mary Magdalene after his Resurrection, and the artist's "Studies of a woman and two children," one of around twenty-five drawings known today that feature an inscription by the artist.

The seven works in "All the Rembrandt Drawings!" form the core of the Peck Collection of seventeenth- and eighteenth-century Dutch and Flemish [drawings gifted to the Museum in 2017](#) by UNC-Chapel Hill alumnus Sheldon Peck and his late wife Leena. Assembled by the Pecks over four decades, the collection and its accompanying funding represented the largest gift ever donated to the Museum, establishing the Ackland as a significant resource for Dutch Golden Age drawings in the United States.



The Ackland presents the following programs in connection with "All the Rembrandt Drawings!"; all programs are open to the public and are free of charge.

FEATURED:

Looking Over Rembrandt's Shoulder: A Discussion of the Peck Collection Drawings

Featuring Dana Cowen, Robert Fucci, and Sheldon Peck

Oct 11, 2019 | 5:00 p.m., during the 2nd Friday ArtWalk

Dana Cowen, Sheldon Peck Curator for European and American Art before 1950; Robert Fucci, Peck Collection Research Fellow; and collector Sheldon Peck will participate in an energetic conversation about Rembrandt's renowned skill as a draftsman and his impact on the art world.

RSVP at ackland.org. Free and open to the public.

Guided Weekday Tours

Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays during *All the Rembrandt Drawings!* | 1:30 p.m. (and 2:00 p.m., if the earlier tour fills)

Oct 4

Oct 9, 10, 11

Oct 16, 17, 18

First come, first served; space is limited to 15 visitors per tour.*

Special Weekend Tours

Sundays during *All the Rembrandt Drawings!* | 2:30 p.m.

Oct 6

Oct 13

Oct 20

First come, first served; space is limited to 15 visitors per tour.*

** Community groups may request a free, private, guided tour of All the Rembrandt Drawings (or any Ackland exhibition) by visiting <https://ackland.org/education/request-a-tour/>*

High-resolution image files and an exhibition checklist with full captions are available here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/af83n0sdga0cxig/AADtpmsnsaNn3XdXvILAf5Ra?dl=0>

Larger files are available on request.

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About the Ackland Art Museum: Featuring a year-round calendar of special exhibitions and dynamic public programs, the Ackland Art Museum on UNC-Chapel Hill's historic campus is a local museum with a global outlook that bridges campus and community. Admission to the Ackland is free and accessible to all. The Ackland's holdings include nearly 19,000 works of art. The collection spans all cultures and time periods, showcasing the breadth of human creativity. A vital teaching resource, the museum's mission is the art of understanding. Visitors can connect with the complexity and beauty of the wider world by getting close to art—the familiar, the unexpected, the challenging. The Ackland Art Museum is located at 101 South Columbia St. on the UNC Chapel Hill campus. Museum hours are Wednesday through Saturday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sundays 1 p.m. - 5 p.m. The museum is open until 9 p.m. for Chapel Hill-Carrboro's monthly 2nd Friday ArtWalk. More information is available at ackland.org.

Image credits:

Rembrandt van Rijn, Dutch, 1606-1669, *Noli me tangere*, c. 1655-56, pen and brown ink with touches of brown wash on paper, sheet: 8 9/16 x 7 5/16 in. (21.8 x 18.5 cm). The Peck Collection, 2017.1.68.

Rembrandt van Rijn, Dutch, 1606-1669, *Studies of a woman and two children*, c. 1640, pen and brown ink on paper, sheet: 5 3/8 x 5 3/16 in. (13.6 x 13.2 cm). The Peck Collection, 2017.1.64.