

Programme 2017

Art history is a source of information and inspiration for art lovers, collectors and dealers alike. For the fourth year in a row, Brafa has organized the Brafa Art Talks, a series of daily lectures.

This year, the King Baudouin Foundation is curating the Brafa Art Talks. 2017 marks their Heritage Fund's 30th anniversary and the 10th anniversary of their involvement in Brafa. The Heritage Fund is devoted to the conservation and protection of Belgian cultural heritage. Curators, restorers, art world professionals and art market experts will take turns to share their knowledge, covering diverse fascinating subjects.

Daily at 4 pm in the Brafa Lounge - stand 46a

Saturday 21 January

Language: NL

An application made for museums

This new application enables visitors to discover objects shown in museums and cultural heritage centers using augmented reality (incorporating sound, video, 2D or 3D images). All you do is take a photo of the icon situated next to the exhibit and the relevant information appears on your smartphone or tablet.

By *Bram Wiercx, ICT & Informationmanager, FARO. Vlaams steunpunt voor cultureel erfgoed*

Sunday 22 January

Languages: FR & NL

Multiple perspectives: how objects are perceived differently from culture to culture

Our cultural heritage and our contemporary understanding of art both have an undeniable influence on the way we perceive objects from other cultures. Just as the materiality of the object is vital in Western culture for example, so immateriality is essential elsewhere.

By ***Christian Vrouyr, member of Brafa's Board of Directors***

Monday 23 January

Languages: FR & NL

From pen to needle

Once, a tapestry was worth a house. This is far from astonishing when you discover the secrets of their fabrication. The restoration of Pieter Coecke van Aelst's design on cardboard for the 'Martyrdom of Saint-Paul' tapestry, held at the Museum of the City of Brussels, led to the most fascinating discoveries. The following specialists discuss this unique adventure:

Catheline Perier, Professor Emeritus, ULB

Bérenghère de Laveleye, Curator, Museum of the City of Brussels

Hélène Bartelloni – Cascio, Restorer

Tuesday 24 January

Language: NL

Big data creates a buzz. How does this effect cultural heritage?

The significance of data is becoming increasingly clear. This is also true in the art field. Big data creates a buzz, and cultural institutions can't ignore the new trend. What sort of information is concerned, and what are its uses?

By ***Alina Saenko, PACKED vzw - Expertisecentrum Digitaal Erfgoed and Matthias Vandermaesen, Vlaamse Kunstcollectie***

Wednesday 25 January

Language: NL

Museum in transition

The Royal Museum of Central Africa is going through a period of transition, and will soon welcome visitors to discover its collections in a new light. What happens behind the scenes of a museum renovation project? Does everything stop? Come and get a glimpse for yourselves!

By ***Guido Gryseels, Director, Royal Museum of Central Africa***

Thursday 26 January

Languages: FR & NL

The collector

Did you know that without private collectors, there would be no Louvre, no Met or Getty Museum? In Belgium too, many museums would not exist without these generous donors. In fact, many works of art around the world would have been lost for good without them!

By ***Dominique Allard, Director, King Baudouin Foundation***

Friday 27 January

Language: NL

Rediscovery of a work by the young van Dyck

A major artwork has recently reappeared: 'The Apostle Matthew', painted by Anthony van Dyck at the very start of his career. It even seems likely that the work was created in Rubens' studio in Anvers. Previously kept in the intimacy of a private collection, the painting will now be accessible to all.

By ***Ben van Beneden, Director, Rubens House***

Saturday 28 January

Languages: FR & NL

Journey to the heart of an artwork

The human and natural sciences have often been considered to have little or nothing in common. However, studying an artwork from the point of view of a chemist or physicist is a very enriching experience! The analysis of the mitres of Jacques de Vitry illustrates their discussion.

By ***François de Callataÿ, Head of Department, Royal Library of Belgium***
Lieve Watteuw, Illuminare - Studiecentrum voor Middeleeuwse Kunst,
K.U.Leuven - Faculteit Letteren
Fiona Lebecque, Assistant Curator, the Archaeological Society of Namur

Sunday 29 January

Language: FR

Fascinating Egypt

Egypt fascinates, and one Belgian in particular, Jean Capart (1877-1947) contributed significantly to this fascination by unearthing precious fragments of information that still hold our attention today. But who was Jean Capart? 70 years after his death, few remember this great Egyptian art specialist who founded Egyptology in Belgium and was a central figure of cultural and scientific life both in Belgium and abroad in the first half of the 20th century.

By ***Jean-Michel Bruffaerts, Scientific associate of the Royal Museums of Art and History in Brussels***