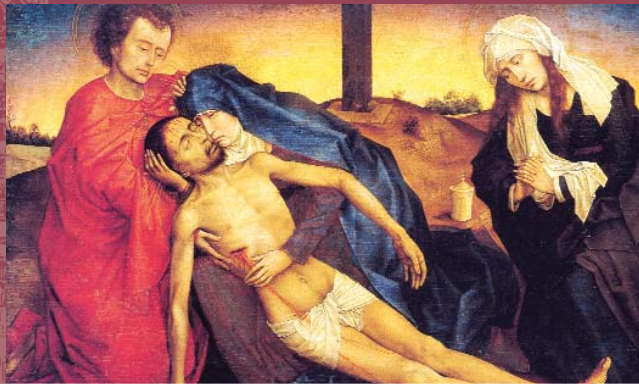


ROGIER VAN DER WEYDEN

Master of Passions

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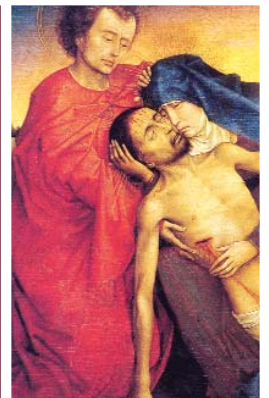


Rogier van der Weyden, Mary Magdalene Reading, ©National Gallery, London
Rogier van der Weyden, Portrait of Charles the Bold, ©Staatliche Museen zu Berlin, Berlin
Rogier van der Weyden, Pieta, ©Koninklijke Musea voor Schone Kunsten, Brussel
Rogier van der Weyden, Sacramentsaltaar (fragment), Koninklijk Museum voor Schone Kunsten, Antwerpen.

Leuven, Belgium
20th September - 6th December 2009

Heritage

GROUP TRAVEL



Heritage

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VISIT TO A UNIQUE
EXHIBITION



The Group Travel Professionals

Unique exhibition Rogier van der Weyden - Master of Passions

20th September - 6th December 2009

The autumn of 2009 offers a unique opportunity to view an astonishing collection of works by one of the greatest Flemish artists, **Rogier van der Weyden**, who along with Jan van Eyck was the Southern Netherlands' foremost fifteenth-century painter. The exhibition Master of Passions in the delightful Flemish town of Leuven, near Brussels, brings together some 120 masterpieces drawn from both private and public collections throughout the world. Many works will be on public display for the very first time, and we are unlikely ever again to witness such an extensive and beautiful representation of Van der Weyden's oeuvre - some of the works have never travelled before; others last saw Flanders five centuries ago. Numerous leading museums in Europe and the USA are loaning their masterpieces, resulting in historic reunions of once dispersed works.

Tickets will not be on sale to the general public until April 2009, but we have special access to guaranteed group allocations in advance of this.

ROGIER VAN DER WEYDEN Master of Passions



The artist

Rogier van der Weyden was born in Tournai around 1400 and later settled in Brussels where he held the prestigious office of city painter. He demonstrated an exceptional ability to portray emotion and his art is typified by controlled pathos and subtly expressive figures. His powerful religious paintings reflect an intense personal conviction, while his portraits are often characterised by a gentle, introspective piety. His oeuvre was a milestone in the development of visual art and he inspired generations of artists well into the 16th century. The exhibition in Leuven juxtaposes Van der Weyden's art with that of contemporaries and later emulators, leaving visitors in no doubt about the painter's extraordinary influence on the direction of Netherlandish art.

A tour to the exhibition

Working in close cooperation with a range of hotels in Antwerp, Bruges and Brussels, we are offering tours of varying duration and content to include a visit to the exhibition. Tours can be tailored to the preferences of your group, but the following are some of the suggested highlights in addition to the exhibition itself:

Antwerp

Gothic Cathedral of our Lady - housing several subliminal works by Rubens, notably *The Raising of the Cross* and *The Descent from the Cross*

Rubens' House - a delightful mansion in the heart of the city where the painter lived from 1616 until the time of his death in 1640

Mayer van den Bergh Museum - a magnificent private house with a fine collection of works by early Flemish painters

Museum Plantin-Moretus - the patrician home of Christoffel Plantin and former printing establishment

Royal Museums of Fine Arts - one of Europe's great collections

Bruges

Guided tour of the city's architectural highlights, including the **Basilica of the Holy Blood** with its flamboyant Italian Renaissance-style façade and the **City Hall (Stadhuis)**

Groeninge Museum - with its collection of superb works by Flemish primitives

Memling Museum - in the former medieval Hospital of St John

Ghent

Cathedral of St Bavo - housing the great van Eyck masterpiece, *The Adoration of the Mystic Lamb*

Castle of Laarne with its exquisite collection of silver, tapestries and furniture

Brussels

The **Grand Place** - with its magnificent guild houses

Art Nouveau and Art Deco tour - architectural tour to include several buildings not usually open to the public

Royal Museum of Fine Arts - one of Europe's great collections

Prices

From £325 for a 3 day tour, or £425 per person for a four day tour (based on 25 paying) to include accommodation in 4 star hotels, all travel, full programme of visits, entrance fees, free place for the organiser and the services of our specialist guide throughout.

Specialist guide

Our preferred guide (and the overwhelming choice of all our groups who visit Belgium) is Mme Lieve Dejonghe. Mme Dejonghe is a resident of Brussels and has considerable experience of leading cultural group tours throughout Belgium. A gifted linguist and historian, she regularly arranges visits for our groups to places which are little-known and not readily available to the general public.

Travel with a lecturer

We can engage the services of a UK based lecturer to accompany your tour if you so wish. We work with a number of suitably qualified (and personable) lecturers who would be happy to lead your tour. Please contact us for details.

Please contact us for full details and a suggested itinerary