



Hunting, Game and Painting

in the Dutch Golden Age

Hoogsteder Museum Foundation



Exhibition of 15 to 35 Paintings from the 17th Century

Hunting, Game and Painting in the Dutch Golden Age tells the story of how rich and poor hunted in the 17th-century Netherlands.

It is the first exhibition ever on this subject.

Hardly anything was known in the museum world about hunting practises in the 17th century.

The Hoogsteder Museum Foundation created the concept, carried out the research and located 35 Old Master paintings from private collections, all of museum quality.

This exhibition sheds new light on all paintings portraying this subject: still lifes and landscapes, as well as portraits, genre and mythological paintings.

The Hoogsteder Museum Foundation

The Hoogsteder Museum Foundation produces turn-key exhibitions for museums and institutions.

Over the last 50 years Hoogsteder has realised 20 exhibitions and made loans available to 185 museum exhibitions worldwide.

Most recently an important loan was negotiated for the Rembrandt-Velásquez exhibition in the Rijksmuseum Amsterdam.



Hunting, Game and Painting for hire

Unique

No museum in the entire world has ever staged an exhibition dedicated to hunting in 17th-century painting.

Exclusive

All paintings are lent from private collections in Europe and are never seen in public.

They rank among the best produced by the artists and are all in excellent condition.

Services

The turn-key project can be adjusted in size from 15 to 35 paintings. Packing, shipping, insurance, art historical content for text labels and catalogue, are all included.

Education

The exhibition lends itself very well for educational purposes. Workshops and guided tours for children, students and adults can be provided with trending topics such as:

Sustainability: precious food in the past - waste of food now.

Nature: exploitation of nature - respect for nature.

Esthetics: beauty in painting - beauty in nature.

And more general:

The story of Dutch art.

The birth of a new nation and how the Dutch society brought prosperity for all: the rich, the poor and the middle classes.



Hunting, Game and Painting content

The fascinating picture story of *Hunting, Game and Painting* is told in 5 chapters:

1. Portraits
2. Mythology
3. Hunting Practice
4. Still Life
5. Special Pictures





1. Portraits

Noblemen and the upper middle class had themselves portrayed in hunting outfits. For instance, Charles Louis, Prince Palatine, had himself portrayed as Apollo with a bow and arrow, by the famous court artist Gerard van Honthorst.



2. Mythology

Diana, goddess of the hunt, and her twin brother Apollo, often served as inspiration for hunting paintings.

Willem van Mieris rendered Diana with an idealized 'porcelain' skin, her fairy-tale putti as assistants.

Sometimes, however, the subject of *Diana resting* was used in a more profane way: as an excuse to depict nudity.

Such is evident in a striking painting by Pieter Codde, where a Dutch voluptuous woman of real flesh and blood, lies naked in a landscape. Diana's attributes, a bow and arrows, are purposely hidden by the artist.

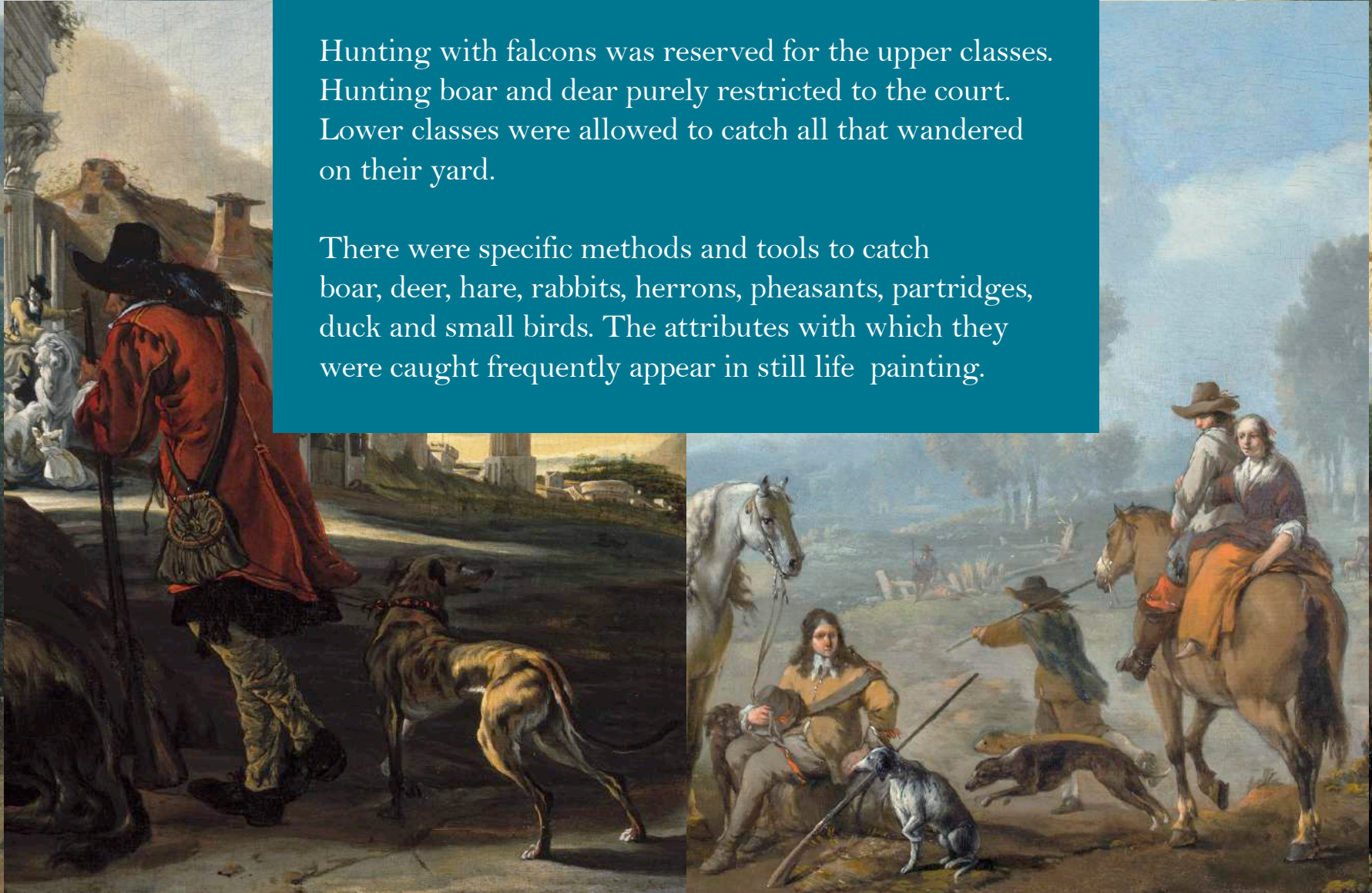


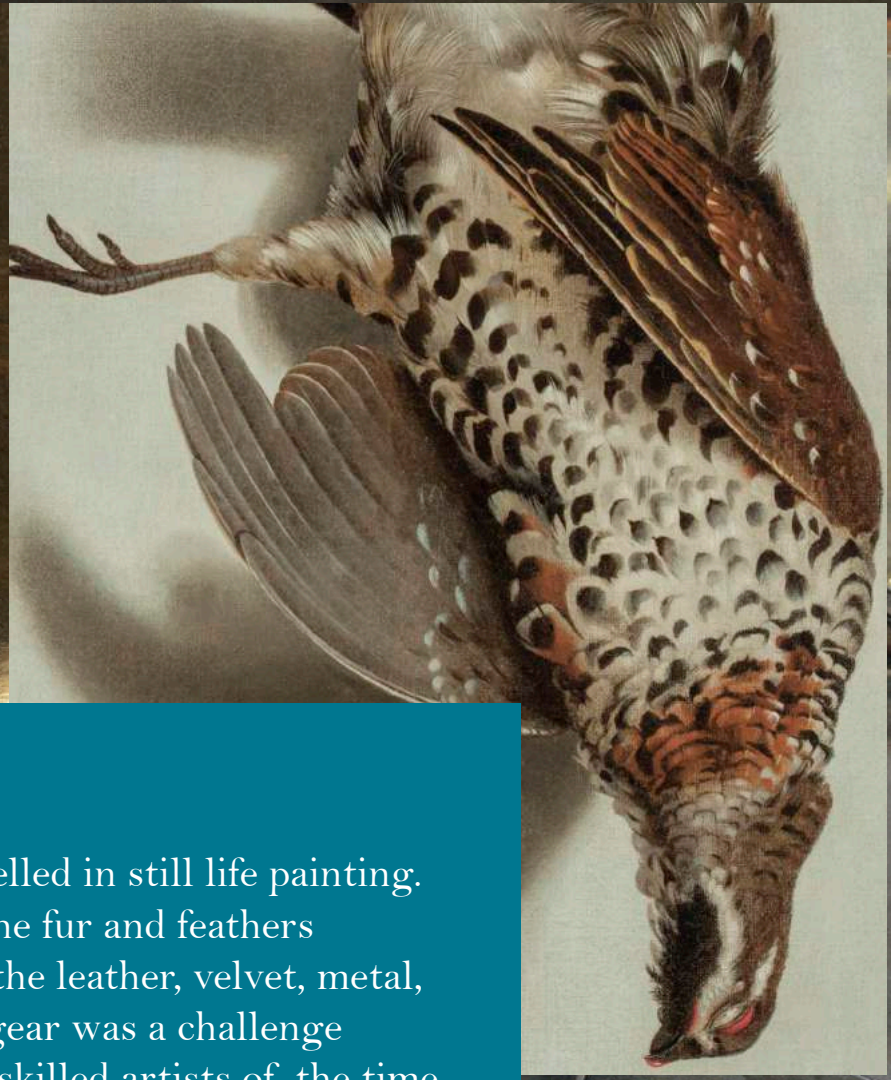
3. Hunting Practice

In landscape painting we can often find huntsmen, but only if you know how to recognise him. He may be alone on foot, on horseback often with an aid, or be part of a larger hunting party.

Hunting with falcons was reserved for the upper classes. Hunting boar and deer purely restricted to the court. Lower classes were allowed to catch all that wandered on their yard.

There were specific methods and tools to catch boar, deer, hare, rabbits, herrons, pheasants, partridges, duck and small birds. The attributes with which they were caught frequently appear in still life painting.





4. Still Life

17th-century painters excelled in still life painting. The beautiful texture of the fur and feathers of animals, juxtaposed to the leather, velvet, metal, wood or rope of hunting gear was a challenge hard to resist by the most skilled artists of the time. As never before or after, they succeeded to capture these beautiful animals in paint to be admired, still today, in full splendour.

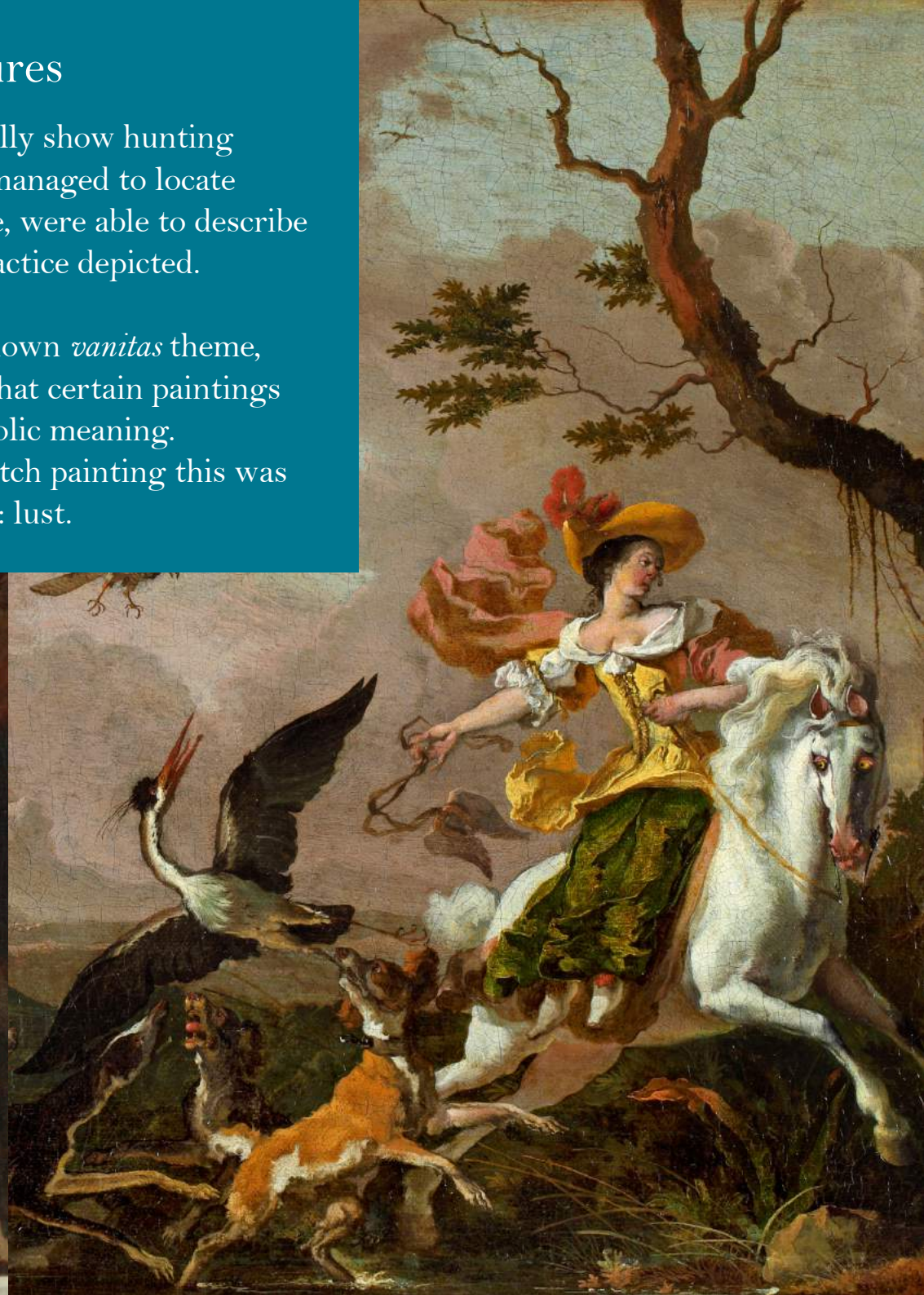
Animals were caught to be eaten as hunting was part of daily life. But even on the kitchentable, artists were fascinated by the beauty of fowl and game.



5. Special Pictures

Paintings that specifically show hunting methods are rare. We managed to locate them and, what is more, were able to describe the specific hunting practice depicted.

Apart from the well-known *vanitas* theme, our research revealed that certain paintings carried a specific symbolic meaning. Not surprisingly in Dutch painting this was the opposite of *vanitas*: lust.



Hunting, Game and Painting specifications

Availability From now onwards.

Paintings

- All paintings are produced in the Netherlands between 1600 and 1700.
- Paintings rank among the best produced by the artists and are all in excellent condition.
- Paintings are lent from private European collections and cannot be seen in public.
- The size of the exhibition and the number of paintings can be adjusted. Range is between 15 and 35 paintings.

Text To be used as a catalogue or on wall labels:

- Introduction to Holland's Golden Age
- Introductions to all 5 chapters
- Label texts for all paintings

Publicity The Museum will receive high resolution photographs and an introductory text, to use for promotional purposes. A press release can also be provided.

Facilities

The present exhibition ranging between 15 to 35 paintings may be hung in approximately 50 to 100 meters. General museum facilities (such as security and climate control) are recommended.

Price

Price ranges from €50.000 - €100.000 depending on destination, number and value of paintings.

We offer packaging, shipping and insurance at highly competitive rates, depending on destination, number and value of paintings.

The exhibition is very suitable for travelling. Discount can be offered to a request for more than one venue.

Transport

Includes:

- All packaging and crating
- Door to door transport
- All courier costs

Insurance

Includes:

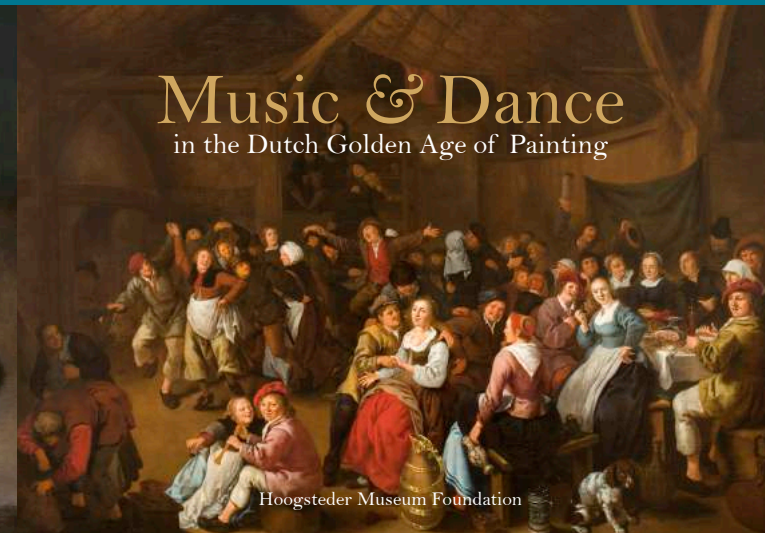
- Wall to wall insurance
- Condition reports
- Administration costs (for contracts, insurance, etc.)

Also available for hire

Rembrandt's Academy

Flowers & Fruit in the Dutch Golden Age of Painting

Music & Dance in the Dutch Golden Age of Painting



In preparation: *Food & Drink in the Dutch Golden Age of Painting*
Strong Women in Holland's Golden Age

Contact

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