

Theme

The importance of studying sketchbooks for understanding early modern artistic practice has long been acknowledged. In sketchbooks, artists trained their hands, collected motifs, recorded travel impressions and experimented with original compositions. Because these books were made for private use rather than for public display, they present a clear and immediate impression of artists' working procedures.

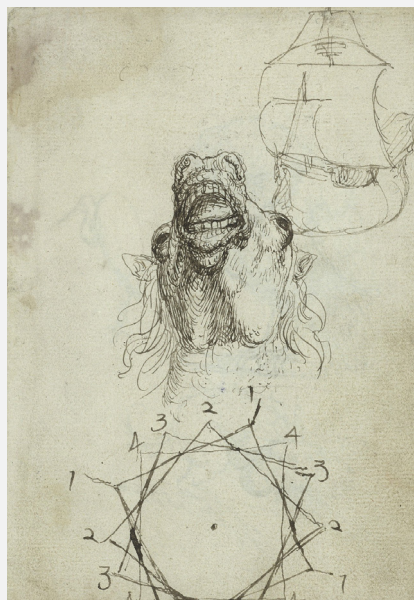
Intact (or partly intact) sketchbooks from Italian artists and workshops have been studied extensively, but only a handful of 16th century Northern books have survived. Research into these objects has largely focused on the subject-matter depicted on the successive folios, rather than exploring these books as indispensable instruments for artistic practice. The meeting is centered around one case-study: the personal sketchbook of the Amsterdam painter, printmaker, and cartographer Cornelis Anthonisz (c.1505-1553). This sketchbook can be situated at the crossroads of traditional and modern drawing practice: it partly follows the conventional praxis of a traditional model-book, but it later grew into a tool for comprehending and experimenting with a new kind of visual geometry useful for Anthonisz' multifaceted artistic and scientific endeavors.

Objectives

In order to gain a better understanding of the functioning of early modern sketchbooks from the North, this expert-meeting aims to look *beyond* the separate folios to uncover the rationale behind these objects. The pivotal role the personal sketchbook played in the early modern artistic practice will be scrutinized on the basis of presentations of, and discussion with, distinguished specialists on interrelated areas of expertise. Through sharing knowledge and expertise, and a session in Casa Buonarroti to examine some of Michelangelo's drawings, this meeting at the NIKI aims to further the understanding of sketchbooks as essential tools for the early modern work-flow and develop ideas for future research and possible collaboration at the same time.

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The expert-meeting is not open for the public. It was made possible through the generous support of the NIKI and a visiting-professorship funded by the NWIB (Netherlands Scientific Institutes Abroad).

Image above: Sketches of a carack with hoisted sails, a horse's head viewed from below, and a geometrical exercise with four overlapping, numbered squares; fol. 7 r. from Anthonisz' sketchbook, pen and ink on paper, 14,4 x 10,2 cm., Kupferstichkabinett, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin.

Image middle page: Sketch of the Northwest corner of Amsterdam, showing the Haarlemmer poort, and calligraphic exercises; fol. 48 r. from Anthonisz' sketchbook, pen and ink on paper, 14,4 x 10,2 cm., Kupferstichkabinett, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin.

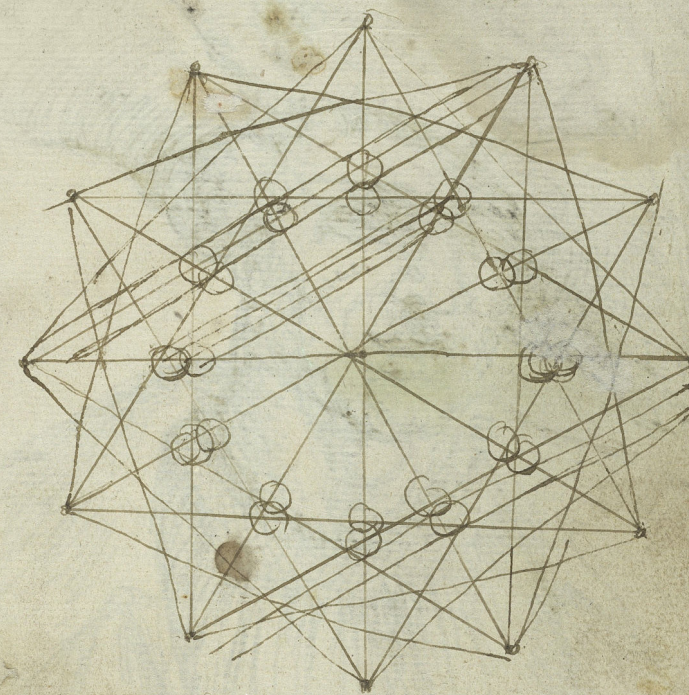
Cover image: Sketch of a twelve-pointed star, with double circles in the middle; fol. 40 v. from Anthonisz' sketchbook, pen and ink on paper, 14,4 x 10,2 cm., Kupferstichkabinett, Staatliche Museen zu Berlin.

Expert meeting

From the mind to the page: navigating the early modern sketchbook

Organised by Daantje Meuwissen
and Michael W. Kwakkelstein

Thursday May 25 & Friday May 26, 2023



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Thursday, May 25

From the mind to the page

9.00

Coffee served in the garden

9.30

Dr. Daantje Meuwissen (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

From the mind to the page. Aims and objectives for the expert-meeting, and the sketchbook of Cornelis Anthonisz.

10.15

Prof.dr. Emanuele Pellegrini (Scuola IMT Alti Studi Lucca)

Between words and images. A possible history of the sketchbook.

11.00

Coffee served in the garden

11.30

Prof.dr. Yvonne Bleyerveld (Leiden University / RKD – Netherlands Institute for Art History) - *Fresh eyes at old sketchbooks: revisiting the content and function of 17th century Dutch sketchbooks*

12.15

Dr. Mauro Mussolin (Kunsthistorisches Institut in Florenz – Max Planck Institut) - *Did Michelangelo use sketchbooks?*

12.45

Lunch served in the garden

14.00 – 16.30

Session in Casa Buonarrotti

The anatomy of Michelangelo's drawings.

Forensic examination of sketches in Casa Buonarrotti

Friday, May 26

From the page to the mind

9.00

Coffee served in the garden

9.30

Dr. Daantje Meuwissen (Vrije Universiteit Amsterdam)

From the page to the mind: navigating the last quire of Anthonisz' sketchbook

10.15

Dr. Tatjana Bartsch (Bibliotheca Herziana/Max Planck Institut für Kunstwissenschaft) - *Maarten van Heemskerck's Roman sketchbook in restoration. Results form material and codicological research*

11.00

Coffee served in the garden

11.30

Dr. Tatjana Bartsch (Bibliotheca Herziana/Max Planck Institut für Kunstwissenschaft) - *Playground and repository. The Roman sketchbooks of Maarten van Heemskerck*

12.15

Prof. Cammy Brothers (Northeastern University) - *Afterthoughts on Giuliano da Sangallo and the Architect as bookmaker*

13.00

Lunch served in the garden

14.00

Prof.dr. Michael Kwakkelstein

(Director NIKI / Utrecht University)

From pocket-size notebooks to loose folios: Leonardo's use and re-use of paper.

14.45

Prof.dr. Sven Dupré (Utrecht University)

Renaissance Optics. The materiality of perspective

15.30

Tea served in the garden

16.00

Discussion and concluding remarks

17.00

Drinks and fingerfood in the garden

Participants:

Prof. dr. Filippo Camerota

Direttore scientifica Museo Galileo, Firenze

Prof. dr. Tanja Michalsky

Director Herziana Rome/ Max Planck Institut für Kunstwissenschaft

Dr. Gert Jan van de Sman

Netherlands Interuniversity Institute for Art History

