

**Master class: Research into the construction of Dutch seventeenth-century cabinets.**

**Rijksmuseum Amsterdam, Ateliergebouw, Monday 4 - Thursday 7 October 2010**

Organised by Rijksmuseum Amsterdam in collaboration with Stichting Ebenist and ICN. Financially supported by the Migelien Gerritzen Fund.

**Introduction:**

In the seventeenth century a specific type of cabinet was very popular in the Netherlands: a large two-door cabinet on a stand, with large flat surfaces and simple mouldings. The cabinets were designed to provide ample space for decorations. Decorations were made in many ways and many techniques: floral, geometrical and architectural marquetry, japanning, lacquer panels, textiles. The cabinets could even be painted. The construction of the cabinets was challenging. Large flat surfaces had to be created, which made it impossible to use of the tried and tested method of panels set into frames. A great variety of construction methods was applied, with varying results.

**Purpose:**

To provide a thorough insight into the many variations in the construction of this type of cabinet; to investigate these constructions, using the naked eye as well as other methods, such as X-ray photography; to make construction drawings using 3D design programs; to evaluate the effectiveness of the constructions, taking into consideration wood technology and the influence of climatic conditions; to consider conservation options as well as evaluating previous conservation treatments. Cabinets from the Rijksmuseum and other collections will be investigated. The master class includes an excursion to a historic house.

**Participants:**

This 4-day master class is aimed at professional conservators with experience in treating furniture with constructional problems. The number of participants is limited to 20. Active participation is the aim of the master class. Participants are requested to provide a brief CV and motivation. The master class is preceding the 10th International Symposium on Wood and Furniture Conservation: Restoring Joints, Conserving Structures, organised by Stichting Ebenist.

Cost: 450 euros

Further information and application: Paul van Duin, Head of furniture conservation, Rijksmuseum, [p.van.duin@rijksmuseum.nl](mailto:p.van.duin@rijksmuseum.nl)