

# EXHIBITION PROGRAMS

## Grand Design: Pieter Coecke van Aelst and Renaissance Tapestry

October 8, 2014–January 11, 2015



Detail of Eve, from *God Accuses Adam and Eve after the Fall* tapestry in a set of *The Story of Creation*. Design attributed to Pieter Coecke van Aelst, ca. 1548. Woven under the direction of Jan de Kempeneer and Frans Ghieteels, Brussels, completed by 1551. Wool, silk, and silver- and silver-gilt-wrapped threads. Florence: Istituti Museale della Soprintendenza Speciale per il Polo Museale Fiorentino, Arazzi 1912–25, 17). © The Metropolitan Museum of Art/ photograph by Bruce White.

This international loan exhibition explores the achievements of the great northern Renaissance master, Pieter Coecke van Aelst (1502–1550). As the impressive body of his surviving drawings makes clear, Coecke was a master designer, devising projects across media, from tapestry series to panel paintings, prints, stained glass, and goldsmith's work. The exhibition unites nineteen of the grand tapestries he designed, woven in the great workshops of Brussels for collectors from Emperor Charles V, France's François 1er, and Henry VIII of England, to Cosimo de Medici, juxtaposed with a selection of his panel paintings, including a monumental triptych, and more than thirty drawings and prints. Coecke was also the translator and editor of influential Italian architectural treatises that are included in the exhibition. In the midst of this productivity, Coecke traveled extensively, and among the exhibits is the fascinating woodcut frieze over fourteen feet in length that he designed to record his experiences in Constantinople.

## SYMPOSIUM

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### **Grand Design: Pieter Coecke van Aelst and the Renaissance**

*Saturday, January 10, 10:30–4:30*

*The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium,  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art*

*Sunday, January 11, 10:00–4:30*

*John L. Tishman Auditorium University Center,  
The New School, 63 Fifth Avenue, New York City*  
For directions visit [www.newschool.edu](http://www.newschool.edu).

Internationally renowned scholars and curators present recent scholarship in themed sessions during this two-day event held at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and The New School. Seating is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Consult the online calendar at [www.metmuseum.org/events](http://www.metmuseum.org/events) for the complete schedule.

This program is made possible by the Society of Friends of Belgium in America, Samuel H. Kress Foundation, Stark Carpet and Jamie Drake. It is organized by The Metropolitan Museum of Art, in collaboration with Parsons The New School for Design.

## GALLERY PROGRAMS

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### **Exhibition Tours**

*These tours meet at the exhibition entrance,  
The Tisch Galleries, Gallery 899.*

*Friday, October 10, 10:30–11:30*

*Monday, October 20, 10:30–11:30*

*Friday, November 21, 10:30–11:30*

*Monday, December 1, 10:30–11:30*

Elizabeth Cleland

*Saturday, November 1, 10:30–11:30*

*Saturday, December 20, 10:30–11:30*

Sarah Mallory, Research Assistant, European  
Sculpture and Decorative Arts

## MET MUSEUM PRESENTS: TICKETED EVENTS

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### **SPARK: Ideas That Spread, Art That Monetizes**

Elizabeth Cleland, Associate Curator,  
European Sculpture and Decorative Arts,  
The Metropolitan Museum of Art  
Seth Godin, bestselling author  
*Monday, December 1, 6:00: \$30*  
*The Grace Rainey Rogers Auditorium*

The glamorous tapestries of Flemish artist Pieter Coecke van Aelst were sought by the most discerning rulers in sixteenth-century Europe, from Henry VIII to the Hapsburgs and Medicis. As his ideas spread through paintings and books, his creations became hot commodities. In this SPARK conversation, host Julie Burstein, author and Peabody Award-winning creator of public radio's *Studio 360*, talks with Seth Godin and Elizabeth Cleland about what it takes to be an artist and entrepreneur in both the sixteenth and twenty-first centuries.

See last page for ticketing information.

## SHORT COURSE

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### **Making Tapestries in the Renaissance**

*Thursdays, November 6, 13, and 20, 2:00–4:00*

*Fee: \$150 (includes Museum admission)*

Explore the enterprise of tapestry-making during the Renaissance, from design to production to market distribution, through the drawings, prints, paintings, and majestic tapestries featured in the exhibition.

Led by Met experts, this three-session course meets in the Museum's classrooms and galleries. Space is limited. To register, visit [www.metmuseum.org/courses-and-workshops](http://www.metmuseum.org/courses-and-workshops) or purchase tickets at the Great Hall box office (see last page for hours). Registration ends at noon on the day before the first session.



Assistive listening devices are available for all programs listed above.

## STUDIO PROGRAM

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### Sunday Studio (for all ages)

#### **Tapestry Illustrations: Pieter Coecke van Aelst**

*Sunday, December 7, 1:00–4:00*

*Sunday, December 21, 1:00–4:00*

*The Tisch Galleries, Gallery 899*

Try your hand at creating works of art in the galleries. Focus on a different art form each session with family-friendly activities led by an artist. Drop in; art supplies provided.

Start or continue your art-making experience with a family tour in nearby galleries. Tours leave at 2:00 from the Sunday Studio welcome cart. Space is limited; first come, first served.

## FAMILY PROGRAMS

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### **How Did They Do That? (for all ages)** **European Tapestries**

*Saturday, December 13, 1:00–4:00*

*Sunday, December 14, 1:00–4:00*

*The Tisch Galleries, Gallery 899*

Peek at technique and learn—through handling tools and materials—how works of art were created.

### **Family Performance: Weave a Tale** **(for families with children of all ages)**

*Sunday, December 21, 1:00–4:00*

*Carson Family Hall, Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education*

Join shadow puppet artist Caroline Borderies for a performance that animates characters and stories from the exhibition. Take part in a family tour or art activity before or after the performance.

## PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR VISITORS WITH DISABILITIES

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### **Picture This! Workshop—Grand Design: Pieter Coecke van Aelst and Renaissance Tapestry**

*Thursday, November 13, 2:00–3:30*

*Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education*

Awaken the senses in a workshop for adults who are blind or partially sighted that makes works of art accessible through detailed descriptions, touch, and other activities.

### **Discoveries—Surrounded by Art**

*Sunday, November 16*

*11:00–12:30, for ages 18 and above*

*2:00–3:30, for ages 5–17*

*Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education*

This workshop is for children and adults with learning or developmental disabilities and those on the autism spectrum, along with accompanying friends and family members. It includes a gallery tour and an art activity.

The Access programs above are free, but registration is required. Please call (212) 650-2010 or email [access@metmuseum.org](mailto:access@metmuseum.org).



### **Large-Print Labels**

Large-print label booklets are available at the entrance to the exhibition.



### **Audio Guide**

The Audio Guide is free for visitors who are hard of hearing, Deaf, blind, or partially sighted. Audio Guide players have volume controls and headsets. Neck loops for hearing aids with T-switches are available upon request. Regular and large-print Audio Guide scripts are also available upon request.

### **Other Services**

The Museum is committed to serving all audiences. Please call (212) 650-2010 or email [access@metmuseum.org](mailto:access@metmuseum.org) about programs and services, including Sign Language–interpreted programs, Verbal Imaging Tours, the Touch Collection, and other programs.

## TEEN PROGRAM

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### **Art Explore—Woven Tales (for ages 11–14)**

*Sunday, December 7, 1:00–3:00*

*Ruth and Harold D. Uris Center for Education*

Talk with other teens about works of art from around the world while traveling through the Museum's galleries. Free, but online reservations are encouraged. To reserve, go to [www.metmuseum.org/events/programs/teen-programs](http://www.metmuseum.org/events/programs/teen-programs).

## PUBLICATION

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### ***Grand Design: Pieter Coecke van Aelst and Renaissance Tapestry***

By Elizabeth Cleland, Associate Curator, European Sculpture and Decorative Arts, The Metropolitan Museum of Art; with Maryan W. Ainsworth, Curator, European Paintings, Stijn Alsteens, Curator, Drawings and Prints, and Nadine M. Orenstein, Curator, Drawings and Prints, The Metropolitan Museum of Art

This lavish and comprehensive volume—the first devoted to this Renaissance master in fifty years—introduces Pieter Coecke van Aelst to a contemporary audience and explores his substantial contribution to the body of great Renaissance art. It features the magnificent tapestries he designed, and also examines the full range of his work, including panel paintings, drawings, designs for stained glass and prints, and the architectural treatises he translated and edited. It offers a thorough appraisal that justifies Coecke's placement as one of the great artists of the Northern Renaissance.

412 pages including a checklist, bibliography, and index; 350 color illustrations. Hardcover: (80024654). Learn more about the publication at [www.metmuseum.org/research/metpublications](http://www.metmuseum.org/research/metpublications). Available from The Metropolitan Museum of Art Store and online at [store.metmuseum.org](http://store.metmuseum.org).

## RELATED EXHIBITION

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### **Examining Opulence: A Set of Renaissance Tapestry Cushions**

*August 4, 2014–January 18, 2015*

*Antonio Ratti Textile Center, Gallery 599*

Art and science meet as *Examining Opulence* unveils the roles of museum curators and conservators in the investigation, conservation, and decoding of art objects. The installation provides a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the fascinating and indispensable work necessary to prepare objects for display by exploring the different questions curators and conservators pose when presented with six luxurious, late Renaissance tapestry-woven cushion covers. Never-before-seen images of these objects, captured with microscopes and X-ray technologies, provide visitors with an intimate glimpse of the sumptuous materials, such as silk and gilded threads, that comprise the pieces. The rarely seen and complex backs of these tapestries, scarcely ever exposed to sunlight and therefore more colorful than their fronts, are also on view.

## AUDIO GUIDE

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Explore the achievements of the great Netherlandish master Pieter Coecke van Aelst and learn about his impressive career in tapestry design, panel paintings, prints, and stained glass. Curators Elizabeth Cleland, Nadine M. Orenstein, Maryan W. Ainsworth, and Stijn Alsteens discuss the monumental scale, stunning palette, and daring designs of Coecke's work and how he contributed to the artistic development of the Northern Renaissance.

The Audio Guide is available for daily rental at the Museum: \$7.00 for the general public; \$6.00 for Museum Members; \$6.00 for groups of 14 or fewer; \$5.00 for children under 12; \$4.00 for groups of 15 or more. Sales tax included.

Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies.



## NOLEN LIBRARY IN THE RUTH AND HAROLD D. URIS CENTER FOR EDUCATION

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Nolen Library has information about the Museum's collection and special exhibitions, and a Teacher Resource Center with a circulating collection for educators. The Children's Reading Room in the library is designed for families and young readers. For hours and further information please call (212) 570-3788 or visit [www.metmuseum.org/nolen](http://www.metmuseum.org/nolen).

## WEBSITE

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For further information about our programs, visit the Museum's website at [www.metmuseum.org/events](http://www.metmuseum.org/events).



**Grand Design: Pieter Coecke van Aelst and Renaissance Tapestry** is on view at The Metropolitan Museum of Art in The Tisch Galleries, Gallery 899, from October 8, 2014 through January 11, 2015.

The exhibition is made possible by the Siebold Stichting Foundation and Fukushima Medical University.

Additional support is provided by the William Randolph Hearst Foundation, the Gail and Parker Gilbert Fund, the Diane W. and James E. Burke Fund, The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and The Hochberg Foundation Trust.

The catalogue is made possible by The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

**We are grateful to the following for their support of educational programs:**

Family programs are made possible by Uris Brothers Foundation Endowment, The Aronson Family Foundation, Estate of Anna J. Enea, Pat and John Rosenwald Fund, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin H. Schein, Joan E. Weberman, Epstein Teicher Philanthropies, and The Ducommun and Gross Family Foundation.

Access programs are made possible by MetLife Foundation. Generous support also provided by the Filomen M. D'Agostino Foundation. Also made possible by Estate of Doris Alperdt, Renate, Hans & Maria Hofmann Trust, Charles Bloom Foundation, Allene Reuss Memorial Trust, The Ceil & Michael E. Pulitzer Foundation, Jane B. Wachsler, The J.M. Foundation, The Gordon and Llura Gund Foundation, The Merrill G. and Erita E. Hastings Foundation, The Murray G. and Beatrice H. Sherman Charitable Trust, and gifts in memory of Jay Budin.

Teen Programs are made possible by New York Life Foundation, Stanley R. Stangren, The Enoch Foundation, Beal Family Foundation, Constance Goulandris Foundation, and Milton & Sally Avery Arts Foundation, Inc. Additional support for High School Internships is provided by Mr. and Mrs. Marvin H. Schein, Joseph and Sylvia Slifka Fund for High School Internships, The Pinkerton Foundation, Gregory and Susan Palm, The Billy Rose Foundation, Inc., and gifts in memory of Joe Rothenberg.

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For ticketed programs, visit [www.metmuseum.org/tickets](http://www.metmuseum.org/tickets) or call (212) 570-3949, daily, 9:00–9:00. You may also visit the Great Hall box office, Monday–Saturday, 11:00–3:30.

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