E. van de Wetering

Rembrandt’s Paintings Revisited - A Complete Survey

A Reprint of A Corpus of Rembrandt Paintings VI

Series: Rembrandt Research Project Foundation, Subsequent delivery 6

► This slightly updated reprint of the concluding sixth volume of A Corpus of Rembrandt Paintings presents a revised, chronologically ordered survey of Rembrandt’s entire oeuvre of 336 paintings
► A considerable number of these paintings are reattributed to Rembrandt by the author after they were rejected by connoisseurs in the 1960s and subsequently
► The book includes extensive commentaries on the re-attributed works and many of Rembrandt’s other paintings
► Provides a multi-facetted new insight into Rembrandt’s world and in the fields of Rembrandt connoisseurship and research
► Contains 430 color plates (including 77 enlarged details) and c. 750 additional illustrations, and figures mostly in color
► This work of art history and art research belongs in the library of every serious art historical institute, university or museum

The question of which 17th-century paintings in Rembrandt’s style were actually painted by Rembrandt himself had already become an issue during his lifetime. It is an issue that is still hotly disputed among art historians today.

The problem arose because Rembrandt had numerous pupils who learned the art of painting by imitating their master or by assisting him with his work as a portrait painter. He also left pieces unfinished, to be completed by others.

The question is how to determine which works were from Rembrandt’s own hand. Can we, for example, define the criteria of quality that would allow us to distinguish the master’s work from that of his followers? Do we yet have methods of investigation that would deliver objective evidence of authenticity? To what extent do research techniques used in the physical sciences help? Or are we, after all, still dependent on the subjective, expert eye of the connoisseur? The present book provides answers to these questions.

Prof. Ernst van de Wetering, the author of our forthcoming book which deals with these questions, has been closely involved in all aspects of this research since 1968, the year the renowned Rembrandt Research Project (RRP) was founded. In particular, he played an important role in developing new criteria for authentication.

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