EDITORS' GREETING

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With this special issue, the *Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art* is pleased to publish its first digital art history project, E. Melanie Gifford's "Rubens's Invention and Evolution: Material Evidence in *The Fall of Phaeton*." The article reveals a newly discovered campaign of revision – a separate and distinct stage of reworking -- in a painting by Rubens long thought to have been completed during his Italian sojourn (1600–1608). This new information has important implications for our understanding of the artist's evolution. Dr. Gifford shows how Rubens continued to engage critically with his experience in Italy after he returned to Antwerp. Importantly, she demonstrates Rubens's creative process as he moved between paintings and rethought the efficacy of his compositions. The essay thereby augments our understanding of Rubens's working process and the impact of his travels.

Dr. Gifford's article has incorporated special digital enhancements that are new to the *JHNA* platform. As a result, the article demonstrates how well art-historical research can include technical data along with historical evidence and formal analysis. By offering ways to interpret the material evidence found in the painting itself, the article offers a resource to introduce this methodology to both scholars and students. The enhanced digital features facilitate independent exploration of *The Fall of Phaeton*, with image tools that recreate the intimate experience of studying the painting's surface at high magnification while consulting x-ray and infrared images and paint samples. With additional guidance on the interpretation of technical information and the use of the image tools, we hope the feature, "Exploration and Resources," will support classroom use of this article as an example of art historical research that draws on evidence of the artist's techniques.

The publication is particularly innovative in the technology that was chosen, described in detail in "*JHNA's* Enhancements." It employs the International Image Interoperability Framework (IIIF) OpenSeaDragon viewer to present high-resolution, zoomable images and detailed cross-sections. This viewer offers important features for this project: 1) an augmented image set, including normal (visible) light, false-color infrared, and X-radiograph images as well as magnified paint samples, and 2) a side-by-side viewer, allowing for the study of any two images featured in the article.

We are pleased to share that the side-by-side viewer has now been applied retroactively throughout the entire *JHNA* website. That means images allow side-by-side viewing -- possible with the click of a mouse -- in articles published from the very first issues through to the current issue. Try it out! We welcome your feedback.

We encourage you to consider *JHNA* as a venue for your own publications. With your help, *JHNA* will remain one of the premier journals of the early modern art of the Netherlands and its region. The Journal welcomes submissions at any time. Please consult our [Submission Guidelines](#).

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