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J A N B O E C K H O R S T

Study for a Head

This well-known study has been published several times. It can be linked to a painting: "Woman reading" in Mannheim (Reiss-Engelhorn Museum), which is probably a collaboration between Rubens and Boeckhorst (see literature Van Hout and Bütner).

Yet our sketch differs in several points from the final work; even with the infrared of the (Mannheim-) work. For example, the woman is not wearing a hood (in contrast to Mannheim's infrared) and her hairstyle differs significantly from the final work, also her clothing differs.

The head is very monumental and at the same time clearly painted after life. The work was quite dirty and changed considerably after restoration and cleaning.

Kunsthandel J. Goudstikker, Rubens-Tentoonstelling, Ten bate Van de Vereeniging 'Rembrandt' in de zalen van den Kunsthandel J. Goudstikker N.V., exh. cat., Amsterdam 1933, cat. no. 57, reproduced (as Rubens);

H. Vlieghe, Jan Boeckhorst, 1604–1668, Maler der Rubenszeit, exh. cat., Antwerp 1990, p. 64, reproduced p. 65, fig. 33 (as Boeckhorst);

M. Galen, Johann Boeckhorst, Gemälde und Zeichnungen, Hamburg 2012, p. 254, cat. no. Z 14, reproduced p. 253, fig. Z 14 (as Boeckhorst).

N. Van Hout, Corpus Rubenianum L. Burchard, Part XX, Studyheads, Volume 1: Fig 168; Volume 2: p.147-149

Nils Bütner, Becoming Famous Pieter Paul Rubens, Exp. Cat. Staatsgalerie Stuttgart, 2021, p. 249-251, reproduced abb.3 (as Boeckhorst).

Oil on Canvas, 42,5 x 32,3cm

