From 25 March 2006 to 5 March 2007 an important exhibition devoted to paintings from the northern schools – Flemish, Dutch and German – was on show at the Musée Calvet in Avignon. The exhibition shed light on a part of the collection about which the public, and more surprisingly art lovers in general, had long been unaware. Indeed, many of the paintings emerged from a long, too long, purgatory that has kept them locked away in the museum’s reserves, some since 1920! A group of 90 paintings from the northern schools were selected from among 170 works in storage, providing a complete overview of works by masters from Antwerp, Cologne, Brussels, Haarlem and Amsterdam from the 15th to the 19th centuries. These works had only very recently been restored, studied, reframed and rediscovered. With support from the Calvet Foundation and the Réunion des Musées Nationaux, the Musée Calvet has also published the first catalogue raisonné devoted to its northern school paintings. Every work in the collection, from the humblest to the most significant, is listed, reproduced, analyzed and described. Authors: Sylvain Boyer and Franck Guillaume.

The Musée Calvet’s exhibition included a.o. the following paintings:

- Unknown Flemish master, The carnival
- Unknown Flemish master, The village wedding
- Unknown Flemish master, The blind leading the blind
- (Workshop of) Frans Francken II, Croesus showing his treasures to Solon
- Osias Beert, Still life with lemons and pomegranates in a Chinese porcelain bowl (Puech collection)
- Andries van Aertvelt, The storm
- Pieter Molyn, Landscape
- Guillam Dubois, Landscape
- Aert van der Neer, Village street in the moonlight
- Van der Stoffe, Battle scene
- Jan Martszen, Attack on a convoy
- Jacob van Oost (attributed), Portrait of a young man
- Lucas Franchoys the Younger, Portrait of an ecclesiastic
- Jan Cossiers, Holy family (Puech collection)
- Simon de Vos, The multiplication of the loaves and The prodigal son
- Abraham Bloemaert, Christ carrying the cross and Saint Peter freed by the angels (collection Jérôme Sauvan).
- Paulus Lesire (attributed), Descent from the cross
- Van Noordt, Crucifixion
- Jacob Adrien Backer, Child with soap
- Craesbeeck, Smoker and death
- Wulfræt, Drinkers at the table
- Dusart, Smoker lost in thought
- Jan Molenaer, A man undergoing an operation on his foot
- Franciscus Carree, Cook
- View of the Campo Vaccino
- Peasants going to mass
- Jan Miel, A water buffalo
- Adriaen van der Kabel, Christ on the road to Emmaus
- Van Bloemen, Arcadian landscape with Shepherds and bathers
- Jan Weenix, Child with a dog
- Jan Peeter Verdussen, Scene at the blacksmith’s
- Michiel van Musscher, The interrupted lute lesson