

The Catalogue Raisonné as Wiki

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Both sections of our table were well attended and people were very responsive and gave useful feedback. In the first session participants were curious to know how they could actually go about using the wiki, and we showed them how to make contributions and comments. There were questions concerning image copyrights and how the image editing tool would eventually work. There was a suggestion that the front page include announcements of recently added information. Attendees wanted to be sure that every comment entered into the wiki was signed by the contributor.

The second group was more concerned about the reliability of attribution and the relative weight of individual contributors' judgments. We were asked how the website will screen and verify the credentials of registrants. People who had written catalogue raisonnés themselves pointed out that someone who has cultivated expertise in a single artist does have better grounds for making an attribution. How can this be signaled within the context of the wiki? The collaborative catalogue raisonné will never replace the individual expert; it will only supplement our collective knowledge of the artist and his oeuvre.

Fourteen group participants signed up as wiki contributors and left with www.janbrueghel.org t-shirts. They were joined by ten more curators in the following days of the conference. We also spoke to several dealers at TEFAF who were very supportive of the project.

We would like to thank the following people for registering with janbrueghel.org during the CODART Conference:

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If we missed you in this list or if you would like to register, please contact us and we will be very happy to register you.