INVITATION

The Friends of CODART Foundation hereby cordially invites you to the **Patrons Salon**

on Saturday 11 March 2023

Curators and Conservators: Challenges and Dilemmas in Conservation Practice

This year's Patrons Salon will be devoted to challenges and dilemmas in conservation practice, and how curators and conservators work together in order to achieve the best result. The possibilities of technical analysis and conservation practice are ever-expanding, and the results it yields can lead to difficult decisions. Which considerations play a role in restoration? How do curators and conservators work together to arrive at a good decision and optimal result? Which curatorial aspects should a restorer take into account when restoring a work? And how can a radical restoration change the interpretation of a work of art?

We are pleased to announce that the following speakers have agreed to share their ideas and expertise on this subject. **Uta Neidhardt** is curator of Dutch and Flemish paintings at the Gemäldegalerie Alte Meister in Dresden. She will speak about the restoration of Vermeer's *Girl Reading a Letter at an Open Window*, which changed drastically after the overpaint covering a figure of Cupid was removed in 2019. **Caroline van der Elst** is an independent paintings conservator. She will discuss the restoration of the *Crucifixion* by the Master of the Lamentation of Christ in Lindau (ca. 1425) in the Catharijneconvent in Utrecht. During the cleaning of the painting, it was discovered that the blue background was originally gold - the blue overpaint was applied in the sixteenth century. Thus arose the dilemma whether to remove the blue overpaint or not. In order to arrive at a decision, 3D scans were used as an aid to picture both options. **Anne van Oosterwijk** is Director of Collections at Musea Brugge. She will talk about the recent restoration of *The Death of the Virgin* by Hugo van der Goes. With this case study, she will illustrate how even a less drastic restoration can be of great significance to the perception and understanding of a painting.

The three speakers will exchange views in a discussion moderated by **Manfred Sellink**, Director of the MSK in Ghent, and chair of the Friends of CODART Foundation. The speakers will be happy to respond to questions from, and points raised by, members of the audience.

