



In Memoriam

Jacqueline de Raad

(18 May 1961 - 19 March 2015)



Photo: Nadine Maas.

‘Sketching is drawing and writing at the same time. It is imagining as you think. A whispering exploration.’

The Rijksmuseum recently lost a much-loved member of staff. Jacqueline de Raad was curator of twentieth-century prints and drawings. Since 2008 she had resolutely assumed responsibility for selecting and organizing the ever-growing collection of post-1900 drawings and prints. She did her job with a real love for drawing, above all; it was an art she practised herself in her typically modest way. Although she had a particular liking for abstraction and the art of the interbellum, she never allowed herself to be led by her personal preferences and taste, but always by what testifies to quality and is representative of historical trends and developments in materials and techniques.

In May 2014 she made great efforts to acquire the early Jan Toorop self-portrait described on pp. 188-89. Jacqueline herself had an Indonesian background and felt a special affinity with this portrait. That attempt did not succeed; the Rijksmuseum was outbid at the sale. We are therefore all the more delighted that we can now present the work in memory of her unassuming, gentle but at the same time unwavering dedication. In the autumn of 2015 it will be shown as part of a selection of artists’ portraits that Jacqueline assembled.