

## Emilie Gordenker



Job title: Director

Organisation: Mauritshuis

Abstract:

**Title: Dutch Old Masters and New Technologies**

The Mauritshuis has a compact collection of 850 Old Master paintings, with a strong concentration on paintings of the Dutch Golden Age. The focus and quality of the museum's holdings - plus the setting in a seventeenth-century building - make the Mauritshuis unique. But this also presents a challenge: how do we make the narrow range of Old Master paintings come alive to a younger audience? In this lecture, Emilie Gordenker will discuss recent initiatives that harness new technologies to attract a broad audience, from specialists to first-time visitors.

Bio:

Emilie Gordenker has been Director of the Mauritshuis since 1 January 2008. She was born in 1965 in Princeton, New Jersey in the United States. Emilie is an American citizen, but speaks fluent Dutch thanks to her Dutch mother and frequent visits to the Netherlands before moving here in 2007. Emilie obtained her doctorate in 1998 at the Institute of Fine Arts, New York with a thesis on Dutch seventeenth-century costume and Anthony van Dyck. Her thesis, *Van Dyck and the Representation of Dress in Seventeenth-Century Portraiture*, was published in 2001 by Brepols Publishers, Turnhout, Belgium. While in New York, Emilie worked for the Metropolitan Museum of Art, The Frick Collection and the Netherlands Institute for Art History (RKD). She also lectured at Rutgers University, New York University,

Vassar College and the Bard Graduate Center for the Decorative Arts. In 1999, Emilie moved to London, where she worked in the field of new media, while continuing to publish in her area of specialism and related subjects. In December 2003, Emilie was appointed Senior Curator of Early Netherlandish, Dutch and Flemish Art at the National Gallery of Scotland in Edinburgh, where she remained until her appointment as Director of the Royal Picture Gallery Mauritshuis in The Hague.