

Facts & figures

A strong brand like Secretary Plus offers many opportunities for our customers and candidates. We have experienced steady and impressive growth, both on a national and international scale.

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INDUSTRY AWARDS IN 2012

Over the years Secretary Plus has won numerous awards. From 'Top Employer' to 'Great Place to Work', to innovation awards and 'Best Employer' and 'Flex Specialist'. We are proud of the recognition by clients, customers and personnel.

220
representatives in
8
countries

Rest assured that there will always be a representative in your area to assist you with your personnel needs.

23
years
OF EXPERIENCE

In development, engagement, coaching. First in the Netherlands, and now in a growing number of European markets. This year we celebrate the 20th anniversary of Secretary Plus Belgium.

77%
Of 2,000 customers surveyed, the term most associated with Secretary Plus was 'customer oriented', followed by 'quality' (71%) and 'reliable' (66%).
say we're customer oriented

75,000
successful placements

Over 20 years, Secretary Plus has successfully placed more than 75,000 assistants – both temporary and permanent – with customers across Europe.

90%
MULTILINGUAL
Secretary Plus specialises in candidates who are capable of working across borders and in multiple cultures.

Amsterdam 2013 * re-opening Rijksmuseum Amsterdam 2013 * re-opening Rijksmuseum Amsterdam 2013 * re-opening Rijksmuseum



Rijksmuseum

Where Rembrandt comes to life

Rijksmuseum
Museumstraat 1, 1071 CJ Amsterdam
Tel.: +31 (0) 20 674 7000

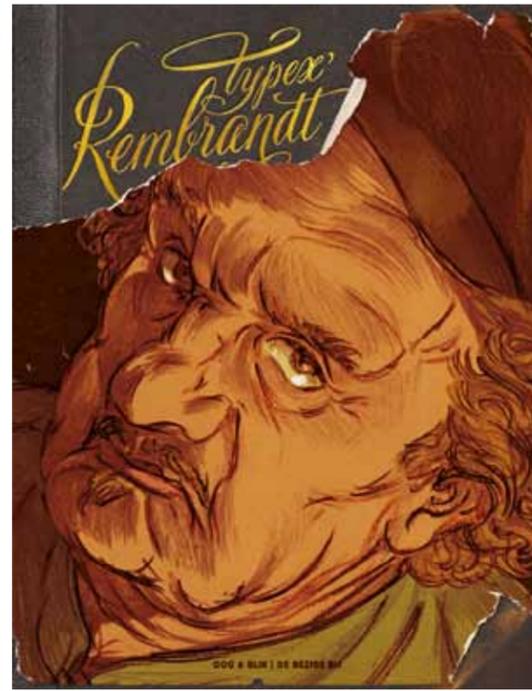
The Rijksmuseum is open 365 days a year, from 09.00 to 17.00 hours. Admission costs €15 per person and is free for visitors up to 18 years old. Friends of the Rijksmuseum may also enter for free. A selection of its masterpieces include: *The Milkmaid* by Johannes Vermeer, *The Happy Family* by Jan Steen, *Winter Landscape with Skaters* by Hendrick Avercamp, *The Sick Child* by Gabriel Metsu and, of course, many works by Rembrandt, including self-portraits, *The Jewish Bride* and *The Night Watch*.

After ten years of refurbishment, the doors of the world-renowned Amsterdam Rijksmuseum are open once again.

Nowhere else offers hours of viewing pleasure gazing at masterpieces by Rembrandt, Frans Hals, Johannes Vermeer and Jan Steen, and from medieval art to paintings from the 18th and 19th century. The Rijksmuseum was built more than 125 years ago and was designed by architect P.J.H. Cuypers. After more than a century of use, the building had earned a substantial renovation. The brief supplied to Spanish architects Cruz and Ortiz read: remove the later additions to the building and restore Cuypers' clear layout. Experience of introducing new elements within an

existing structure was an important factor in the choice of architects. Cruz and Ortiz earned their spurs on projects in the old city centre of Seville and the refurbishment of the Maritime Museum in Cadiz. Their work on the Rijksmuseum demonstrates subtlety and restraint.

All change
Modifications have not only been made to the building itself; the Rijksmuseum's interior has also been completely redesigned: from the arrangement of the museum's collection (only *The Night Watch* has been



Typex found it easy to place himself in Rembrandt shoes. And there are indeed parallels between his life and that of his world famous colleague.



> returned to its original position) and new public facilities, such as a museum café and shop, to a freshly landscaped garden, an underground square and a brand new Asian Pavilion. The museum also offers a wide variety of interactive facilities, like the online Rijksstudio. This allows visitors to zoom in on 125,000 beautiful, well-known and surprising images from the Rijksmuseum's collection, to share and to 'like'. Or create their own collections, including favourite works and details, and turn them into custom-made items, like posters and T-shirts. The Rijksmuseum is very active on Facebook and Twitter; Rembrandt van Rijn even has his own Facebook page.

Book

To commemorate the re-opening of the Rijksmuseum the artist Typex, an illustrator for many Dutch newspapers and magazines, was asked to create an illustrated book about Rembrandt, the painter who still attracts the majority of the museum's visitors. The book is far from conventional and, therefore, complements perfectly the Rijksmuseum's new and contemporary face.

Special edition Rembrandt

A biography of Rembrandt van Rijn in the form of a graphic novel. An interview with the artist Typex.

A special book was produced to mark the opening of the new Rijksmuseum: a biography of Rembrandt van Rijn in the form of a graphic novel. Because little is known about the life of the 17th-century painter, artist Typex was able to give the story his own twist.

Until recently, Typex knew as much about Rembrandt as most people. Naturally, he had visited the museum and had also studied *The Night Watch* as a teenager, during one of his art history lessons. But he would not describe the painter as his favourite. All that changed when the Rijksmuseum asked him to create a book about Rembrandt's life. "I started by reading books about Rembrandt," says Typex. "My bookcase is full of them now. I've also visited the Rijksmuseum on

several occasions to view his works. And the Rembrandt House, of course, where I sometimes stood by the window and stared outside to experience what Rembrandt must have seen when he stood there.

Twenty-first century vision

"I soon discovered that very little information was known about the painter's life. The romantic image we have of him is based on what was written about him in the 19th century. In the book I have consciously taken a 21st-century view of him and have added my own experiences to the story."

Typex found it easy to place himself in Rembrandt's shoes. And there are, indeed, parallels between his life and that of his world-famous colleague. "What's the life of an artist really like?" Typex muses. "I worked on the

book 14 hours a day for two-and-a-half years, which doesn't leave much time for family and friends. I'm quite a social person but we know that Rembrandt was not. I can imagine that makes you quite introverted."

Similarities

The book tells Rembrandt's story from the perspective of the people around him, such as his first wife Saskia, his daughter Cornelia, his son Titus and his housekeeper Hendrickje, with whom he later had a relationship. Typex used his own daughter as the model for Cornelia. The wife of Rembrandt's son Titus bears a resemblance to 'Typex' own wife. And Rembrandt himself has something of Typex' father about him. "Mainly his appearance and facial expressions. And I found inspiration for the

difficult relationship between Rembrandt and Titus in the development of my own relationship with my father. Just like any child, I experienced problems with my parents. For a time I wouldn't even see my father. Only when I had a child myself did I start to see him in a different light and accept him as he is."

The book certainly cannot be described as a worthy, educational comic strip. "The Rijksmuseum didn't want that either," says Typex. "The ability to use artistic licence with the facts and put myself in Rembrandt's place brought me closer to the man. I have learned to love him, just like the people around him must have done, even though he could be very difficult. Would we have become best friends? Let's just say that I've tried to bring Rembrandt to life." ■



Also available at Rijksmuseum shop at Schiphol Airport

A permanent exhibition of ten works by Dutch masters from the Rijksmuseum's collection can be found through passport control at Schiphol Airport, between piers E and F. Temporary exhibitions with a Dutch theme are also staged here. The museum is open daily from 07.00 to 20.00 hours (free admission). The book by Typex is available from the museum shop.