



Follow the trail indicated by the family logo. Your parents can help you read the explanation texts.

Use the pen to draw and answer the questions. Be careful though not to point the pencil at the paintings and other works of art!

2€

7+

family activity

Gudule, Crespin, Barbe and the others

 Royal Museums
of Fine Arts of Belgium



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Who is

Welcome to the exhibition
“The Heritage of Rogier van de Weyden”.

Rogier

Rogier was born in Tournai around 1400.
When he was 36 years old, he became Brussels’ official painter.
Rogier quickly became famous throughout the whole of
Europe!

van der

Weyden ?

The exhibition shows that he had a lot of influence on many
Brussels painters long after his death. You will see many portraits
and also many paintings of religious scenes inspired by the
Bible. At the time, paintings were commissioned by noblemen
and by the Church.

1

Who is this young man?

At the time of Rogier in the 15th century, Belgium didn't exist yet! It was part of a group of states called the Low Countries where the Dukes of Burgundy ruled.

Rogier van der Weyden, Portrait of Anthony of Burgundy 1456-1464 Brussels, Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium

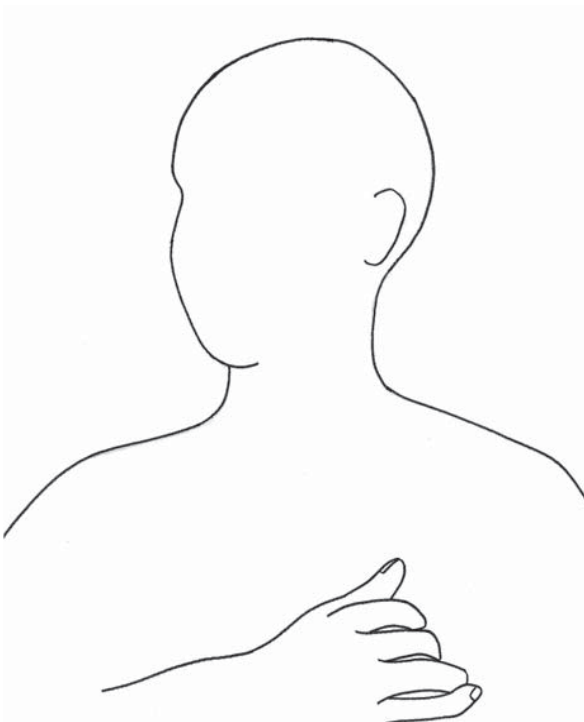
Anthony is one of the sons of Philip the Good, the Duke of Burgundy who created the Order of the Golden Fleece. All the knights belonging to the Order were selected by the Duke, and wore the badge of the Order, which had the form of a golden sheepskin suspended from a jewelled collar. Anthony wears his collar with pride and holds an arrow in his hand to indicate that he is an archer.

This fantastic story of the Golden Fleece, or fleece of the winged ram, comes from Greek mythology. It tells how the Greek hero Jason risked his life while on a quest for the golden fleece.

All the knights should thus have as much courage as him!

In a portrait, objects called attributes (here, the arrow and the collar) provide information about the person.

Complete the portrait with the attributes which reflect your personality.



2

Studio of Rogier van der Weyden, The retable of the Passion Ambierle, Church of Saint-Martin

These panels represent the Passion of Christ, or the final days in the life of Jesus. Several followers of Rogier worked with him, in his style. We do not know their names!

Some
mysterious
artists ...



These panels are part of the larger set you can see in this picture. They are the left and right wings of a retable [an altarpiece painting in a church, made up of several panels].

Have you noticed that this work is both painted and sculpted? In the exhibition you will discover other fine crafts, such as stained glass, tapestry, and others.

You too, become one of Rogier van der Weyden's followers by redrawing this detail from the retable:



3

What does the picture tell us?

Master of the Prado Adoration, Adoration of the Magi Madrid, Prado Museum

The Magi brought beautiful presents to Baby Jesus and knelt in front of him to worship this new king.

In the following list of words, circle the 4 odd ones not related to the "Adoration of the Magi".

Baby Jesus – crystal ball – Virgin Mary – 3 kings – jelly bean – ox – Saint Joseph – donkey – Saint Nicolas – confetti.

Shortly after the birth of Jesus, a new star appeared. It led the three wise men to the stable sheltering the Holy Family. The wise men are called Magi, like "magician", because they were astrologers.



Answer: crystal ball - jelly bean - Saint Nicolas - confetti.

4

All aboard!

Jacop Sourdiaus, Saint Gertrude Charriot Nivelles, Collegiate Church of Saint Gertrude

Twenty four painted panels each illustrate a scene from the legend of the Saint. The four you can see here were painted by Jacob Sourdiaus.

They illustrate the story of a knight who was rescued by the Saint.

Here are four episodes:

1. In the first panel, the knight is richly dressed in a blue coat.
2. Ruined, he concludes a contract with the Devil who offers him seven more years of riches if he sells his soul to him.
3. Seven years later, we are witnessing the farewell dinner of the knight with his family. He drinks from a cup to be under the protection of Saint Gertrude.
4. Saint Gertrude appears: she has recovered the contract and hanged the Devil. The knight is saved!

In Nivelles, since the 15th century, in other words for 600 years (!), there is an annual religious procession in honour of Saint Gertrude. For this occasion, a chariot is pulled by horses through the streets.

There are other processions and parades like the one for Saint Gertrude.

Do you know any?



5

Master of the Prado Redemption or workshop, Lamentation, 1470 – 1490 Antwerp, Mayer van den Bergh Museum

Behind the Virgin Mary, Jesus and Saint John, three women join in the scene and it looks like their hands “talk”.

The fingers crossed in prayer express great sadness withheld. The hands raised in the air are like a cry of despair.

On the left, a sister wipes her tears with one hand and with the other holds a pot of scented oil to prepare the body for burial. There is also a skull.

This indicates where the scene takes place: on the Golgotha, the “Mount of the skull”, near Jerusalem.

Do you know any other hand gestures that have a meaning in daily life?

Look at the talking hands!

This painting shows the Virgin Mary holding her son Jesus who died on the cross. With one hand she holds his head and with the other she shows the wound of Jesus. Saint John also holds Jesus and his hand reaches that of Mary.



6

Oil painting is very difficult!

In this picture, Baby Jesus is both on the lap of his grandmother Anne and into the arms of his mother Mary. Together they form a triangle. They sit in a small garden where a few wild flowers grow.

**Hugo van der Goes 1430-1482,
Virgin and Child with Saint Anne, and a Franciscan
donor, c. 1475
Brussels, Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium**

On the right, the person kneeling is the one who commissioned the painting. He is a monk from the Order of Saint Francis, the friend of animals and nature!

Like all the other painters from his time, Hugo painted on an oak panel and used the art of oil painting to apply the colours ... There weren't of course any paint tubes ready to use in the 15th century! He chose each colour in powder form [the pigments] that he then mixed with linseed oil.

Look at the Virgin Mary's beautiful blue dress. In your opinion, did Hugo use different sort of blue or did he apply many thin layers of blue paint on top of each other?



Answer: There are indeed several layers of same colour blue. That's what is called a "glaze".

7

Master of the Legend of Saint Catherine, Master of the Portraits of Princes, Aert van den Bossche, Triptych of the Miracles of Christ Melbourne, National Gallery of Victoria

There are several triptychs to see in the exhibition. In this one, each panel illustrates a miracle of Jesus.

Are you good at observing? Then have fun finding in the painting the details shown here below! This will help you find out which miracle is illustrated in each panel.

These details come from the “Multiplication of the Loaves”: thousands of people had followed Jesus to listen to him; he then multiplied a few loaves of bread and was able to feed the whole crowd!

As you can see, this altarpiece is divided in three parts, and the two side panels can be folded over the central panel. This is called a triptych.



This one is about the “Marriage at Cana”. Jesus was attending a wedding in Cana when the party ran out of wine, so he saved the day by turning water into very good wine!



These come from the “Resurrection of Lazarus”. Jesus brings Lazarus back to life four days after his death.



8

Master of the Portraits of Princes, Parade Shield, c. 1470-1490 London, British Museum

Observe the scene: have you spotted all the weapons of the knight?

Lets go!

*Do you think that this shield was used on a battlefield?
Draw your own shield!*

Look inside the display cabinet
in the corner of the room. This
large object is a shield!



Answer: Of course not! It is made in wood and is only a showpiece: it is called a parade shield!

9

Master of the View of Saint Gudule, Pastoral Teaching Paris, Louvre Museum

Let's take a look at the scenery!

This artist is so called because he often paints the Church of Saint Gudule.

If you look closely, you will notice that certain lines of the buildings seem to converge towards one point, which is called the vanishing point. This gives a 3D effect to the painting! It is known as the perspective.

Imagine that an artist in Brussels, let's call him the "Master of the Atomium", decides today to make a painting like this one.

What would it look like?

Feel free to imagine any kind of huge buildings, sky-scrapers and other modern buildings to complete the drawing.

This painting is the work of the Master of the View of Saint Gudule.



10

Game

The hidden words

You have reached the end of the exhibition.
Find the words hidden in the puzzle; they are all important words to remember!

The hidden words can be in any orientation...

H	L	A	G	W	Q	P	L	E	B	Z	J	C	X	B	S	M
S	S	A	L	G	D	E	N	I	A	T	S	C	G	U	G	Ç
K	Q	Ç	W	Y	Y	Z	Z	E	Ç	E	W	H	P	R	S	A
P	T	P	I	G	M	E	N	T	B	Z	G	E	E	G	J	Q
R	O	I	L	E	G	E	N	D	E	E	V	V	T	U	Y	U
Ç	M	U	Y	N	O	I	T	A	R	O	D	A	E	N	Q	F
O	Ç	T	A	P	E	S	T	R	Y	I	E	L	N	D	Ç	Q
E	S	L	E	S	S	U	R	B	J	A	B	I	I	Y	B	N
A	W	K	R	E	V	Ç	Y	B	H	T	M	E	B	E	I	A
L	R	F	H	X	M	P	R	N	H	I	M	R	H	Y	N	H
R	T	H	G	I	N	K	M	K	J	A	C	C	V	G	O	B
E	M	T	U	F	T	N	I	A	S	R	Y	O	E	N	S	K
I	B	E	D	U	R	T	R	E	G	T	I	L	J	I	A	E
G	X	Z	U	Y	K	J	B	J	P	R	E	T	A	B	L	E
O	Y	D	L	E	I	H	S	I	M	O	X	R	H	B	B	X
R	L	E	E	V	A	K	R	V	G	P	X	Y	A	Ç	O	C
H	M	X	L	U	K	T	P	C	E	V	L	E	U	K	J	P

TRIPTYCH
SHIELD
PORTRAIT
TAPESTRY
ADORATION
GUDULE
BURGUNDY
LEGEND
KNIGHT
SAINT
STAINED GLASS
ANGEL
BRUSSELS
GERTRUDE
ROGIER
RETABLE
PIGMENT

Family Day on 24 November 2013

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