



6

Among the attractive loans is the painting by Pieter de Neijn (1597-1639) depicting the siege of 's-Hertogenbosch by Frederik Hendrik in 1629 from the Rijksmuseum (6). The Noordbrabants Museum loaned the portrait of Johan Gans (1596-1674), one of the first non-Catholic members who joined the Brotherhood in 1642.



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The neo-gothic style of the building is also reflected in many details in the interior, including the cast iron stove and the two cabinets in the Great Hall, gifts of the Knighthood of North Brabant, which regularly gathers even now in the Zwanenbroedershuis. Inside the house, the family coat of arms of former and current members of the Brotherhood can be seen, on the back of the chairs in the halls and on the ceiling, in the books with coat of arms from the 17th and 18th centuries and the paintings of coat of arms of members through the centuries.

The bond with the royal house is illustrated by portraits of the royal Zwanenbroeders King Willem-Alexander, King Willem II, Queen Juliana and Princess Beatrix, as well as busts of Willem of Orange, Willem II, Queen Wilhelmina and Prince Hendrik. The personal coat of arms of King Willem-Alexander is embroidered on the seat HM uses during his presence in the Zwanenbroedershuis.



MUSEUM HET ZWANENBROEDERSHUIS

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Opening hours:

See www.zwanenbroedershuis.nl

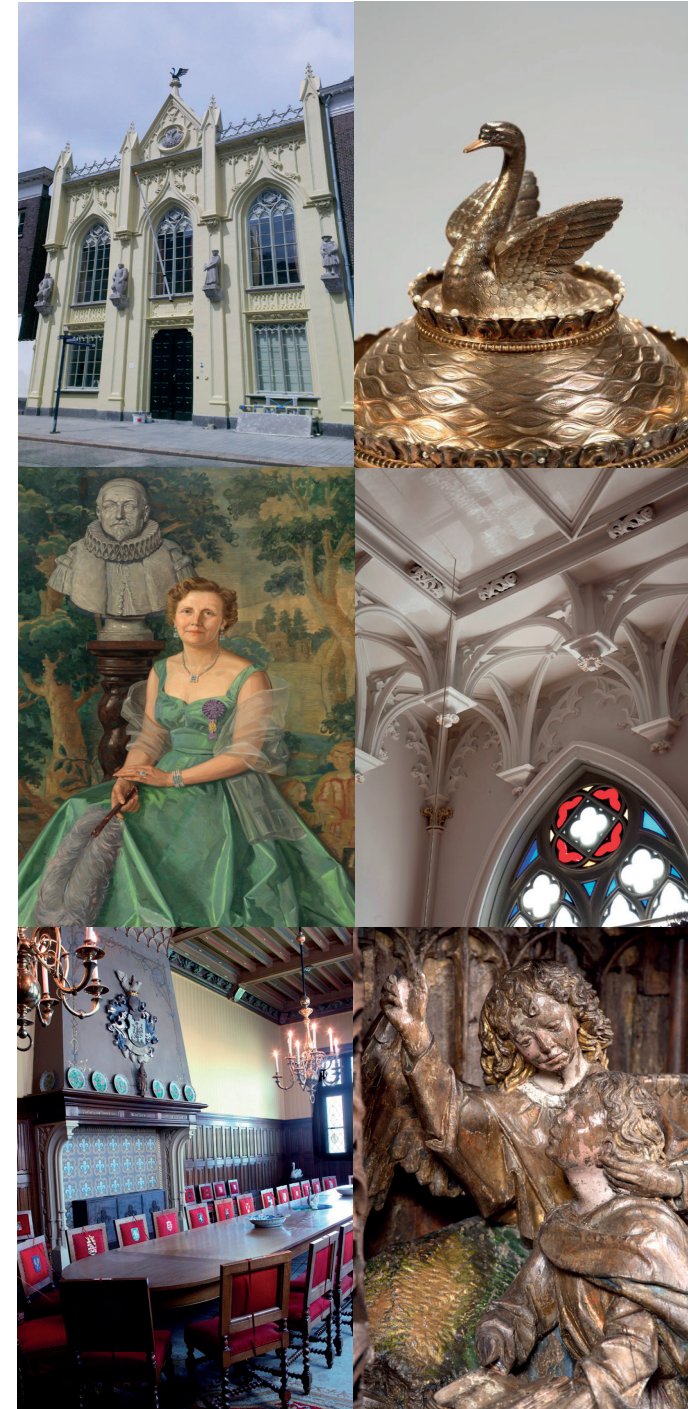
Guided tours for groups:

by appointment with the Kring Vrienden 's-Hertogenbosch, see www.kringvrienden.nl / tel. (+31)73-6135098

Rates entrance:

Adults and children: € 6,00
Children under 12 years: € 3,00
The 'Museumjaarkaart' is not valid.

MUSEUM HET ZWANENBROEDERSHUIS





1

The 'Illustre Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap' resides in 's-Hertogenbosch since its religious confirmation in 1318, and since 1483 in its own building located at the Hinthamerstraat. At that time the painter Jheronimus Bosch was also a member of the Brotherhood, which originally had the veneration of Mary as objective. Among the most important traditions of the Brotherhood still belong the Caritas and sharing a meal. This 'Fraternal Meal' takes place once a year in the Great Hall (1).

The current Zwanenbroedershuis was inaugurated in 1847 to replace an earlier building at the same location. The building is a rare example of the neo-gothic architecture in The Netherlands and not only acts as a home where members of the 'Illustre Lieve Vrouwe Broederschap' meet regularly. It is also a museum where visitors can learn about the history of the Brotherhood and its versatile collection.

The collection of the Brotherhood mainly consists of objects that are connected to the rich history of the Brotherhood, and were commissioned or donated (mostly by members) over the centuries. Among the best pieces are two wooden sculpture cabinets that were once part of the Marian altar that the sculptor Adriaen van Wesel made in 1475-77 for the chapel of the Brotherhood in the local Saint John's Cathedral. The cabinets display the groups of Saint John of Patmos and The Vision of Emperor Augustus (2). The Marian altar was dismantled after the Iconoclastic Fury



2

and beside the two cabinets in the Zwanenbroedershuis only smaller fragments of the original altarpieces are preserved in other Dutch museums.



3

The large 16th Century choir books (3) contain masses and motets by composers from the Renaissance as Pierre de la Rue, Nicolas Champion, Adrian Willaert and Jean Mouton. Among these books are three rare manuscripts from the studio of the famous music copyist Peter Alamire and three choir books by Philippus de Spina who worked as a singer for the Brotherhood for thirty-five years. Unique is the collection of eighteen tin drinking jugs from the 16th and 17th century, used by the Brothers during their meals to drink wine. Each Brother had his own jug and the lid of these were engraved with the

name of the user and his coat-of-arms. The collection still includes the jugs of Willem of Orange, the earls Frederik and Floris van Buren and Maximiliaan van Egmond (4).



4

In 1881-1885, the Brotherhood commissioned a 560-piece blue and white dinner service from De Porceleyne Fles in Delft. The service is decorated with the emblem of the Brotherhood (the lily among thorns) and the accompanying motto 'Sicut Lilium inter Spinas'.



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