When the Rijksmuseum in Amsterdam reopened in 2013 following a 10-year transformation, visitors were able to view masterpieces from Rembrandt to Mondriaan in a whole new light thanks to Tru Vue® Optium® Acrylic Glazing. Tru Vue Optium Acrylic Glazing was specially chosen for frames used for drawings, prints and photographs for its state-of-the-art, anti-reflective properties, which provide visitors with the most optimal view of the art possible.

“This way of exhibiting works of art on paper is as close as we can get to actually putting the works in the hands of the public,” says Idelette van Leeuwen, the Rijksmuseum’s head of paper conservation. “The anti-reflective coating of Optium reduces distracting reflections, so that it almost seems as if there is nothing between the artwork and the viewer. The viewer can study the art from a very short distance without endangering it. This allows for a close, almost intimate experience of the art.”

Tru Vue has worked closely with the museum community to develop this product to meet uncompromising aesthetic standards, as well as strict conservation standards. Van Leeuwen agrees, “Optium combines three properties in one product that are important to the conservation department: It protects the artwork against light damage because it blocks 99% of UV light. The anti-static coating makes it safe for use with friable media, such as charcoal, red chalk and pastel. And the abrasion-resistant coating allows us to re-use the acrylic a number of times, since it will not scratch easily. This makes it longer-lasting and therefore more sustainable than normal acrylic.”

She explains, “Works of art on paper are usually on a white or, in any case, light support, so any type of glazing that has a color tint causes an obvious color shift in the art work. With Optium, the color of the paper is not influenced, and color neutrality is guaranteed.” Beyond the Rijksmuseum’s collection, Tru Vue Optium Acrylic Glazing is trusted by museums across the globe.

**TRU VUE® OPTIUM® FRAMED WORKS INCLUDE:**

- *Hooft van Maria met het Christuskind, "Master of the Legend of Saint Lucia"* (1475)
- *Rembrandt van Rijn’s “Self Portrait” (1660) and “Christ Preaching” (1646)*
- *Cornelis Troost’s “Sara Troost met Haar Pop” (Sara Troost with her Doll) (1780)*
- *Willem Witsen’s “View on the Oosterpark in the Snow” (Around 1900)*

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