Hollandse meesters
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Amie Dicke
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Amie Dicke (Rotterdam, 1978) manipulates images using various techniques and materials. By removing or covering parts of an image, her work offers a new perspective on what is already present in the same image but often goes unnoticed. Dicke initiates this process of unveiling and concealing by applying methods such as wine, ink, smoke, sandpaper, and foundation to her images.

In the photograph "Red Paint and Beer Bottle" (2011), Dicke erased a man leaning against a wall by working on the image with sandpaper. Dicke employs this alteration not to hide something from our view but rather to draw attention to what we might otherwise overlook. In this case, as the title suggests, the red paint at the bottom of the rainpipe and the beer bottle on the ground. This practice of revealing what is present but not immediately noticeable also takes place in the site-specific work "Hartlijn," which was part of Dicke's solo exhibition "Nabeeld" at GEM in 2012. "Hartlijn" consists of numerous gold-colored bits made from crumpled rescue blankets. With these bits, Dicke fills the holes in the walls of the museum space – remnants of a previous exhibition. She literally keeps warm what previously took place in that space.

Prints submerged in water to loosen the ink, magazines pierced with nails, sculptures encircled with cable ties: what remains of an image when it is damaged and subjected to violence?

Perhaps Dicke's work can best be described as an exploration of the aura of an existing image. Existing image in a broad sense, as it can refer to an image from a magazine, but also a particular place or building. Like the installation "After Goldschmidt" (2012) that Dicke creates at Castrum Peregrini. There is an apartment there that was used as a hiding place during World War II and remained occupied by the respective fugitive, Manuel Goldschmidt, thereafter. In the installation, Dicke fills gaps in frames, tears in fabric upholstery, and holes in the ceiling with gold-colored rescue blankets. Dicke previously created an installation at this location, where she covered the furniture in one of the rooms with plastic and then removed the furniture – "Claustrophobic" (2009). What remains are the plastic covers. Like shadows, like an aura, of what once was.

Dicke studied at the Willem de Kooning Academy in Rotterdam (1995-2000). Her work has been featured in exhibitions at venues such as GEM (The Hague), Stigter Van Doesburg (Amsterdam), Castrum Peregrini (Amsterdam), and Peres Projects (Berlin).