Welcome to the Winter 2011 issue of the Journal of Historians of Netherlandish Art.

This and the next issue benefit in several ways from the May 2010 Historians of Netherlandish Art conference in Amsterdam. Here in vol. 3:1, Stephanie Porras and Alexandra Onuf expand their conference papers into fully developed articles. The two share an interest in peasants and landscapes as markers of south Netherlandish identity. Porras focuses on the sixteenth-century Flemish peasant as a symbol of the vernacular, while Onuf investigates Claes Visscher’s retrospective vision in his etchings based on Flemish prints.

Jürgen Müller’s article deals with peasants as well, but links Dürer’s well-known engravings not with social commentary but with the artist’s larger theoretical program. Müller calls attention to the prints’ ironic imitation of antiquity, a method he terms “inverse citation.”

Noëlle Streeton leads the issue with a contribution to 15th-century Netherlandish patronage studies. She offers a fresh perspective on Jan van Eyck’s Dresden altarpiece, enhanced by her study of Italian bank records that connect the Giustiniani family of Genoa with van Eyck’s Bruges workshop.

For this issue, we want to acknowledge the work of Cindy Edwards, our excellent copyeditor; Heidi Eyestone, the Visual Resources Librarian of Carleton College, for her help with images; Nicole Conti and Mallory Monsma, for their formatting skills and eagle eyes; our webmaster Russ Coon, for finding solutions to such technical matters as the insertion of captions; and the financial support of Carleton College and the University of Texas, Austin.

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A note on funding: In order to gain the widest possible audience, JHNA offers the journal free of
charge, not just to HNA members but to everyone. This open-access policy can continue only if we receive your help. Many of our members responded generously to the fund-raising campaign that originally allowed us to set up the journal; you’ll find their names here under Contributions. As for ongoing costs, membership dues cover some of them, but we need your help as well as your ideas for fundraising opportunities and possibilities.

Most importantly, we encourage you to consider JHNA as a venue for your own publications. With your help JHNA is becoming one of the premier journals of Netherlandish art. The next deadline for submission of articles is August 1, 2011, though we welcome submissions at any time.

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