Er zijn nog plaatsen beschikbaar voor het Neerlandia bezoek aan de galerie van Rob en Nick Carter op donderdag 6 juni, van 11.00 tot 13.00 uur.

Still life? - Rob and Nick Carter bring old paintings to life

The average museum visitor looks at an artwork for 2 to 4 seconds. How could you invite them to linger a bit longer? With that ambition in mind, artistic duo Rob and Nick Carter have invented art on the intersection of painting and cutting-edge computer generated imagery, creating a body of work with the title ‘Transforming’. In this series, Old Master works are brought to life through digital animation and we will be able to see all 12 of the moving artworks on display in their gallery RN&5A. Rob and Nick Carter will be giving us a talk on Bringing Old Masters to life through Animation during our visit on Thursday 6 June to reveal some of the magic behind their enchanting digital art.

Using artists such as Ambrosius Bosschaert the Elder, Jacob van Ruisdael and John Constable as a starting point, the Carters aim to re-engage with the works and make them come to live! The works range in duration from 30 minutes to 3 hours, and as the films move and develop over time, the viewer is invited to notice subtle changes, with occasional real-time activity bringing the works to life.

For Rachel Ruysch and Ambrosius Bosschaert the Elder’s images of flowers in a vase, they recreated the setting of the original painting and then filmed real flowers for 10 days as they decayed, discarding the frames with no action and editing the remaining film into a 32 minute sequence.

Decay is a common theme with still life and Ambrosius Bosschaert the Younger’s famous vanitas Dead Frog with Flies from 1630 is one of the most striking works, with the flies actually moving and buzzing, maggots crawling and the frog slowly rotting until nothing but a skeleton is left.

The mouse in Willem van Aelst’s Still Life with Candle, Walnut and a Mouse from 1627-1683 is barely visible, hidden in the dark. In the Carter’s version, you might suddenly jump as the mouse scurries across the table busying itself with the walnut.

It is a truly contemporary response to old master paintings and Five Tulips in a Wan-Li Vase is the first piece of video art recently acquired by the Frick Collection. One of the Transforming Landscape Paintings was on show at the Royal Academy Summer Exhibition 2018 and other works can be seen in the Mauritshuis in The Hague, Frans Hals Museum in Haarlem and the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

All 12 pieces of Rob & Nick Carter Transforming series were exhibited together at Masterpiece 2018 Chelsea for the first time.