The Rijksmuseum and Ordovas are staging a unique joint exhibition in the autumn, centred around paintings and etchings by Rembrandt on loan from the collection of the Rijksmuseum, in conversation with paintings by Frank Auerbach. Raw Truth: Auerbach–Rembrandt will open to the public from 4 October to 1 December 2013 at Ordovas, Savile Row, London and then travel to the Rijksmuseum from 12 December until 16 March 2014. The exhibition brings together a striking group of landscapes and portraits by the 17th century Dutch painter, Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn, and Frank Auerbach, the renowned British artist. This is the first collaborative exhibition to be presented by the newly renovated Rijksmuseum and Frank Auerbach is the first contemporary artist ever to show alongside works from their collection.

Frank Auerbach is a painter steeped in tradition and his engagement with the Old Masters, and Rembrandt in particular, is well known and documented. He has been making drawings from, and occasionally producing paintings in response to, the Rembrandts and other Old Masters in the collection of the National Gallery throughout his career, as demonstrated in the 1995 exhibition at the National Gallery, Frank Auerbach and the National Gallery: Working after the Masters.

This exhibition offers a deep engagement with that process, exploring in detail the ways in which Rembrandt’s work has become a lasting source of fascination for Auerbach and an influence on his practice. Raw Truth: Auerbach–Rembrandt will show a selection of six paintings by Frank Auerbach in conversation with two paintings and two etchings by Rembrandt, each selected by the Rijksmuseum and Ordovas, with the approval of Auerbach. Each pairing illuminates how the two artists approached a similar subject, be it a landscape or an intimate portrait of someone close to them. For instance, in hanging Auerbach’s Head of E.O.W. [Stella West], 1964, alongside Rembrandt’s Portrait of Dr Ephraim Bueno, 1645-47, (both pictured above), we invite an exploration of the two intimate portraits, the different solutions for similar subjects and the artists’ purpose and intention in creating the rich surface through hours of painting and intense observation.
ORDOVAS
A UNIQUE JOINT EXHIBITION WITH THE
RIJKS MUSEUM

PRESS RELEASE
3 OCTOBER 2013
25 Savile Row London W1S 2ER
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RAW TRUTH
AUERBACH—REMBRANDT

4 OCTOBER – 1 DECEMBER 2013

PRESS VIEW: THURSDAY 3 OCTOBER 10.00 – 17.00

Ordovas has organised exhibitions of this nature before. *Irrational Marks: Bacon and Rembrandt* explored Bacon’s self-portraits and their connection with Rembrandt’s small *Self-Portrait with Beret* from the Musée Granet, Aix-en-Provence, a painting Bacon was fascinated by throughout his career; this exhibition had over 10,000 visitors in the first month alone. More recently Ordovas has shown *Painting from Life: Carracci Freud*, which was curated in collaboration with the Dulwich Picture Gallery, and featured an important Carracci loan from their collection, as well as *Movement and Gravity: Bacon and Rodin in Dialogue*, which explored the importance of Rodin in Bacon’s work and was the first exhibition dedicated to these two artists.

**Editors’ Notes**

1. Works included the exhibition:
   Rembrandt Harmensz. van Rijn (from the collection of the Rijksmuseum): *Joseph telling his dreams to his parents and his brothers*, 1633; *Joseph telling his dreams*, 1638; *Portrait of Dr. Ephraïm Bueno*, 1645-1647; *The Three Trees*, 1643.

2. When Ordovas opened in June 2011 it made a commitment to a public gallery programme staging museum-quality exhibitions as well as offering a private space for selling 20th century and contemporary art in the secondary market. *Raw Truth: Auerbach—Rembrandt* is the seventh exhibition to have been presented at Ordovas since the gallery space opened.

3. To join the accredited list for press events please contact Clare Roberts communications@ordovasart.com +44 (0) 7899 065088