

## Louvre Abu Dhabi to showcase Rembrandt, Vermeer masterpieces

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ABU DHABI, Jan. 16 (Xinhua) -- Louvre Abu Dhabi's first 2019 international exhibition will bring together paintings and drawings by Dutch masters Rembrandt van Rijn, Johannes Vermeer and their contemporaries, the official WAM news agency reported on Wednesday.

Running from Feb. 14 to May 18, the event, titled "Rembrandt, Vermeer and the Dutch Golden Age: Masterpieces" from The Leiden Collection and the Musée du Louvre, will explore the artistic traditions that flourished in Leiden.

Manuel Rabaté, director of Louvre Abu Dhabi, said this is the first time a blockbuster exhibition of the Dutch masters comes to the United Arab Emirates.

The exhibition will feature 22 paintings and drawings from across Rembrandt career and his workshop, including his "Self-Portrait with Shaded Eyes" and "Minerva in Her Study," both from the Leiden Collection in New York.

Also, Vermeer's "Young Woman Seated at a Virginal" and "The Lacemaker," two paintings on canvas cut from the same bolt, will hang beside one another for the first time in 300 years at Louvre Abu Dhabi.

Mohamed Khalifa Al Mubarak, chairman of Culture and Tourism - Abu Dhabi, said the very inception and early success of Louvre Abu Dhabi was "founded on our close friendship with France and our multilayered partnerships with global museums and art institutions."