

Arts | Tuesday 31 January 2023

Rembrandt works to go on display in Amsterdam



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In addition to “The Bust”, the Dutch museum is to gain more than 30 other paintings from the Leiden Collection. The pieces will be exhibited to the public under the title Rembrandt and Contemporaries, from February to the end of August.

INTERNATIONAL

Florida trip

Bolsonaro applies for six-month stay in US

Former leader requests visitor visa as probes against him open in Brazil

JOSHUA CHAFFIN — NEW YORK

Jair Bolsonaro, the former president of Brazil, has applied for a six-month visitor visa to remain in the US as his legal standing in his home country grows perilous.

Bolsonaro's application was received by US authorities on Friday, according to Felipe Alexandre, his lawyer, who has advised the former president not to leave the country while the application is being processed — a period that could last several months.

"I think Florida will be his temporary home away from home," said Alexandre, founder of AG Immigration.

"Right now, with his situation, I think he needs a little stability."

Bolsonaro is facing multiple investigations in Brazil — both for alleged wrongdoing during his four-year presidential term and to determine whether he was to blame for an insurrection in Brasilia this month launched by supporters who rejected his electoral defeat.

The close ally of former US president Donald Trump decamped to Florida on December 30, skipping the inauguration of his leftist successor, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva.

He has been staying at the home of José Aldo, a former mixed martial arts

fighter, where he is often surrounded, and courted, by adoring members of Florida's right-leaning Brazilian expat community.

Bolsonaro had been travelling on an A-1 visa reserved for diplomats and

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Felipe Alexandre, lawyer

heads of state. It expired the day he left office, with a 30-day grace period.

There are already signs that his presence in the US is becoming uncomfortable for the administration of President

Joe Biden. This month, 41 Democratic members of Congress signed a letter urging the administration to revoke Bolsonaro's visa.

"We must not allow Mr Bolsonaro or any other former Brazilian officials to take refuge in the US to escape justice for any crimes they may have committed when in office," the letter stated.

Alexandre said there was no evidence Bolsonaro had committed any crime relating to the riots in Brasilia, in which the nation's Congress, presidential palace and Supreme Court were ransacked.

While Bolsonaro condemned the riots for having "crossed the line", he regularly defends his supporters' "right to protest".

"If you are going to kick someone out

of the country, you have to have legal justification to do so," said Alexandre.

He described Bolsonaro as "stressed and disappointed" but said his spirits were buoyed by regular visits from well-wishers.

Bolsonaro, Alexandre said, might eventually decide to petition for a longer US visa than the six-month extension he is seeking in the first instance.

Flavio Bolsonaro, a Brazilian senator and the former president's eldest son, at the weekend said there was no timetable for his father's return to Brazil.

"It could be tomorrow, it could be six months from now, he could never come back. [But] he has no fear at all because he bears no responsibility for what happened in Brazil," he said.

South Korea

Nato chief urges Seoul to give Kyiv military aid

CHRISTIAN DAVIES — SEOUL

The Nato secretary-general has called on South Korea to supply military assistance to Ukraine, stressing Kyiv's "urgent need" for more ammunition.

Jens Stoltenberg thanked the conservative government of South Korean president Yoon Suk-yeol in Seoul yesterday for providing non-lethal aid to Ukraine but urged it to do more.

South Korea has condemned Russia's invasion of Ukraine but has cited a long-standing policy of not giving weapons to countries involved in an active conflict.

"I urge the Republic of Korea to continue and to step up on the specific issue of military support," Stoltenberg said.

"It's a decision for you to make, but I'll say that several Nato allies who have had as a policy to never export weapons to countries in a conflict have changed that policy now."

South Korea has joined sanctions against Moscow drawn up by western countries and Japan after Russia's invasion last year. In March, Russia classed South Korea an "unfriendly country".

Western officials have expressed frustration in private with what they perceive as South Korean foot-dragging on efforts to isolate Moscow. Seoul has not joined a western-led price cap on purchases of Russian oil and has not made any commitment to phase out use of Russian hydrocarbons.

Since the invasion, South Korean defence companies have sealed arms export deals with Nato member Poland totalling more than \$12bn.

Seoul's willingness to sell tanks, howitzers, light attack aircraft, ammunition and multiple rocket launchers to Warsaw has raised hopes that it could be moving towards providing such aid to Kyiv.

But a western military official said that arms sales to Nato countries should not be conflated with a willingness to offer military support to Ukraine. "That was a defence export deal, not a political statement," said the official.

Western cooperation with Ukraine to sup-

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Rembrandt van Rijn/Hermitage/EPH/FT