

SURFACE

DESIGN DISPATCH

What May Be Vermeer's Final Painting is on View in Amsterdam, and Other News

Plus, a rare Emily Brontë painting exceeds expectations at auction, and Jil Sander and Thonet reimagine a chair by Marcel Breuer.

BY THE EDITORS

April 15, 2025



Vermeer's 'Young Woman Seated at a Virginal.' Credit: Carola Van Wijk. Courtesy of the Rijksmuseum

A painting believed to be Vermeer's last is currently on view in an Amsterdam museum.

Conservation efforts on *Young Woman Seated at a Virginal* suggest Vermeer may have revisited the canvas late in life, possibly making it his final work. Researchers found industrial dust embedded between paint layers—likely from the town of Delft's ceramics industry—indicating a gap between the painting's start and the addition of the sitter's yellow shawl. The Dutch Master's painting is currently on view in Amsterdam at the H'ART Museum's "From Rembrandt to Vermeer" exhibition.