Van Veen and his contemporaries, on whose amorous scenes of daily life (often featuring Amor in the role of burgher), as has recently been argued, the canon of Dutch genre painting, comprising scenes of trade, commerce, festivity, courtship, and domesticity, seems largely to have been based. This helps to explain why the theme of love underlies so many of the descriptive episodes that typify this pictorial genre, and further, why the attention they direct toward issues of manufacture, not least the manner in which they have been painted, goes hand in hand with questions concerning the artifice of love, its devices and stratagems.

Precisely because the imagery of love is bound up with the topic of pictorial artifice, this imagery, more often than not, functions reflexively to make the beholder mindful of the form and function, manner and meaning of the pictorial or sculptural image qua image he is beholding. Between 1400 and 1700, many artists produced reflective images of this kind, that appraise love by examining the pictorial or sculptural image, and conversely, appraise the pictorial or sculptural image by examining love.

Thursday, October 29 (Reception Hall, Carlos Museum)

Opening Remarks: 9:30-10:00
Professor Robin Forman, Dean of the Emory College, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Mathematics

Co-organizers: Walter S. Melion, Asa Griggs Candler Professor of Art History, Emory University; Joanna Woodall, Professor, The Courtauld Institute of Art; Michael Zell, Professor of Art History, Boston University

Session 1, 10:00-11:30
Henry Luntkhuizen, Calvin College
‘Intimacy and Longing: Geertgen tot Sint Jans, Jacob Cornelisz van Oostsanen, and the Distance of Love’
Laura Gelfand, Utah State University
‘What’s love got to do with it?: Unlacing the love knots in Margaret of Austria’s royal monastery at Brou’

11:45-12:45 — Lunch

Session 2, 1:00-2:45
Haobao Lu, University of Leiden
Edward Wouk, University of Manchester
“For the love of art”: History, Community, and Practice in the Vita of Lambert Lombard
Joanna Woodall, The Courtauld Institute, University of London
‘“For Love and Money”: The Creation of Value in Abraham Ortelius’s Amorum’

2:45-3:00 — Coffee Break

Session 3, 3:00-4:45
Els Stronks, Utrecht University
‘Amor Dei in Emblems for the Dutch Youth’
Joshua Mostow, University of British Columbia
‘Hishikawa Moronobu and the Imprinting of ‘Love’ in Early Modern Japan’
Walter Melion
‘Anthropomorphy and the Trope of the Living Tree in Hendrick Goltzius Portrait of Frederick de Vries 1597’

Friday, October 30

Session 1, 10:00-11:45
Margit Thofner, University of East Anglia
‘Exemplary Love: Marten de Vos’s Portrayals of the Virgin Mary’
Wietse de Boer, Miami University

Joseph Chorpenning, Saint Joseph’s University
‘The Dynamics of Divine Love: Francis de Sales’s Picturing of the Biblical Mystery of the Visitation’

12:00-12:45 — Lunch

Session 2, 1:00-2:45
Jonathan Unglaub, Brandeis University
‘Bernardo Accolti and Raphael: The Poetics of Desire and Pictorial Generation’
Ursha Harting
‘Diana and her Nymphs: Tableaux dont les sujets conviennent au Lieu - Bathroom, Country House, and their Decoration in 16th- and 17th-Century Flanders’
Lisa Rosenthal, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
‘“Achilles Revealed”: Artifice, Desire, and the Performance of Identity in the Constamper’

2:45-3:00 — Coffee Break

Session 3, 3:00-4:45
M.A. (Thij) Westein, University of Amsterdam
‘The Painting Looks Back: Reciprocal Desire in the Seventeenth Century’
Dawn Odell, Lewis & Clark University
‘Depicting Desire: Chinese “Paintings of Beauties” and Images of Asia in Jesuit Texts’
Michael Zell, Boston University
‘The Mirror as Rival: Metsu, Mimesis, and Amor in Seventeenth-Century Dutch Genre Painting’

Saturday, October 31

Session 1, 9:00-10:45
Joost van der Auwera, Royal Museum of Fine Arts of Belgium
Stephanie Dickey, Queen’s University, Ontario
‘Eros, Agape, and Conjugal Love in Paintings by Rembrandt and Van Dyck’
H. Perry Chapman, University of Delaware
‘Rubens, Rembrandt, and the Spousal Model-Muse’

Session 2, 11:00-12:45
Natasha Seaman, Rhode Island College
‘Desire by Candlelight: Hooft’s Old Woman with a Coin’
Kishwar Rizvi, Yale University
‘The Materiality of Love in Safavid Jalaloddin al-Uthiqa (Assembly of Lovers)’
H. Rodney (Rod) Nevitt, Jr., University of Houston
‘Vermeer’s Milkmaid in the Discourse of Love’

Closing remarks, 12:45-1:00
1:15-2:00 — Lunch