Gender, Politics, and Allegory in the Art of Rubens

Gender, Politics, and Allegory in the Art of Rubens examines the intertwined relationship between paintings of family and marriage, and of war, peace, and statehood by the Flemish master. Drawing extensively upon recent critical and gender theory, Lisa Rosenthal reshapes our view of Rubens’s works and of the interpretive practices through which we engage them. Close readings offer new interpretations of canonical images while bringing into view other powerful works that are less familiar. The focus on gender enables an original way of reading visual allegory, giving it a dynamic multivalence undiscovered by traditional iconographic methods.

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Contents

List of Illustrations  page ix
Acknowledgments  xiii

1 Rubens, Allegory, and Art-Historical Method  1

2 The Parens Patriae: Kingship and Fatherhood  21

3 Manhood and Statehood: Rubens’s Construction of Heroic Virtue  63

4 Hercules’ Distaff: Marriage, Masculinity, and the Pleasures of Disempowerment  113

5 Making Peace: Concord, Allegory, and Violence  167

6 Self-Portraiture and the Place of Paternity  198

Conclusion  235

Notes  241
Selected Bibliography  293
Index  307
Illustrations

COLOR PLATES

Color plates follow page xvi

I Rubens and Workshop, The Victorious Hero Seizes Opportunity in Order to Conclude Peace.

II Rubens, Minerva Protects Pax from Mars.

III Rubens, Deborah Kip, Wife of Sir Balthasar Gerbier, and her Children.

IV Rubens, The Hero Crowned by Victory.

V Rubens, Drunken Hercules.

VI Rubens, The Hero Crowned by Victory.

VII Rubens, Hercules Mocked by Omphale.

VIII Rubens Self-Portrait with his Wife, Hélène Fourment and Their Son, Peter Paul.

BLACK AND WHITE FIGURES

1 Rubens, Lady Arundel and her Train. page 25
2 Studio of Rubens, Sir Balthasar Gerbier and his Family. 29
3 Rubens, Son of Sir Balthasar Gerbier. 33
4 Rubens, Daughter of Sir Balthasar Gerbier. 34
5 Rubens, Daughter of Sir Balthasar Gerbier. 35
6 Rubens, The Four Parts of the Earth, or The Four Rivers. 42
7 Rubens, Madonna and Saints. 43
8 Rubens, Hélène Fourment and her Son Frans.
9 Rubens, Hélène Fourment and her Children.
10 Rubens, Venus, Mars and Cupid.
11 Albrecht Dürer, The Penance of St. John Chrysostom.
12 Otto van Veen, Typus Inconsulite Iuventutis or Allegory of the Temptations of Youth.
13 Pieter Perret, after Otto van Veen, Allegory of the Temptations of Youth.
14 Studio of Rubens, Allegory of Peace.
15 Gerard Seghers, Allegory of Peace.
16 Erasmus Quellinus II, Allegory of Peace.
17 Pieter Serwouters, after David Vinkboons, Christian Knight.
20 Rubens, Adonis Departing from Venus.
21 Rubens and Jan Brueghel the Elder, The Return from War: Mars Disarmed by Venus.
22 Rubens, Venus Before a Mirror.
23 Rubens, Mantuan Friendship Portrait.
24 Rubens, Justus Lipsius and his Pupils.
25 Rubens, The Horrors of War.
26 Rubens, The Three Graces.
27 Rubens, after Titian, The Worship of Venus.
28 Rubens, Feast of Venus Verticordia.
29 Rubens, Minerva Fighting Mars.
30 Rubens, Hercules and Minerva Fighting Mars.
31 Rubens, Hercules and Minerva Fighting Mars.
32 Rubens, Drunken Silenus.
33 Rubens, Baccanal.
34 Rubens, Hercules as Heroic Virtue Overcoming Discord.
35 Christoffel Jegher, after Rubens, Hercules as Heroic Virtue Overcoming Discord.
36 Rubens, Hercules Victorious Over Discord.
37 Rubens, Hercules Victorious Over Discord.
38 Rubens, Hercules Mocked by Omphale.

ILLUSTRATIONS

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39 Rubens, *Venus Lamenting Adonis*. 117
40 Detail of fig. 38. 119
41 Otto van Veen, *Amor Addocet Artes* from *Amorum Emblemata*. 125
42 Housebook Master, *Coat of Arms with the World Upside Down*. 127
44 Detail of fig. 43. 129
45 Bartholomäus Spranger, *Hercules and Omphale*. 132
46 Bartholomäus Spranger, *Vulcan and Maia*. 133
47 Rubens, *Study of the Belvedere Torso*. 137
48 Rubens, *Study of the Laocoön*. 138
49 Correggio, *Allegory of Vice*. 139
50 Rubens, *Study of the Farnese Hercules*. 141
51 Rubens, *Venus Lamenting Adonis*. 146
52 Rubens, *Venus Lamenting Adonis*. 147
53 Rubens, *Venus Lamenting Adonis*. 148
54 Rubens, *Venus Lamenting Adonis*. 149
55 Antique Roman Sarcophagus, *The Legend of Adonis*. 151
56 Rubens, *Adonis Departing from Venus*. 162
57 Rubens, *Adonis Departing from Venus*. 163
58 Rubens, *Henry the IV Seizes the Opportunity to Conclude Peace*. 171
59 Rubens, *Occasio*. 173
60 Rubens, *Wedding by Proxy of Marie de’Medici to King Henry IV*. 175
61 Marcantonio Raimondi, *Heroic Man Combatting Fortune*. 177
62 Ghisbert van Veen, after Otto van Veen, *Alessandro Farnese as Hercules Choosing the Path of Virtue*. 180
63 Theodoor van Thulden, after Rubens, *Philip IV Appoints Prince Ferdinand Governor of the Netherlands*. 181
64 Rubens and Frans Snyders, *Head of Medusa*. 183
65 “Multi-layered flap anatomy with mobile shutters and detachable internal organs,” frontispiece to Johann Remmelin, *Catoptrum Microcosmicum*. 185
67 Jacobus Harrewijn, after J. van Croes, Views of the Rubensbuis. 190
68 Detail of fig. 67. 191
69 Erasmus Quellinus, Double Portrait of Rubens and Van Dyck. 193
70 X-radiograph detail of Plate VIII. Rubens, Self-Portrait with his Wife, Hélène Fourment and Their Son, Peter Paul. 201
71 Rubens, Self-Portrait with Isabella Brandt in a Honeysuckle Bower. 205
72 Rubens and Osias Beert, Pausias and Glyceria or The Scholar Inspired by Nature. 207
73 Rubens, Self-Portrait. 208
74 Rubens, Conversatie a la Mode or The Garden of Love. 209
75 Nicolas de Son, after Johan Liss, The Garden of Love. 210
76 Abraham Bosse, after Jean de Saint Igny, Woman with a Fan from Le Jardin de la Noblesse Françoise. 211
77 Rubens, Henry IV and Marie de Medici. 213
78 Rubens, Hélène in Black and Gold. 215
79 School of Rubens, Portrait of Rubens with his Son Albert. 220
80 Rubens, Self-Portrait. 221
81 Rubens, Sketch for a Family Group (Self-Portrait with Hélène Fourment and Two Children?). 222
82 Rubens, Self-Portrait with Hélène Fourment and Nicolaas Rubens (The Walk in the Garden). 223
83 Christoffel Jegher, after Rubens, The Garden of Love. 224
84 Christoffel Jegher, after Rubens, Rest on the Flight into Egypt. 227
85 Jon Giles Eccardt, Charles and Mary Churchill with Their Eldest Son, Charles. 233
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