Assistant Scientist

(Part-time or full-time minimum 4 days – scale 10)

'The Van Gogh Museum inspires a diverse audience with the life and work of Vincent van Gogh and his time'. All our colleagues contribute to this mission with their own expertise. Together we are making great strides and we are open to what is happening around us. We like to be at the forefront and work closely with others. We focus on our immediate environment as well as on the international world.'

With the support of **ASML - Van Gogh Museum Partners in Science**, the museum implements innovative research techniques for studying and preserving paintings by Van Gogh and his contemporaries.

As of 1 January 2026, the Science team of the Van Gogh Museum is looking for an **assistant scientist** (1 year, part-time or full-time) to support an interdisciplinary research team consisting of restorers, scientists, art historians and researchers from partner institutions.

Tasks and responsibilities

- You will examine artworks from the collection and analyze sample material using advanced analysis techniques: X-ray Fluorescence, Reflectance Spectroscopy, Infrared Spectroscopy and other relevant research techniques.
- You record the findings of the technical investigation in reports. You contribute to the dissemination of research results in publications and presentations.
- You are jointly responsible for equipment maintenance, setting up and compliance with relevant work and safety protocols and (science) data management.
- You will actively contribute to conferences, workshops and educational activities and help organize them.

Job requirements

- PhD in Natural Sciences or Engineering (Heritage Studies, Chemistry, Physics, Optics, Computational Physics or related disciplines)
- Experience in XRF mapping techniques of cultural heritage objects (as well as other techniques such as RIS, 3D mapping, OCT)
- Experience with sample preparation and analysis (Optical Microscopy, Scanning Electron Microscopy, FTIR and Raman Spectroscopy)
- Certificate of Technical Assistant Radiation Expert
- Experience with computational programming
- Strong motivation to work in a multidisciplinary museum environment
- Knowledge of paint and artist materials with a focus on the 19th century
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English and Dutch (or willingness to learn Dutch).

Who are you?

You are someone with a curious eye and a passion for art and cultural heritage. You enjoy working in a team and you are interested in using modern technologies to study and better understand works of art. You have excellent experimental, analytical and problem-solving skills. You work independently, you are proactive and used to meeting deadlines, you know how to keep a good overview and set priorities.

Where will you work?

In the heart of Amsterdam, you will find yourself in a dynamic and collegial working environment. The Museum Collective Labor Agreement applies. This position falls into scale 10. The full-time salary (36 hours) is between €4,131 and €5,516 gross per month, depending on education and experience. In addition, we offer 8% holiday pay, 3.4% end-of-year bonus, a good pension scheme, a laptop and iPhone, a museum card and a healthcare allowance of €150 per year.

Will you join us?

Do you recognize yourself in the above profile and have you read this vacancy with enthusiasm? Then we are very curious about your reaction! You can apply via the apply button. We kindly ask you to attach your motivation letter and CV (in PDF format).

Don't wait too long to apply. The vacancy closes as soon as a sufficient number of suitable candidates have been found.

For questions about the vacancy, please contact:

- Ruth Hoppe (Head of Collection Management & Restoration) via R.Hoppe@vangoghmuseum.nl, tel. +31 6 31015271
- Ana Martins (Scientist) via A.Martins@vangoghmuseum.nl, tel. +31 6 50182370

Diversity and inclusion

We are an organization for everyone, in which we embrace the greatest variety of people. We see diversity as essential for creativity, relevance and innovation. Every day, we work on our mission to inspire diverse audiences and bring new meaning and value to people's lives. We don't care what name you bear, where you come from, what you look like or what you believe. We are here for you, and you are welcome to apply!