

Rubens' Antwerp altarpieces of *The Raising and Descent from the Cross*

We will be discussing Rubens' altarpieces: *The Raising of the Cross* (St. Walburga, 1611) and *Descent from the Cross* (Antwerp Cathedral, 1612-14).

We will be considering the following issues:

- their original location
- their format and iconography
- the artist's achievement in the context of Flemish representational traditions and his experience of Italy

Images for discussion are on the website

Reading:

J.R. Martin, *Rubens. The Antwerp Altarpieces*, 1969.

On counter reserve in the Berkeley Library

Also useful are the relevant sections of:

Frans Baudouin, "Altars and Altarpieces before 1620" in J.R. Martin, *Rubens Before 1620*, 1972.

Michael Jaffé, *Rubens and Italy*, 1977.

Christopher White, *Rubens. Man and Artist*, 1987.

Frans Baudouin, *Peter Paul Rubens*, 1989.

For a good, short overview of Rubens's career and painting, see Kristin Lohse Belkin, *Rubens*, 1998. There is a copy in departmental library.

P.C.