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Summary

FOREWORD

In 1999, Antwerp celebrated Anthony van Dyck's four hundredth birthday anniversary. *Van Dyck 1999* ran from May through October 1999 and featured ten unique exhibitions, a contemporary multidisciplinary project involving the laboratory, as well as a colorful summer festival and a special edition of the annual festival of polyphonic music.

With the slogan *Van Dyck lives!* Antwerpen Open was eager to involve the city, its inhabitants and visitors, artists and scientists. In this respect, Antwerpen Open, Roomade and the Provincial Museum of Photography joined forces to produce a Singular and contemporary contribution to this festive celebration: *Laboratorium*. The Support of the Flemish Government was indispensable for the realization of this project. It stresses the importance our region wants to give to the enhancement of creativity in arts as in science. The results of the projects taken place within the framework of this exhibition, are reflected in the book *Laboratorium*, accompanied by essays from different practitioners discussing the issue of the laboratory in relation to their practice.

Eric Antonis

Alderman for culture, libraries and monuments in Antwerp

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