



# Jan De Maesschalck

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**Jan De Maesschalck**

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**Eric Rinckhout**

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Jan De Maesschalck's paintings represent a sharp view on topical subjects and the news. However, his clear observation of current events is depicted within an atmosphere of muse and memory. As such, his work represents an impression of melancholy and mockery, yet both in a mild form. According to De Maesschalck, melancholy leads to beauty. The tone set in the depiction of shadowy interiors and forlorn women is relativizing and even humorous. All works speak of a strong but indefinable desire. De Maesschalck's metier reveals an extreme attention for detail. With technical precision, he prepares his paper and draws with paint. Utilising acrylic paint that dries immediately, De Maesschalck has to work fast. He is drawer and painter at once. Brushstrokes are visible, and hence his secure draughtsmanship contributes to the vibrant quality of the works.