



FACULTY OF SCIENCE
Charles University

School of Chemistry, Faculty of Science (FoS)
would like to invite you to attend the lecture

Quo Vadis Chemie

What Can We Learn From the Depiction of the 16th and 17th Centuries Alchemical Laboratories



which will be delivered by

Mgr. Ivo PURŠ, Ph.D.

Institute of Art History, CAS, Praha

on 14.03. at 15:00

the Lecture Hall CH2, the School of Chemistry Building, FoS CU, Hlavova 8, Praha 2

Abstract: Until the middle of the 16th century, the depiction of alchemical laboratories was primarily the subject of diverse expert treatises. Still, during the first half of the 17th



century, the depiction of the alchemist in the laboratory became one of the common themes in the Dutch and Flemish genre painting. These depictions took different forms: some were satirical, while others showed the alchemist with some seriousness. It is essential to compare various examples of the alchemical laboratory's portrayal in fine art and scholarly works dealing with alchemy or metallurgy and draw attention to the differences in the depictions in both areas and the fundamental differences in the meaning of these depictions themselves.