

A portrait of Christiaan Huygens

together with Giovanni Domenico Cassini.



Kees Verduin
Leiden University
The Netherlands



Who recognizes this picture?



[Answer](#)

Establishment of the Academy of Sciences and foundation of the Observatory. 1666/1667.

**By Henri Testelin (1616 - 1695), design by Charles Le Brun (1619 - 1690)
Musée National du Château et des Trianons, Versailles**

Source: Reunion des Musées Nationaux (RMN) Database / Joconde Database

A closer view.



Source: RMN database / Joconde Database

The members of the Academy.



Why & how is Huygens present?

- **Necessity**
- **An erroneous reference**
- **Representation**

Cues for identification

- **Age**
- **Position**
- **Style of clothing**
- **Netscher painting**
- **Right hand**

Source: RMN database / Joconde Database

Cassini, Huygens and Time.



**Beaubrun, 16??
mirror image**



**Netscher, 1671
mirror image**

Concluding remarks

1. A list of the scientists on the painting is needed.
2. Portraits are needed of the still Unidentified Scientists (US's).
3. Other images of the Academy may contain new portraits.

