



News Release

V&A Highlights 2024

V&A South Kensington

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V&A South Kensington

Exhibitions



***Tropical Modernism: Architecture and Independence* 2 March 2024 – 22 September 2024**

Tropical Modernism: Architecture and Independence will spotlight the architectural style developed in the hot, humid conditions of West Africa and India after World War II by architects Maxwell Fry and Jane Drew. Tropical Modernism followed the minimalist aesthetic of the time, while integrating novel approaches to climate control. Initially this style was imposed by the British Empire after WWII in large public and social projects that sought to offset calls for independence and stimulate trade with Britain. Despite these associations, after

independence in India and across Africa, Tropical Modernism came to represent the modernity and progressiveness of these new countries, distinct from colonial culture and adapted by local architects.

Working with scholars, architects and filmmakers, the exhibition will interrogate a transitional moment in which new freedoms were won and how a break with the colonial past was articulated through art and architecture.



Fragile Beauty: Photographs from the Sir Elton John and David Furnish Collection

In partnership with Gucci

18 May 2024 – 5 January 2025

The exhibition will showcase over 300 rare prints from over 140 photographers, on loan from the private collection of Sir Elton John and David Furnish.

Following on from the 2016 exhibition *The Radical Eye: Modernist Photography from the Sir Elton John Collection* at the Tate Modern, this exhibition will cover the period from the

1950s to the present day and bring together an unrivalled selection of the world's leading photographers to tell the story of modern and contemporary photography, including works by Robert Mapplethorpe, Cindy Sherman, William Eggleston, Diane Arbus, Sally Mann, and others.

The exhibition will mark 30 years of collecting and will celebrate John and Furnish's passion for the medium. Subjects explored will include fashion, reportage, celebrity, the male body, and American photography. Portraits of stars from stage and screen will feature, including photography of Marilyn Monroe, Miles Davis, and Chet Baker, as well as iconic images from key moments of history from the Civil Rights movement of the 1960s, AIDS activism of the 1980s and the events of 11 September 2001.



NAOMI

22 June 2024 – 6 April 2025

This exhibition will explore the unequalled 40-year career of fashion model and British icon Naomi Campbell (b. 1970). A trailblazer in the field, Naomi Campbell's celebrated ability to 'walk' the catwalk, along with the special alchemy she creates through collaborations with every major fashion house, fashion publication and leading fashion photographer,

ensure that after four decades in the fashion industry and British cultural landscape, Campbell continues to star in global catwalk shows, advertising campaigns and editorial fashion shoots. In parallel, Campbell's cultural leadership, activism and championing of emerging creatives transcend the traditional parameters of the fashion catwalk model role.

Produced in collaboration with Naomi Campbell and foregrounding her voice and perspective, *NAOMI* will be the first exhibition of its kind. The exhibition will draw upon

Campbell's own extensive wardrobe of haute couture and leading ready-to-wear ensembles, along with loans from designer archives and objects from the V&A collection. The exhibition will include around 100 looks from the best of global high fashion and an installation of photography curated by Edward Enninful OBE.



Jameel Prize 7

30 November 2024 – 16 March 2025

The seventh edition of the V&A's *Jameel Prize* is devoted to moving images and new media work, inspired by Islamic art, culture, history, or ideas. Seven contemporary artists from the Middle East and South Asia, working with video, sound, installation, and new technologies have been selected by an international jury. Works by Sadik Kwaish Alfraji, Jawa El Khash, Alia Farid, Ohida Khandakar, Zahra Malkani, Marrim Akashi Sani, and the collective Ramin, Rokni, Hesam, will be on display in an exhibition at V&A South Kensington in the winter of 2024, where the winner of the £25,000 Prize will be announced. The *Jameel Prize* is the world's only international award for contemporary art and design inspired by Islamic tradition. Founded in 2009, the *Jameel Prize* reflects the V&A's long-standing relationship with Art Jameel.

Displays



***Lucian Freud's Etchings: A Creative Collaboration* Opens 22 January**

One of the foremost British artists of the 20th century, Lucian Freud is best known for his figurative paintings, but he also made many etchings, often of the subjects and sitters featured in his painted works. A selection of these intricate and intimate prints will be on display at the V&A South Kensington in 2024. The show will explore this lesser known aspect of Freud's work and will feature highlights from a unique collection of trial proofs amassed by master printer Marc Balakjian, who worked with Freud for more than 20 years. Most of these proofs have never been exhibited anywhere before, so the display will offer fresh insights into Freud's working practice. Some proofs relate to published prints; others are rare impressions of prints that Freud abandoned or rejected. The collection is a remarkable record of Freud's sustained engagement with printmaking and offers a vivid and illuminating account of an extraordinary creative collaboration between artist and printer.



***100 years of Theatre and Performance at the V&A* Opens 1 June 2024**

In 2024, the V&A looks forward to celebrating the centenary of its Theatre and Performance Collections. In 1924, the museum accepted a donation of over 80,000 playbills, programmes, and

ephemera from Gabrielle Enthoven, which kicked off the museum's collecting of theatre and performance and has since evolved into the internationally renowned and recognised National Collection of Performing Arts. To mark this anniversary, the Theatre and Performance galleries will host a special display, *Enthoven Unboxed: 100 Years of Collecting Performance*, as well as programming throughout the year, including the annual V&A Performance Festival which celebrates its tenth year in 2024.

Young V&A



***Japan: Myths to Manga* Until Sunday 8 September**

Japan: Myths to Manga takes visitors on a journey through Japan, exploring how popular stories have shaped art, design, and technology across the centuries. Divided into four sections – Sky, Sea, Forest, and City –

the exhibition brings together over 150 historic and contemporary objects. From Hokusai to Sylvanian Families, Studio Ghibli, robots, fashion, film, photography and beyond, *Japan: Myths to Manga* celebrates the spirit of playfulness and imagination that lies at the heart of Japanese culture, revealing the influence of folklore and environment on Japan's art and design. A series of related events will accompany the exhibition throughout 2024.

V&A Dundee

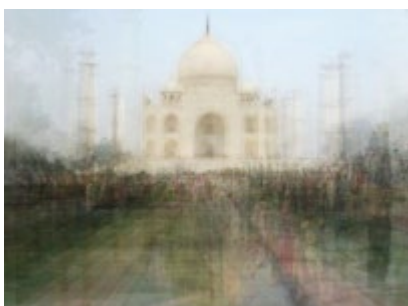


***Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk* Opens 4 May 2024**

This major exhibition presents the kimono as a dynamic and constantly evolving icon of fashion, revealing the sartorial, aesthetic and social significance of the garment from the 1660s to the present day, both in Japan and the rest of the world.

The exhibition reveals the iconic garment in a new light, displaying rare 17th and 18th century kimono together with fashions by major designers and iconic film and performance costumes. The kimono's recent reinvention on the streets of Japan is also explored through work by an exciting new wave of contemporary designers and stylists.

Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk has been curated for the V&A by Anna Jackson and Josephine Rout. V&A Dundee is the final venue on the exhibition's European tour and the last chance to see these remarkable objects together.



***Photo City: How Images Shape the Urban World* Opens 29 March 2024**

Photo City: How Images Shape the Urban World will delve into the V&A's spectacular collections to show

how photography shapes the way we understand, build and experience our cities. The exhibition explores how photographs are powerful tools that not only document the city, but also help us to project and design future cities and new ways of living together. Iconic images by some of the most lauded and acclaimed photographers in history – from Henri Cartier-Bresson in Paris to Thomas Annan photographing 19th century Glasgow – will sit alongside the work of contemporary artists. Their work explores an array of visual imaging technologies that expand our everyday understanding of photography and cities, including 3D scans of Ukrainian heritage sites created following Russia's invasion.

Sohei Nishino has been commissioned to create a large-scale photographic diorama of Dundee; the newest addition to his Diorama Map series which includes cities such as Tokyo, London, Amsterdam, San Francisco, Rio de Janeiro and New Delhi. These works fuse the micro with the macro – zooming into the intricate details of a city whilst also revealing the shapes of the urban sprawl.

Photo City: How Images Shape the Urban World is co-curated by V&A Dundee and V&A South Kensington to celebrate Dundee's Decade of Design, the 10th anniversary of Dundee's designation as the UK's only UNESCO City of Design. Sohei Nishino's commission is supported by the Daiwa Anglo-Japanese Foundation, the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation and the Michelin Corporate Foundation.



Dundee Tapestry
Opens 20 January 2024

The Dundee Tapestry is a collaborative project which has brought together members of the Dundee community through stitching groups, social networks and in-person events. The result is a fascinating and captivating image

of Dundee on 35 large, beautifully hand-stitched panels.

As Dundee looks forward, the *Dundee Tapestry* reveals the city's past, present and future through eight illustrative themes. From the mid-19th century to where we are now, these themes explore the city's industrial heritage, its creative achievements, its biodiversity, its future industries and its people.

The project was conceived and developed by John Fyffe MBE of the Weaver Incorporation of Dundee, one of the city's Nine Incorporated Trades, and Dr Frances Stevenson, senior lecturer at Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art & Design. The panels were co-designed by Dr Stevenson and Andrew Crummy MBE, the artist behind the Great Tapestry of Scotland.

A stitching team of over 140 volunteer stitchers from Dundee and the surrounding area have been working on the panels since the spring of 2022, and many are practising these skills for the first time. Together, they are collaborating to tell Dundee's unique story, stitch by stitch. A small group of the tapestries was shown at V&A Dundee in 2023. This new exhibition is the first time that all 35 completed tapestries will be shown together.

The Dundee Tapestry is supported by The Nine Trades of Dundee, The Northwood Trust, The Guildry of Dundee, Rotary Club of Dundee, William S Philip Trust, Walter Craig's Trust and Don & Low.

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For further PRESS information please contact the V&A press office on +44 (0) 20 7942 2502 or email press.office@vam.ac.uk (not for publication).

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