



News Release

V&A Highlights 2017

Lockwood Kipling: Arts and Crafts in the Punjab and London

Supported by the Friends of the V&A

14 January – 2 April 2017 (media preview: 11 January)

The exhibition will explore the role and lasting impact of Lockwood Kipling, an influential but largely unknown figure in the Arts and Crafts movement. Structured around Kipling's biography as artist, writer, teacher and conservationist, the exhibition is directly associated with the origin and history of the V&A and the scope of the objects in its collections. It will consider Kipling's collecting and curatorial practices in the Bombay, Lahore and South Kensington Museums and the influence of 19th century arts education, based on the South Kensington model, in 19th British India. A section of the exhibition will look at his working relationship with his son Rudyard and their collaborations. This is the fourth in a series of major research collaborations between the Bard Graduate Center in New York and the V&A. The exhibition will mark the 70th anniversary of the founding of Modern India and Pakistan.

MAJOR EXHIBITION

The Pink Floyd Exhibition: Their Mortal Remains

Presented by the V&A, Pink Floyd and Iconic Entertainment Studios

Sound Experience by Sennheiser

13 May – 1 October 2017 (media preview: 10 May)

To mark 50 years since the band released their first single *Arnold Layne*, and over 200 million record sales later, this exhibition will be an immersive, multi-sensory and theatrical journey through Pink Floyd's extraordinary world. A story of sound, design and performance, the exhibition will chronicle the music, iconic visuals and staging of the band, from the underground psychedelic scene in 1960s London to the present day, illustrating their groundbreaking use of special effects, sonic experimentation, powerful imagery and social commentary. Marking the first collaboration in decades of Pink Floyd's remaining members, it will feature artefacts including never-before-seen material, presented alongside works from the V&A's outstanding collections of art, design, architecture and performance. Highlights will include spectacular set and construction pieces from some of Pink Floyd's most innovative and legendary album covers and stage performances including *The Dark Side of the Moon*, *The Wall* and *The Division Bell*, instruments, music technology, original designs, architectural drawings, handwritten lyrics and psychedelic prints and posters.

Balenciaga: Shaping Fashion

27 May 2017 – 18 February 2018 (media preview: 24 May)

Revered by his contemporaries and fashion designers today, Cristóbal Balenciaga represented the pinnacle of haute couture in the 1950s and 1960s and is widely regarded as one of the most innovative and influential designers of the last century. His exquisite craftsmanship and pioneering use of fabrics and cutting set the tone for the modernity of the late 20th century. The V&A will present the first exhibition on Balenciaga in the UK, marking the 100th anniversary of the opening of his first fashion house in San Sebastian and the 80th anniversary of the opening of his famous Paris salon in 1937. *Balenciaga: Shaping Fashion* will take an almost forensic look at the craftsmanship and skill that made Balenciaga's creations so special and explore how his work has shaped future fashion design. Around 100 beautiful garments and 20 hats will be on display, representing the work of Balenciaga and his followers. Sketches, photographs and fabric samples will contextualise the garments and patterns, x-rays, toiles and film will be used to reveal details in their construction and making. The V&A has a large and important collection of Balenciaga and many pieces have not been seen before.

Plywood

15 July – 12 November 2017 (media preview: 12 July)

Plywood will be the first authoritative history of a material near universally used in industrial, domestic and architectural design, but which continues to be little understood or interpreted. The exhibition will explore the innovative use of plywood in objects ranging from aircraft, boats and vehicles to furniture, architecture and graphic design and offer a new view of this material, its methods of manufacture and history from ancient times to use in today's digital age as well. Highlights will include Charles and Ray Eames' designs for plywood furniture as well as projects such as their 1942 moulded plywood leg splint designed for the US Navy, revolutionary European and American aircraft designs, 1930s surfboards and designs for mass-produced US prefabricated housing. It will feature three installations that highlight plywood's use as a material for ground-breaking 20th-century design: the Kaufmann Office (1937), designed by Frank Lloyd Wright; a Deperdussin monocoque (France, 1913), one of the earliest and most important plywood planes which will be suspended from the ceiling of the Dome; and ice-skating shelters by Patkau Architects (Canada, 2011) which will be displayed in the V&A's John Madejski Garden.

Supported by the American Friends of the V&A

MAJOR EXHIBITION

Opera: Passion, Power and Politics

Sponsored by Societe Generale

30 September 2017 – 25 February 2018 (media preview: 27 September)

Together the V&A and the Royal Opera House will create a vivid and immersive journey through opera, from its origins in late-Renaissance Italy to the present day, in the inaugural exhibition of the new Sainsbury Gallery. The exhibition will focus on seven opera premieres, seven opening nights in seven distinct cultural landscapes, which culminate in the international explosion of opera in the 20th and 21st century. The exhibition will show how the creation of a new opera can reflect the social, political, artistic, and economic conversations, which define cities and will reveal the process of making opera from libretto to score, design to performance. The cities and premieres that will be explored are: Venice (Monteverdi's *L'Incoronazione di Poppea*, 1642); London (Handel's *Rinaldo* 1711); Vienna (Mozart's *Le Nozze di Figaro*, 1786); Milan (Verdi's *Nabucco*, 1842); Paris (Wagner's *Tannhäuser*, 1861); Dresden (Strauss' *Salome*. 1905) and St Petersburg (*Shostakovich's Lady Macbeth of Mtsensk*, 1934).

In collaboration with the Royal Opera House

With thanks to the Blavatnik Family Foundation and Cockayne – Grants for the Arts, a donor-advised fund of The London Community Foundation.

Winnie-the-Pooh: Exploring A Classic

16 December 2017 – 8 April 2018 (media preview: 13 December)

This exhibition will reveal the story behind the creative partnership of A.A. Milne and E.H. Shepard and the factors contributing to the success and enduring popularity of Winnie-the-Pooh. It will be designed for both children and adults encouraging visitors to rediscover the classic books and will look at discovering language as a child, as well as inspiring creativity with drawing. It will consider the real-life personalities and relationships that created Pooh, including Christopher Robin's make-believe with his toys and the collaboration between the genius of Milne as author and Shepard as talented illustrator. It will look at the development of Pooh from pre-views of verses and stories in periodicals to the published books and show the illustrative process and the interrelation of text and image. The exhibition will draw on the V&A's collection of pencil sketches, proofs, letters and photographs, and many key loans. In addition, the original manuscript of Winnie-the-Pooh from the Wren Library at Trinity College will be on display for the first time at the V&A.

NEW DEVELOPMENT

Exhibition Road Project

Opening July 2017

The Exhibition Road project will create The Sainsbury Gallery, a purpose-built gallery for the V&A's internationally renowned exhibitions, The Sackler Courtyard, and a grand new entrance, The Blavatnik Hall, located off Exhibition Road on the west side of the Museum. Designed by AL_A, the London practice headed up by Stirling Prize-winning architect Amanda Levete, the building project is the V&A's largest architectural scheme in the last 100 years. It is transforming a previously inaccessible back-of-house space into an open courtyard for installations, events and a café which, by revising the existing screen designed by Sir Aston Webb, will create a new relationship between the heart of the V&A and Exhibition Road. This will all be set within the beautiful historical facades on the west side of the V&A's Grade I listed architecture which have never before been on public view. The large, uninterrupted major exhibition space beneath the courtyard will allow the V&A to significantly improve the way it designs and presents its world class exhibition programme.

More than £47 million of the £49.5 million required for the project has been raised thanks to the generosity of The Monument Trust, The Dr Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation, The Headley Trust, The Blavatnik Family Foundation, The Garfield Weston Foundation, the Heritage Lottery Fund and other generous donors including Peter Williams and Heather Acton and the Friends of the V&A.

NEW GALLERIES

Photography Galleries

Opening autumn 2017

The V&A was the first museum to collect and exhibit photographs. It now holds the UK's national collection of the art of photography, one of the largest and most important in the world. This collection is growing with the transfer of the spectacular Royal Photographic Society (RPS) collection of approximately 300,000 objects. In celebration, the V&A will open a suite of expanded galleries to show photographs alongside cameras, original negatives, albums, books, letters and magazines, complete with a space for a lively programme of events. On show will be a range of rare and renowned pictures by eminent figures from the Victorian era to the 21st century. Photographs by Roger Fenton, Julia Margaret Cameron and Henri Cartier-Bresson will join recent acquisitions to chronicle a history of photography from its invention in the 1830s to the present day. The galleries will also explore the ground-breaking processes, techniques and technologies of key practitioners, and present a rotating programme of thematic and monographic displays. The new galleries are part of a wider programme to improve the accessibility of the V&A's world class photography collection through digitisation, cataloguing, research and the refurbishment of the Museum's photographic stores.

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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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