

## News Release

### V&A Highlights 2019

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### Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams

2 February – 14 July 2019

Tickets on sale October 2018



Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams is the largest and most comprehensive exhibition ever staged in the UK on the House of Dior. With over 500 objects and 200 rare Haute Couture garments, it is the V&A's biggest fashion exhibition since Alexander McQueen: Savage Beauty in 2015. Spanning from 1947 to the present day, the exhibition traces the history and impact of one of the 20th century's most influential couturiers, and the six artistic directors who have succeeded him. Based on the major exhibition Christian Dior: Couturier du Rêve, organised by the Musée des Arts Décoratifs, Paris, the exhibition has been reimagined for the V&A, and will include a brand-new section exploring the designer's influence in Britain. Ensembles will be shown alongside accessories, fashion photography, film, perfume, make-up, illustrations, magazines, and Christian Dior's

personal possessions to explore the legacy of the couturier. The exhibition is a major collaboration between Christian Dior Couture, Christian Dior Parfums and the V&A.

## Mary Quant

6 April 2019 – 16 February 2020

Tickets on sale November 2018



This exhibition will be the first international retrospective on the revolutionary fashion designer in nearly 50 years. It will focus on the years between 1955 and 1975, when Quant revolutionised the high street with her subversive and playful designs for a younger generation. Bringing together over 200 objects, the majority of which have never been on public display. The exhibition will be drawn from the V&A's extensive fashion holdings, which include the largest collection of Mary Quant garments in the world, as well as the designer's personal archive and important international loans.

On 7 June, the V&A announced a public call-out to uncover lost Quant designs and to capture these amazing personal stories in the exhibition. This call-out has resulted in a remarkable 700 responses so far. 35 objects from 30 individuals will be on display in the exhibition, and we are pleased to have made 18 acquisitions for our collection.

## Food

18 May – 17 November 2019

Tickets on sale early 2019



Food is a bold exhibition that will explore the exciting innovation and ingenuity of individuals, communities and organisations that are radically re-inventing how we grow, distribute and experience food. From urban farming to new gastronomic experiences and synthetic meat, the exhibition will take visitors on a journey from farm to kitchen to table via laboratories, design studios and grass roots projects posing questions about how the collective choices we make can lead to a

more sustainable, just and delicious food future. Visitors will explore this wide-ranging and complex subject through a series of surprising, sensory and playful experiences including installations, new commissions and historical pieces from the V&A collections. Each section of the exhibition will question our current understanding of, and connection to food.

## Tim Walker

7 September 2019 – 8 March 2020

Tickets on sale Spring 2019



This exhibition is an immersive journey into the fantastical worlds created by photographer Tim Walker. The V&A has been a continuous source of inspiration for Walker over the past 25 years, and at the heart of the exhibition will be a brand-new series of photographs directly influenced by his research into the V&A's enormous and eclectic collection. The show pays tribute to Walker's distinctive contribution to image-

making, while also exploring the work of his creative collaborators. It will shine a light on the important roles played by set designers, stylists, make-up artists, models and muses, who all help bring Walker's unique ideas to life. Designed by leading British art director Shona Heath, the exhibition encompasses photographs, films, photographic sets and special installations across the museum, providing a behind-the-scenes look at the creative process of one of the world's most inventive photographers.

## Cars

19 October 2019 – 19 April 2020

Tickets on sale Spring 2019



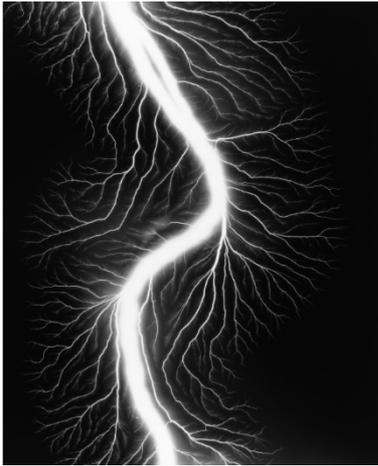
Over the course of a 130-year history, cars have become one of the most loved, contested and influential innovations in the world. As the driving force that accelerated the pace of the 20th century, they revolutionised manufacturing around the world, and introduced radical new ways of styling, making and selling. The car has transformed how we move, as well as our experience of speed, forever changing our cities, environment and economies. As we approach another major turning point in automotive design, the exhibition looks at the role of the car in shaping the world we live in today.

## V&A FuturePlan projects 2018 and 2019

### V&A Photography Centre

Opening 12 October 2018

The V&A Photography Centre is supported by The Bern Schwartz Family Foundation and other generous donors



The world's first photographic experiments, pictures by 20th century greats Alfred Stieglitz and Edward Steichen, recent acquisitions by Linda McCartney, and newly commissioned works by Thomas Ruff are displayed as phase one of the V&A's new Photography Centre opens this October. Designed by David Kohn Architects, the first phase of the Centre more than doubles the space dedicated to photography at the V&A, and includes a 'Dark Tent' projection space and digital wall to show the world's most cutting-edge photography. Drawn from the V&A's world-class collections, the first temporary displays bring together 600 objects from across Europe, North America, Africa, the Middle East and Asia to trace a history of

photography through the lens of collectors and collecting.

From Daguerreotype to digital, highlights on display will include the work of early colour photography pioneers, Agnes Warburg, Helen Messinger Murdoch and Nickolas Muray, and recent acquisitions by Hiroshi Sugimoto, Cornelia Parker and Mark Cohen. A pioneering botanical cyanotype by Anna Atkins, images by the world's first female museum photographer, Isabel Agnes Cowper, and motion studies by Eadweard Muybridge, join photographs by some of the world's most influential modern and contemporary photographers, including Eugène Atget, Man Ray, Walker Evans, Cindy Sherman and Martin Parr.

## The V&A Cast Courts

Opening 1 December 2018



In December 2018, the V&A will complete the second and final phase of its redevelopment project, returning the museum's Cast Courts to their original splendour. Following extensive renovation and conservation work, the West Court now renamed the Ruddock Family Cast Court, in recognition of the generosity of the Ruddock Foundation for the Arts, will reopen to the public revealing historic features, including original 19th-century floors and wall colours. The Central Gallery will

be renamed "The Chitra Nirmal Sethia Gallery" in recognition of the generosity of the N. Sethia Foundation and feature a new interpretation space showcasing the history, processes and significance of casts as well as look to the future of reproductions in the digital age.

For the first time, the base of Trajan's Column will be permanently opened, enabling visitors to step inside. Opened in 1873 as the Architecture Courts, the Cast Courts are the largest galleries in the V&A and contain casts of some of the world's most inspiring objects, from Michelangelo's David to 16th-century tombs by Peter Vischer in Nuremberg and the Pórtico de la Gloria at Santiago de Compostela. Today, the collection presents an encyclopaedic array of monumental objects from all over Europe and beyond, as well as an invaluable record of original sculptures, some of which have severely deteriorated over time.

In 2014 the East Court was refurbished and renamed "The Weston Cast Court" in recognition of the longstanding support from the Garfield Weston Foundation.

## William and Judith Bollinger Gallery

Opening April 2019



The William and Judith Bollinger Gallery has welcomed 4 million visitors since it opened in 2008 and is recognised as one of the world's great jewellery displays. The gallery will close for refurbishment in early 2019 before re-opening in April for the bicentenary of the births of both Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. A gift from William and Judith Bollinger, the sapphire and diamond coronet which Prince Albert designed for Queen Victoria in 1840 will crown the

V&A's celebrations in 2019 for this bicentenary and will be on permanent display for the first time in the jewellery gallery. Queen Victoria wore the coronet in a famous portrait by Franz Xaver Winterhalter which carried the image of the young queen around the world. Later, in her widowhood, she wore the coronet in place of her crown when she opened Parliament for the first time after Albert's death. Another breathtaking new addition will be a superb collection of forty-nine Art Deco vanity cases by Cartier, Van Cleef and Arpels and the leading jewellery houses of Paris and New York, a promised gift from Kashmira Bulsara in memory of her brother, Freddie Mercury.

## V&A Museum of Childhood Highlights

### A Pirate's Life For Me

20 October 2018 – 22 April 2019



A Pirate's Life For Me is the V&A Museum of Childhood's first major exhibition to focus on famous fictional pirates in popular culture. Developed in collaboration with children, the exhibition's immersive and playful set design will take its young visitors into an imaginary swashbuckling world of adventure, from a seaside tavern to a tropical treasure island. The centrepiece of the exhibition will be a large-scale pirate ship to inspire learning through active play. Key loans and objects from the V&A's collections, including toys, games, books, illustrations and comics, spanning over 300 years, will chart the

reimagination of pirates in popular children's culture from Victorian Britain to the present day. Highlights include the first painting of Captain Pugwash, an original illustrated costume design for Captain Hook for the first production of Peter Pan in 1904 and eighteenth-century Spanish doubloons.

## Dorothy Bohm

3 November 2018 – 17 March 2019



This intimate and joyful display of works by eminent photographer Dorothy Bohm explores the universality of childhood. Bohm escaped Nazi Germany for Britain in 1939 with a Leica camera, a parting gift from her father. She went on to help establish the Photographers' Gallery in 1971, has written several books and has exhibited her work internationally. On display will be highlights from Bohm's vast collection of photographs of children, taken over the last 75 years from around the world. Despite her photography covering so many decades, different cultures and countries, our shared experiences of childhood shine through in Bohm's unique and exceptional photographs.

- ENDS -

### Image credits:

Christian Dior: Designer of Dreams – Christian Dior with model Sylvie, circa 1948. Courtesy of Christian Dior

Mary Quant – Mary Quant and models at the Quant Afoot footwear collection launch, 1967 © PA Prints 2008

Food – Loci Food Lab © The Center for Genomic Gastronomy

Tim Walker – Sethu Ncise, Jermaine Downer, Will Sutton, Zuzanna Bartoszek and Sara Grace Wallerstedt. Fashion: Moncler 1 by Pierpaolo Piccioli. London, 2018 © Tim Walker

Cars – E-Type Jaguar at the opening of the M1 Motorway for Vogue, 1960, Photo Duffy © Duffy Archive

V&A Photography Centre – From the series 'Lightning Fields' by Hiroshi Sugimoto, 2009 © Hiroshi Sugimoto

The V&A Cast Courts – A Conservator working on Trajan's Column © V&A

William and Judith Bollinger Gallery – Queen Victoria's sapphire and diamond coronet, designed by Prince Albert, made by Joseph Kitching, London, 1840-1842 © V&A

A Pirates Life for Me – Illustration of Captain Hook for the first ever theatrical production of Peter Pan, by Desmond Banks, 1904 © V&A

Dorothy Bohm – Children playing in Haifa, Israel, 1959 © Dorothy Bohm

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

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