Wednesday, 25 September 2019 to 8 July 2020
Over 3 terms, 11.10 – 15.30. Each term includes optional gallery talks or In Focus sessions, commencing at 10.00 and repeated at 15.30.

“You find no man, at all intellectual, who is willing to leave London. No Sir, when a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford.”
Samuel Johnson

“It is not the walls that make the city, but the people who live within them. The walls of London may be battered, but the spirit of the Londoner stands resolute and undismayed.”
George VI

“I don’t know what London’s coming to – the higher the buildings the lower the morals.”
Noel Coward

London is one of the greatest cities on earth. It sits at the centre of Time and the world sets its clocks by GMT. Its famous inhabitants include William Shakespeare, Samuel Pepys, Charles Dickens, Sherlock Holmes, Virginia Woolf, and Jimi Hendrix. Its buildings embrace Gothic and Renaissance splendours, Georgian elegance, Victorian grandeur, and modern architectural wonders and technology, and London has a musical, artistic and literary heritage that is among the best in the world. It is built on a rich foundation of commerce and trade, and gave the world modern banking, insurance and the stock exchange. It is home to the mother of parliaments, a bastion in the struggle for political rights, and has attracted visitors and settlers, including exiles and refugees from all over the globe. The city has an indomitable history and has survived fire, war, bombardment and plague. It has seen an Empire come and go, and still stands at the centre of a world-wide exchange of people, wealth and ideas.

This exciting course explores a thousand years of the social and cultural life of a great city. Delivered by some of London’s leading historians and V&A curators, it spans three terms from 1066–1700, 1700–1851, and 1851–2000, and covers the artefacts and architecture, and cultures and customs of Londoners from the building of the Tower of London to the Millennium Dome. Sessions include a consideration of the arts and entertainments, shopping and trades, society and communities, law and order, and events and individuals who have shaped London from its early days as a feudal kingdom to a modern global metropolis.

Course Director
Mike Berlin is a Lecturer at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is a specialist in the social history of early modern London and has published extensively on the history of London’s guilds. Before joining Birkbeck, he was a research officer at the Centre for Metropolitan History, Institute of Historical Research. His study of London ranges widely and has included 20th century trade union and labour history, the history of immigration and the New Left.
**Autumn Term Programme & Dates:**
Wednesdays, 25 September - 11 December 2019

**London Life and Times: 1066–1666**

"Medieval London" conjures up images of a walled city of winding streets mired in mud, its inhabitants living perilously and piously amid a city of a hundred church spires. Yet the history of London from the Norman Conquest to the Great Fire was more dynamic than this image suggests. A city of learning and richly skilled crafts, during this period London went from being the prosperous capital of an emerging kingdom on the periphery of Christendom to being one of the greatest cities of Europe, the centre of a growing mercantile empire which looked outward to the Atlantic and beyond.

Already an ancient city at the dawn of the first millennium, London was firmly locked into a nexus of trade centring on the North Sea, with links to varied lands and peoples of Scandinavia and north-west Europe. A rich prize to be won by whoever controlled the lowlands of Britain, London was the literal key to the kingdom, marked by traditions of autonomous self-government and imbued with Christian piety, that Kings sought to overawe but could never fully subdue. Only with the coming of the Reformation and the Renaissance did London burst its boundaries as monastic houses were torn down for secular uses, Southwark became the site of the new commercial theatre and court life gave birth to the nascent West End. The twin catastrophes of the Great Plague of 1665 and the Great Fire of 1665 only temporarily impeded London’s growth as the city was rebuilt emerged with one of the most graceful skylines in Europe.

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<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<td>25 September</td>
<td>London &amp; its Beginnings</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>10.45 Introduction</td>
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<td>11.10 Anglo-Saxon London: from Lundenwic to Lundres</td>
<td>John Clark</td>
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<td>12.30 The Tower of London</td>
<td>Tracey Borman</td>
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<td>14.30 Mapping London and its Environs</td>
<td>Peter Barber</td>
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<td>2 October</td>
<td>Medieval London</td>
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<td>11.10 London and the Kingdom</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>12.30 St. Paul’s and London’s Churches</td>
<td>Matthew Davies</td>
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<td>14.30 Westminster Abbey and Westminster Hall</td>
<td>Sally Dormer</td>
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<td>9 October</td>
<td>London’s City</td>
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<td>11.10 Crafts and Guilds</td>
<td>Matthew Davies</td>
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<td>12.30 Women in Medieval London</td>
<td>Caroline Barron</td>
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<td>14.30 Immigrant Communities in Late Medieval and Early Modern London</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>16 October</td>
<td>Reformation London</td>
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<td>11.10 Reformation London</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>12.30 Holbein and the Tudor Court</td>
<td>Charlotte Bolland</td>
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<td>14.30 Tudor Royal Palaces</td>
<td>Caroline Knight</td>
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<td>23 October</td>
<td>Renaissance London</td>
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<td>11.10 The Early West End</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>12.30 The Strand Palaces</td>
<td>Paula Henderson</td>
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<td>14.30 London Gardens in the 17th Century</td>
<td>Paula Henderson</td>
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<td>30 October</td>
<td>The Theatrical City</td>
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<td>11.10 Shakespeare and the origins of the public theatre</td>
<td>Giles Ramsay</td>
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<td>12.30 Ceremony and the City: Royal Entries and Lord Mayor’s Shows</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>14.30 Van Dyck and the Stuart Court</td>
<td>Catharine MacLeod</td>
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<td>6 November</td>
<td>London as a Centre of Conspicuous Consumption</td>
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<td>11.10 The City of London in the Early Modern Period</td>
<td>Ian Archer</td>
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<td>12.30 Re-discovering the Cheapside Hoard</td>
<td>Hazel Forsyth</td>
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<td>14.30 Mortlake and Soho Tapestries</td>
<td>Jennifer Wearden</td>
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<td>13 November</td>
<td>London’s Port and Hinterland</td>
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<td>10.15 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit</td>
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<td>11.10 The Thames: The Late Medieval and Tudor Port</td>
<td>Gustav Milne</td>
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<td>12.30 The Growth of the East End as a Maritime Suburb</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>20 November</td>
<td>London and the Kingdom</td>
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<td>11.10 Cheapside Cross</td>
<td>Christine Stevenson</td>
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<td>12.30 Temple Bar</td>
<td>Emily Mann</td>
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<td>14.30 London and the Civil War</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>27 November</td>
<td>The Treasure House of Knowledge</td>
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<td>11.10 Pepys and London</td>
<td>Kate Loveman</td>
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<td>12.30 Doctor Dee</td>
<td>Stephen Clucas</td>
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<td>14.30 Artisans and Experts in Early Modern London</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>4 December</td>
<td>Death and Disaster</td>
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<td>11.10 The Black Death</td>
<td>Barney Sloane</td>
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<td>12.30 Church Monuments, Effigies and Death</td>
<td>Nigel Llewellyn</td>
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<td>14.30 Plague and Fire</td>
<td>Vanessa Harding</td>
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<td>11 December</td>
<td>London Rebuilt</td>
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<td>11.10 ‘Resurgam’: Rebuilding after the Fire</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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<td>12.30 Cherry Ripe: street markets and street traders</td>
<td>Charlie Taverner</td>
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<td>14.30 Sports and Pastimes in early modern London</td>
<td>Mike Berlin</td>
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London Life and Times: 1666–1851
The second term examines the period from the rebuilding after the Great Fire to the Great Exhibition, which attracted six million visitors from all over Britain, the colonies and other parts of the globe. In the two hundred years after the fire London emerged as the world’s greatest city, the metropolitan capital of the largest empire in history, consisting of grand houses and elegant squares, a river teeming with ships from all corners of the globe, and a galaxy of artists, writers, actors, musicians and master craftsmen drawn from all over Europe. Industry came with empire and from the early 1800s new docks, canals, warehouses and eventually railways girded London and sped up the ebb and flow of people and goods. Yet this achievement was marked by widespread social unrest. Events such as the Gordon Riots showed how the London mob could threaten the peace of the prosperous. In response new institutions such as the workhouse, the penitentiary and the police were created to still the grumbling hive, along the way creating a new infrastructure of metropolitan government.

SPRING TERM PROGRAMME & DATES:
Wednesdays, 8 January - 25 March 2020

8 January
London Life in the 18th Century
11.00 Introduction Mike Berlin
11.10 London’s Coffee Houses Mike Berlin
12.30 Jokes and Slang in Eighteenth Century London Simon Jarrett
14.30 London’s Fallen Women Emily Brand

15 January
Patrician London
11.10 Palaces and Great Houses Caroline Knight
12.30 Below Stairs: Servant Life Caroline Knight
14.30 High Society: Home House and Polite London Leo Hollis

22 January
Plebian London
11.10 Mobs and Riots Mike Berlin
12.30 Food and Drink in Georgian London Sara Pennell
14.30 Visions of Outer London and its Villages Elizabeth McKellar

29 January
‘Made in London’: The London Trades
11.10 Spitalfields Silk Weavers Mike Berlin
12.30 Huguenot Gold and Silversmiths Tessa Murdoch
14.30 The London Furniture Trade Adam Bowett

5 February
Artists and London
11.10 Caricatures and Prints in Georgian London Mike Berlin
12.30 Portraits and Patrons in 18th Century London Richard Humphreys
14.30 Academies and the Rise of High Art in 18th Century London Richard Humphreys

12 February
Street Life
11.10 Dirt and Dust Mark Jenner
12.30 Marshalsea Prison Jerry White
14.30 Traffic and Transport Mike Berlin

19 February
City of Spectacles-Entertainments
10.15 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit
11.10 Circuses, Ballooning and Spectacles Richard Humphreys
12.30 Actresses and Celebrities Gill Perry
14.30 Garrick and the London Theatre Giles Ramsay
15.30 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit

26 February
Open Spaces
11.10 London’s Squares Mike Berlin
12.30 London’s Gardeners David Marsh
14.30 London’s Pleasure Gardens Jon Conlin

4 March
The World in a City
10.15 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit
11.10 London and Slavery Nick Draper
12.30 Down and Out: The Workhouse and London’s Poor Tim Hitchcock
14.30 The First Multicultural City, Mike Berlin
15.30 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit

11 March
London Improved
11.10 John Nash and Regent Street Geoffrey Tyack
12.30 James Pennethorne and the Making of Victorian London Geoffrey Tyack
14.30 London’s Architects: Barry, Pugin and Scott Megan Aldrich

18 March
Overground and Underground
10.15 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit
11.10 The Underground Railways Stephen Halliday
12.30 The Great Stink Stephen Halliday
14.30 Cemeteries and Cities of the Dead Jon Conlin
15.30 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit

25 March
London Observed
10.15 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit
11.10 ‘That Magic Lantern’: Charles Dickens and London Tony Williams
12.30 London Fog Christine Corton
14.30 Representing the London Crowd Jo Banham
15.30 In Focus Session/Gallery Visit
London Life and Times: 1851–2000

The third term explores the changing landscape and history of London from the creation of Albertopolis in the West to the development of Olympiopolis in the East. Victorian London was home to over six million inhabitants, the heart of a vast and powerful Empire, and an unrivalled centre of global trade and finance. The coming of the railways, above and below ground, brought with them huge numbers of migrants, and hastened the city’s expansion into the new suburbs. But Victorian London was also a city of contrasts. New and affluent developments went hand-in-hand with unprecedented poverty and overcrowded slums, while modern streets, buses and arcades contrasted with the decay and stench of London’s sweatshops, factories and sewers. A city that was full of bustle and industry by day, became a place of mystery and menace by night.

The 20th century has seen London change from an Imperial city into a global melting pot. At the outset of the period, the building of new apartment blocks, luxury hotels, department stores, and theatres emphasised the grandeur and modernity of the city. The huge inter-war expansion into Metro-land witnessed another surge in London’s size, housing, and communications. The devastation of the Blitz was followed by a massive rebuilding programme and celebrations like the Olympics, the Coronation and the Festival of Britain. And by the 1960s, London had become the capital of cool, a shining epicentre of music, fashion and design. Today’s capital incorporates both the best and worst elements of its history – stylish new architecture, the regeneration of the East End, innovation in culture and design, alongside over-crowding, extremes of wealth and poverty, and the misery of the daily commute on the tube.
Guest Lecturers Include:

Barney Sloane, English Heritage  
Professor Caroline Barron,  
Royal Holloway College  
Dr. Ian Archer, Keble College Oxford
Oliver Green, author of Frank Pick’s London, 2013

Leo Hollis, author of The Stones of London, 2011
Hazel Forsyth, Museum of London  
Dr. Mark Jenner, University of York
Paula Henderson, author of  
The Tudor House and Garden, 2005

Professor Jerry White, Birkbeck College, University of London
Tessa Murdoch, Victoria & Albert Museum
Professor Gill Perry, Emeritus Professor of the History of Art, Open University
Professor Vanessa Harding, Birkbeck, University of London

The V&A reserves the right to alter the programme at short notice if circumstances make it necessary. If you are booking a particular day please confirm the programme of the day with the V&A booking office a few days in advance.

Course Fees
£1992 per year, £1873 Senior,  
£1600 Disabled Person/Jobseeker  
£845 per term, £794 Senior,  
£640 Disabled Person/Jobseeker  
£75 per day, £70 Senior,  
£57 Disabled Person/Jobseeker
External visits may incur additional costs.
This Year Course does not have a Certificate Option.

Term and Day Tickets
Subject to availability, tickets to attend an individual term will be made available twelve weeks before the term starts. Day tickets will be made available four weeks before the start of each term.

Booking and Further Information
Course tickets will be available for priority booking for V&A Members from 9.30am Monday 6 May 2019. This only applies to the new 2019–20 Year, Short and Weekend V&A Academy Course programme and does not include Art Pursuits Abroad cultural tours or any other V&A Academy events. General booking will open on 9.30am Monday 13 May 2019, subject to availability.

All courses are listed and available to book online at vam.ac.uk/courses.
Our Contact Centre team are also available by calling 020 7942 2000 from 9.30 – 17.30, Monday – Sunday to take bookings over the phone or answer questions.

Please see each course listing for details of ticket prices. Seniors (over 60s) are eligible for a ticket price reduction with further reductions available for ES40 holders and registered disabled people. A carer may accompany a registered disabled course student for free, please inform the Contact Centre team when booking. No further price reductions on the full ticket price are available to V&A Members, patrons or students.

Refunds
Refunds are only given in cases of extenuating circumstances such as illness or other personal difficulty and are not guaranteed. Any refund must be applied for no less than fourteen days after an event. If approved, 90% of the price of the ticket will be refunded. 10% will be retained for administration costs.