

V&A Highlights 2020

Filthy Lucre: Whistler's Peacock Room Reimagined – 25 January – 3 May 2020

Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk – 29 February – 21 June 2020

Alice: Curiouser and Curiouser – 27 June 2020 – 10 January 2021

Bags: Inside Out – Opening September 2020

Epic Iran – 17 October 2020 – 3 May 2021

Filthy Lucre: Whistler's Peacock Room Reimagined

25 January – 3 May 2020



Filthy Lucre is an immersive installation by contemporary American artist Darren Waterston, presenting a detailed reimagining of James Abbott McNeill Whistler's famed *Peacock Room* – the sumptuous 19th-century dining room once housed just a stone's throw away from the V&A and now installed at the Freer Gallery of Art and Arthur M. Sackler Gallery, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C. Waterston has faithfully recreated each of the room's individual elements with a twist, with the installation revealing a magnificent ruin crumbling under the weight of material decadence and the egos of those involved in its creation. The installation is on display for the first time in the UK.

Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk

Supported by GRoW @ Annenberg

29 February – 21 June 2020



The ultimate symbol of Japan, the kimono is often perceived as traditional, timeless and unchanging. *Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk* will counter this conception, by presenting the garment as a dynamic and constantly evolving icon of fashion. The exhibition will reveal the sartorial, aesthetic and social significance of the kimono from the 1660s to the present day, both in Japan and in the rest of the world. Rare 17th and 18th century kimono – shown for the first time in the UK – will be displayed, along with early examples of cross-cultural clothing, kimono-inspired couture, film and performance costumes, and the work of the new generation of Japanese kimono designers. Paintings, prints, film and dress accessories will provide additional context to examine the style and seduction of these remarkable

garments. Exploring creativity and consumption, status and identity, impact and influence, *Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk* places the kimono at the heart of a fascinating story of global fashion exchange.

Alice: Curiouser and Curiouser

27 June 2020 – 10 January 2021

Tickets on sale Spring 2020



In Summer 2020, the V&A will open a major exhibition on one of the most inspirational, iconic and imaginative stories of all time: *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*. This theatrical staging will provide an immersive and mind-bending journey down the rabbit hole into Alice's fantastical and extraordinary world. Detailing its origins, adaptations and reinventions over 157 years, the exhibition will chart its evolution from manuscript to a global phenomenon beloved by all ages.

From the original illustrations by John Tenniel to early concept art for Walt Disney's iconic 1951 film adaptation to Salvador Dali's surrealist sketches, the V&A exhibition will reveal the impact of Alice across all artistic disciplines spanning art, film, performance, fashion and photography. The most comprehensive exhibition ever staged on this iconic story, it will detail why Alice has become one of the world's most famous characters and why Wonderland is an important source of inspiration for many leading creatives.

Bags: Inside Out

Opening September

Tickets on sale soon



Bags: Inside Out will explore the style, function, design and craftsmanship of bags from around the world, from the 16th century to today. The exhibition will showcase around 300 objects used by both men and women, varying in scale from tiny purses designed to be carried on a finger to sizable trunks made to protect the contents of travellers' voluminous wardrobes. It will explore how throughout history these desirable and ubiquitous accessories have inhabited a very special space, both private and public, highlighting the nature of the bag as an object for both display and concealment, adornment and utility. The exhibition will deconstruct bags to explore the often complex and skilled processes necessary to make these everyday items, which can become highly covetable and valuable objects.

From rucksacks to despatch boxes, Birkin bags to Louis Vuitton luggage, *Bags: Inside Out* will explore the history of the ultimate accessory.

Epic Iran

17 October 2020 – 3 May 2021

Tickets on sale Summer 2020



Epic Iran will explore 5,000 years of art, design and culture, bringing together 300 objects from ancient, Islamic and contemporary Iran. It will be the UK's first major exhibition on Iranian art and culture in more than 90 years that presents an overarching narrative from 3000 BCE to the present day. From sculpture, ceramics and carpets, to textiles, photography and film, the exhibition will comprise rarely-seen objects from the V&A alongside international loans and significant private collections, including The Sarikhani Collection. Revealing new discoveries, this landmark exhibition will offer a fresh perspective on a country that is so often seen through a different lens in the news. *Epic Iran* will shine a light on one of the greatest historic civilisations, its journey into the 21st century and its monumental artistic achievements, which remain unknown to many.

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Image credits:

Filthy Lucre: Whistler's Peacock Room Reimagined – Darren Waterston, Filthy Lucre. Photo by Amber Gray / mz_amber_gray

Kimono: Kyoto to Catwalk – KIMONO Times, Akira Times, 2017 © Akira Times

Bags: Inside Out – Grace Kelly's departure from Hollywood (Photo by Allan Grant/The LIFE Images Collection via Getty Images/Getty Images)

Alice: Down the Rabbit Hole – Zenaida Yanowsky as The Red Queen in Christopher Wheeldon's ballet Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. The Royal Ballet. Photography by Johan Persson /©ROH. Costumes by Bob Crowley

Epic Iran – Detached folio from an illuminated manuscript of the *Shahnameh* for Shah Tahmasp, 1525-1535, Tabriz. The Sarikhani Collection, I.MS.4025.

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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