

Weddings at the V&A

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V&A

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The V&A celebrates one of the most successful and enduring marriages in British history; the marriage between Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. The Museum stands as an incredible monument of dedication and love, not only between Victoria and Albert, but of their shared passion to bring art and design to all.

For many years we have been sharing this passion by hosting wedding receptions in our world class galleries, creating stunning and memorable experiences for our wonderful couples.

By hosting your wedding celebration at the V&A you are directly supporting the Museum's fantastic research, our blockbuster exhibition programme, and helping us to keep admission free to all.

We limit the number of weddings per year so that hosting your wedding celebration at the Victoria and Albert Museum is truly a unique, intimate and exclusive experience.

The dedicated Private Events team will talk you through how the evening will flow and explain all the options in which to make your special day personal to you.





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The History of the Victoria and Albert Museum

The V&A is synonymous with the very finest art and design in the world and our incredible Grade I listed building is the perfect setting for your wedding celebrations. Built in 1857 to house many of the objects from the Great Exhibition, this building was known as the South Kensington Museum before officially becoming the Victoria and Albert Museum in 1899.

For the first time in the Museum's history, we are delighted to offer four amazing spaces within our galleries where you can now get married and host your Civil Marriage or Partnership ceremony. We invite you to share your own love story with the V&A and create your own piece of history.

Be part of the V&A's history by being one of the handful of couples to get married in our beautiful galleries.

Fede Ring made 1607. Museum no. 854-1871

The expression *fede* or *mani in fede* is taken from the Italian, meaning 'hands clasped in trust' and was often used on love gifts and marriage rings. The hoop of this ring can be divided into two interlocked circles. These rings were especially popular as love gifts, the join of the hoops symbolising the bond between lovers.



Rupa

©Rupa Photography

The Raphael Court

The Raphael Court is the jewel in our crown and the most prestigious space we offer for private hire. It houses some of the most important surviving examples of Renaissance art in the world, the seven Raphael Cartoons, dating back to 1516, which are on permanent loan from Her Majesty the Queen. In the majestic apse end of the gallery sits a gilded Spanish altarpiece which lends a striking backdrop to wedding and dinner celebrations. The Raphael Court is also our largest licensed space for marriages accommodating up to 400 guests for a civil ceremony.



Capacity

Seated dinner - 400 guests on round tables
or 300 on long tables

Standing reception - 400 guests

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony - 400 guests



© Eye Jogia Photo and Cinema



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The Dome

The Dome is one of London's most elegant, iconic and impressive settings for receptions, dinners and dances. Instantly recognisable with its stunning entrance from Cromwell Road, the Dome will never fail to impress. The centrepiece of this gallery is the beautiful glass Rotunda Chandelier created in 2001 by the world renowned sculptor Dale Chihuly. The soaring ceiling and classical architecture of the Dome accompanied by marble pillars create an elegant, sophisticated and grand backdrop to your drinks reception or seated dinner with dancing.

Capacity

Seated dinner and dancing - 250 guests
Pre-dinner drinks area - 400 guests
Standing reception - 600 guests

This space is not licensed for wedding ceremonies.



The John Madejski Garden

The John Madejski Garden is one of London's hidden treasures. Within this tranquil space there is a beautiful ellipse water feature with elegant fountains; evocative of an Italian piazza. Set within the heart of the museum this concealed oasis is the most amazing backdrop to pre-dinner drinks or for a unique ceremony.

Capacity

Standing reception - up to 600 guests

Pre-dinner drinks - 400 guests

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony - 250 guests

Please note that the legal marriage ceremony must take place under the Café Awning.



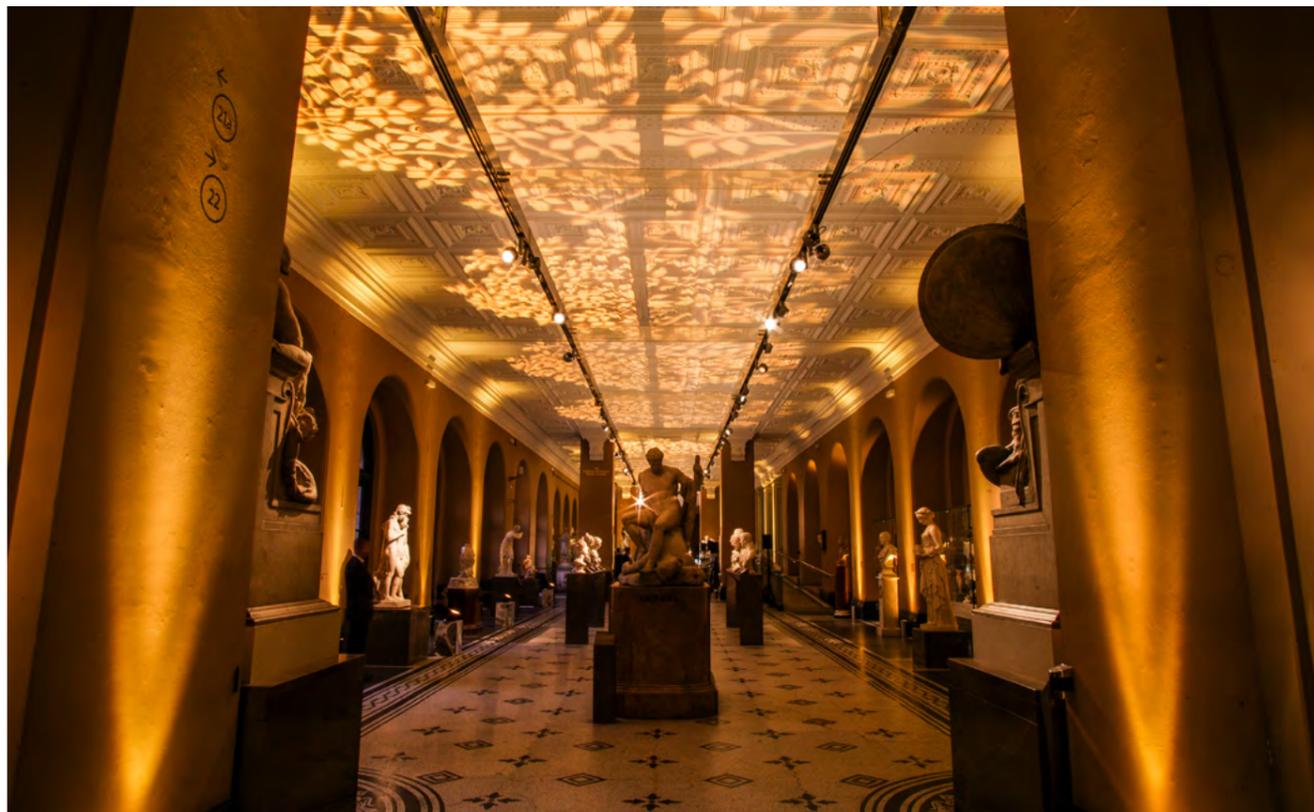
The Dorothy and Michael Hintze Sculpture Galleries

The Hintze Galleries display some of the V&A's finest sculpture, providing a stunning setting for receptions, pre-dinner drinks and intimate dinners. Tall windows open out onto the John Madejski Garden allowing guests to flow between the two spaces creating a beautiful and elegant surrounding for a celebration.

Capacity

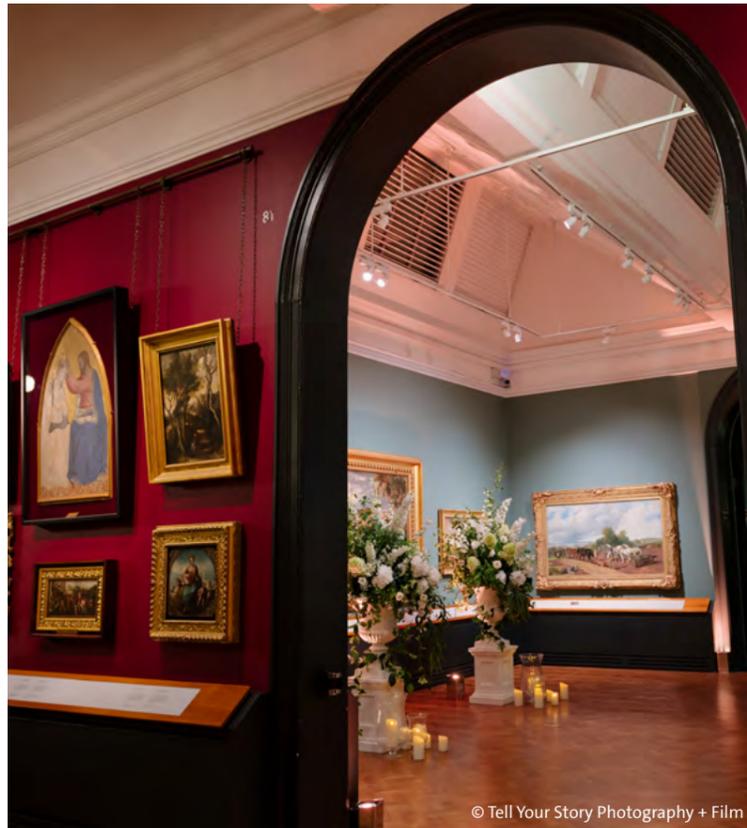
Standing reception - 250 guests
Pre-dinner drinks - 250 guests
Dinner - up to 100 guests

This space is not licensed for wedding ceremonies.



The Edwin and Susan Davies Paintings Galleries

The V&A's Gallery 87 of the Paintings Galleries is on the first floor of the museum and is an intimate and hidden space perfect for a small, more exclusive wedding. Paintings by Constable, Turner and Gainsborough provide a wonderful backdrop for a ceremony.



Capacity

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony

- 120 guests

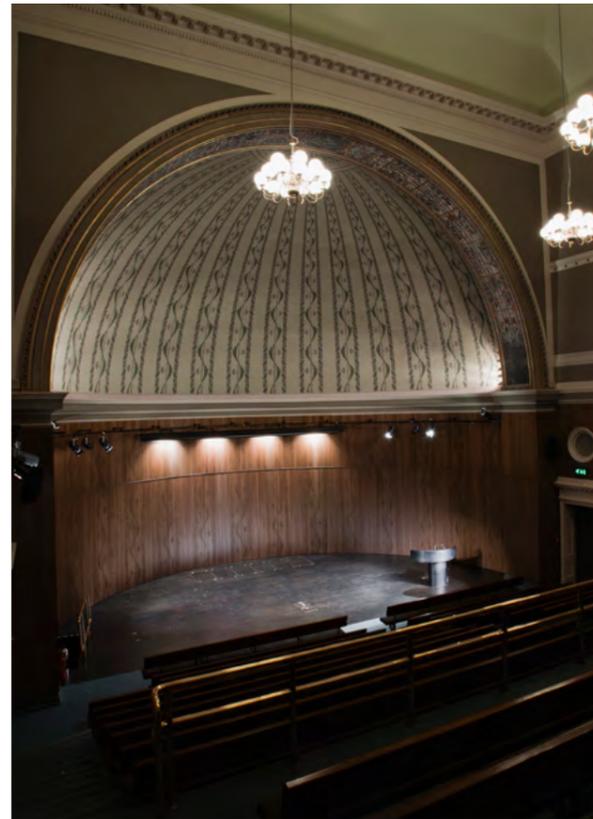
Drinks reception - 120 guests

Seated dinner - 60 guests



The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

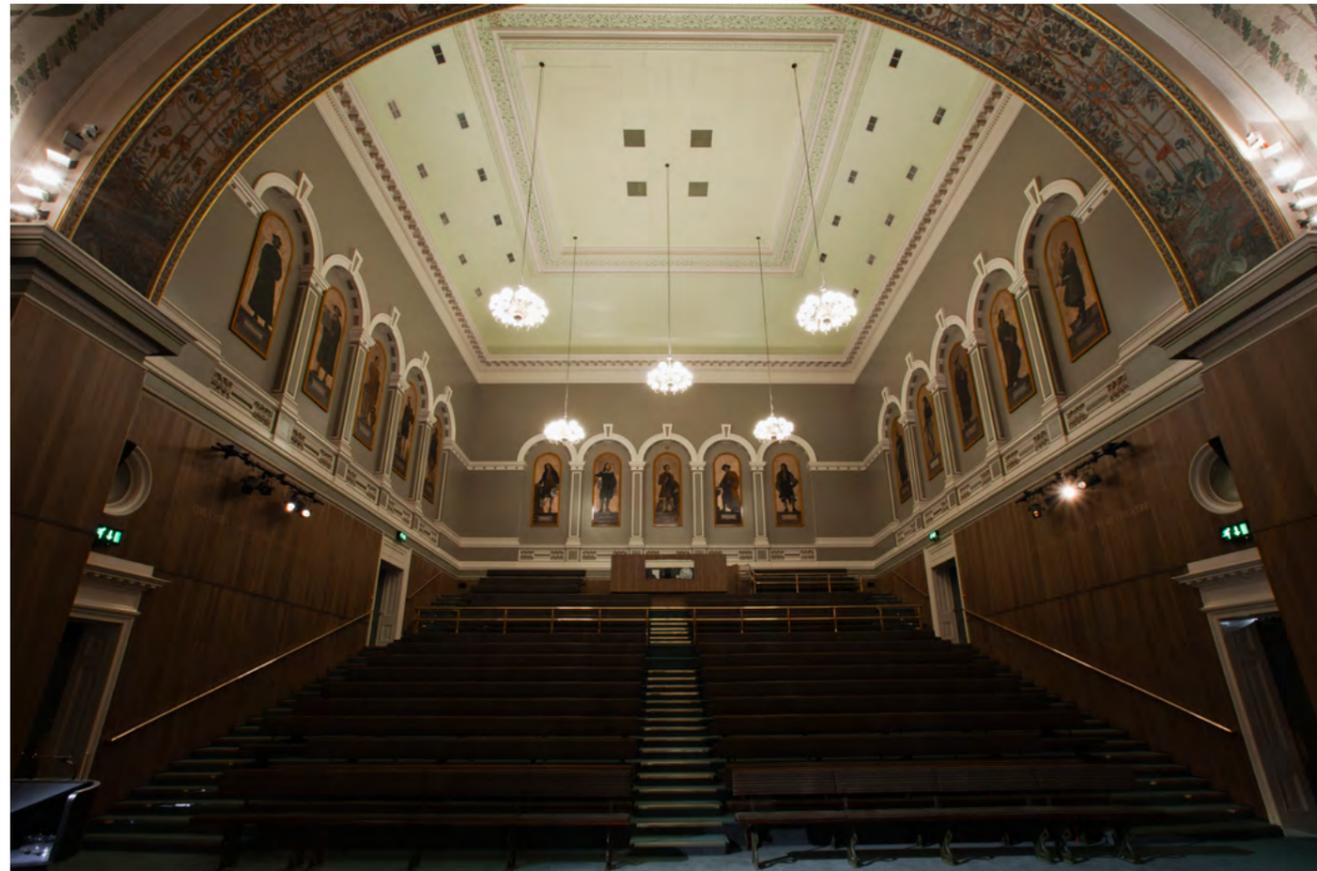
One of our quirkier spaces, this incredible purpose-built lecture theatre is perfect for the more theatrical couple looking to make an impact. The theatre can seat up to 270 guests and the semicircular stage provides a dramatic and unique backdrop in which to have your ceremony.



Capacity

Civil Marriage or Partnership Ceremony - 270 guests

Silver Galleries as a pre/post reception drinks spaces are also included.



Prices 2021/2022

Gallery	Access time for suppliers / set up	Guest Timings	Use	Capacity	Pricing**	Extension p/h until 2am latest
Hintze Drinks, Raphael Gallery Ceremony and Dome dinner	17.00	18:30 – 23:00	Ceremony, reception & dinner dancing	250	£16,500	£2,000
Raphael Gallery Ceremony & Dome standing reception	17:00 - Raphael 17:45 - other spaces	18:30 – 23:00	Ceremony and standing reception	400	£15,000	£2,000
Dome Drinks, Raphael Gallery Dinner, Dome afterparty & dancing (no ceremony)	17:00 - Raphael 17:45 - other spaces	18:30 – 23:00	Reception and dinner dance	400	£15,500	£2,000
Hintze Gallery reception, Ceremony (in Paintings, Garden or Lecture Theatre) & Dome dinner dancing	17.45 – 23:00	18:45 – 23:00	Ceremony, reception & dinner dancing	250	£15,000	£2,000
Hintze Gallery reception & Dome dinner dancing (no ceremony)	17.45 – 23:00	18:45 – 23:00	Reception & dinner dance	250	£13,000	£2,000
Ceremony (in Paintings, Garden or Lecture Theatre), Hinze Gallery or Dome drinks reception	17:45 – 23:00	18:45 – 23:00	Ceremony & standing drinks	250	£14,000	£2,000

**All prices quoted are subject to VAT.
Catering costs are not included in the hire fees and should be obtained directly from the caterers listed on the Approved Suppliers list below. All bookings are subject to Terms and Conditions, available from the Events Office.





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Example running order for a ceremony followed by drinks & dinner dance for 250 guests:

- 17:45** Suppliers have access to the building for set up
- 18:15** Bride, Groom & Bridal party arrive to meet with registrar
- 18:45** Guests arrive for ceremony and make their way to the Garden/ Raphael gallery
- 19:00** Ceremony commences
- 19:30** Ceremony ends and drinks and canapés to be served in the John Madejski Garden or Hintze Sculpture Gallery as wet weather option
- 20:15** Call to dinner, guests make their way to the Dome for a seated dinner
- 20:30** Guests seated for dinner
- 21:30** Speeches
- 22:15** Cake cutting followed by first dance
Guests remain in the Dome for after dinner bar & dancing
- 00:00** Bar closes and music finishes
- 00:15** Guests head to the cloakroom to collect their belongings
- 00:30** Guests clear of the Museum.

Venue guidelines

Like many listed buildings, there are a few restrictions we have to take into account:

- Fireworks are not permitted in the John Madejski Garden.
- Smoking, naked flames, candles, candelabras, balloons, confetti (including dried and fresh loose lower petals), sparklers and dry ice are not permitted within the venue or garden.
- Due to the historic floors and collections, dark drinks or foods cannot be served during standing drinks receptions in the Hintze Sculpture Gallery or John Madejski Garden.
- Dancing is only permitted in the Dome and a dance floor must be booked via the approved production company.
- The Bride and Groom are welcome to use the galleries for photos in the evening and we are happy to allow access to three galleries of your choice. If you wish to use more locations, there will be a small additional fee incurred which will be confirmed by your events manager.

Testimonials

‘We wanted to sincerely thank you for the incredible care, professionalism and thoughtfulness with which you made our wedding day a dream! From the moment we connected with you in the summer right up to the last photograph we took with you on our way out of the wedding ceremony, we felt truly blessed to have had the pleasure of working with you! In the midst of a pandemic, with so much uncertainty and a fair number of challenges, you were a ray of light for us, every time we spoke to you! Getting married at the V&A has been a big dream of ours - thank you for making it a reality! It’s a privilege to have celebrated in this iconic venue! It’s a precious gift to have had our wedding at our beloved V&A, especially in troubled times like these!’

– Bride & Groom 2020

“We have just returned from honeymoon and wanted to send you a huge thank you for all your amazing work on our special day. It has truly been a pleasure to work with you over these last few months, and you helped make our day incredibly special. We couldn’t be happier about it all and our friends and family had a wonderful time”

– Bride & Groom 2019

“We wanted to say the biggest thank you to you and your team for making our reception absolutely amazing. Our evening was magical and we couldn’t have executed the party without your assistance; right from the start you were all so professional and helpful and for that we are so thankful. We were able to capture our love for the museum as well as our love for each other under one roof; a memory we will forever hold and cherish”

– Bride & Groom 2019

“You have been an incredible team to work with! We just wanted to take this opportunity to say a very very heartfelt thank you!”

– Wedding Planners 2018



FAQs

Is the V&A licensed for civil ceremonies?

Yes, we have four beautiful gallery spaces licensed for Civil Marriage and Civil Partnership ceremonies. Please be aware that you must book your registrar directly via the Royal Borough of Kensington & Chelsea and this is not something the venue can do for you. We highly recommend securing your ceremony with them before booking the venue. They can be contacted via www.rbkc.gov.uk/registrars

Is the V&A available to hire for engagement parties, anniversaries and other celebrations?

Yes, the Museum can be hired to celebrate parties and anniversaries. The information in this brochure is relevant for all types of private celebrations so please do contact us for further information.

What is included in the venue hire fee?

The venue hire fee includes exclusive use of the agreed event areas, a dedicated Event Manager, security staff, cleaning staff, an electrician, a floor manager and the John Madejski Garden. If you are hiring the V&A for a seated dinner, the pre dinner drinks area and the John Madejski Garden are both included within the one fee and are not a separate cost.

The set-up time seems very short, how does that work?

We are open to the public until 5:45pm 7 days a week so we appreciate the turnaround from daytime museum to exclusive wedding venue can be daunting! However, we are very well practiced at creating beautiful, memorable and magical events in as little as 45 mins. This is down to using approved suppliers such as caterers, florists and production companies who know the building intimately and are equipped and experienced enough to deliver fabulous events in very short set up times. Please do have a look at our Wedding Showcase [film](#) to see how the Raphael Court can be transformed in under an hour.

Can we use our own suppliers?

As a Grade I listed building with priceless works on display and a short set-up time, you must work with our approved list of suppliers (listed below) for catering, production, flowers and entertainment. By using our knowledgeable approved suppliers, we can ensure that not only is the Museum and its collections protected but that you will receive a high level of service due to their experience of working in our wonderful spaces.

Can we supply our own drinks?

You are welcome to provide your own drinks. We don't charge a corkage fee but your chosen caterer will charge an ancillary amount to chill, deliver and serve the drinks so do check with each caterer regarding their policy.

Does the V&A do Micro Weddings?

Yes, the V&A does undertake micro Civil Marriage and Civil Partnership ceremonies and receptions. Please do contact us for further information and bespoke packages.

Can you recommend any wedding planners or wedding photographers?

Yes, if you would like to employ the services of a dedicated wedding planner to help pull the finer details together, we have a number of wedding planners we recommend, who have extensive experience of delivering excellence at the V&A. We also have a number of wonderful wedding photographers who have captured the beauty of the V&A for our wedding clients. Please find our recommendations below:

RECOMMENDED WEDDING PLANNERS

SW EVENTS

www.swevents.uk

ARC EVENTS

www.arc.events

THE GOLBORNE COLLECTION

www.golborne-events.co.uk

RECOMMENDED WEDDING PHOTOGRAPHERS

TELL YOUR STORY PHOTOGRAPHY + FILM

www.tellyourstory.co.uk

TWOBYTWO EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

www.twobytwo.co

MATT CHUNG PHOTOGRAPHY

mattchungphoto.com

ANTHONY CHOK PHOTOGRAPHY

www.anthonychokphotography.com

EYE JOGIA PHOTOGRAPHY

www.eyejogia.com

JOSHUA TUCKER PHOTOGRAPHY

www.joshuatuckerphotography.com

Approved Suppliers

As a Grade I listed building and because of the works on display and the short set up time, you must work with our approved list of suppliers for catering, production, flowers and entertainment.

CATERING

ALISON PRICE
020 7840 7640
enquiries@alisonprice.co.uk
www.alisonprice.co.uk

BLUE STRAWBERRY
020 7733 3151
hello@bluestrawberry-tabletalk.co.uk
www.bluestrawberry.co.uk

BY WORD OF MOUTH LTD
020 8871 9566
office@bywordofmouth.co.uk
www.bywordofmouth.co.uk

CAPER AND BERRY
01483 427521
events@caperandberry.co.uk
www.caperandberry.co.uk

CLERKENWELL GREEN
020 7729 4072
hello@clerkenwellgreen.com
www.clerkenwellgreen.com

FOOD SHOW LIMITED
020 7793 1877
enquiries@foodshowltd.com
www.foodshowltd.com

JACKSON GILMOUR
020 8665 1855
francis@jacksongilmour.com
www.jacksongilmour.com

LAST SUPPER LTD
020 7378 0101
info@lastsupperltd.co.uk
www.lastsupperltd.co.uk

MOVING VENUE
020 8691 6661
greatfood@movingvenue.com
www.movingvenue.com

RHUBARB
020 8812 3200
hello@rhubarb.co.uk
www.rhubarb.net

ROCKET FOOD LIMITED
020 7622 2320
parties@rocketfood.net
www.rocketfood.net

THE RECIPE

020 7033 4280
hello@the-recipe.co.uk
www.the-recipe.co.uk

URBAN CAPRICE
020 7286 1700
events@urbancaprice.co.uk
www.urbancaprice.co.uk

ZAFFERANO
020 8905 9120
info@zafferano.co.uk
www.zafferano.co.uk

LAGUNA
020 8579 9992
info@lagunarestaurant.com
www.lagunarestaurant.com

TONY PAGE
020 8830 4000
events@tonypage.com
www.tonypage.com

PRODUCTION & LIGHTING

BESPOKE EVENTS LONDON
020 8961 1510
studio@bespoke-london.co.uk
www.bespoke-london.co.uk

EVENT CONCEPT
020 7740 3988
info@eventconcept.co.uk
www.ecprivate.co.uk

FOCUS LIGHTING & PRODUCTIONS LTD
020 8542 9221
info@focuslighting.co.uk
www.focuslighting.co.uk

WHITE LIGHT LIMITED
020 8254 4800
production@whitelight.ltd.uk
www.whitelight.ltd.uk

WISE PRODUCTIONS
020 8991 6922
events@wiseproductions.co.uk
www.wiseproductions.co.uk

FLOWERS

LAVENDER GREEN FLOWERS
020 7127 5303
info@lavendergreen.co.uk
www.lavendergreen.co.uk

PINSTRIPES & PEONIES
020 7720 1245
flowers@pinstripesandpeonies.com
www.pinstripesandpeonies.com

SHANE CONNOLLY & COMPANY
020 8964 4398
events@shaneconnolly.co.uk
www.shaneconnolly.co.uk

SIMON J LYCETT LTD
020 7277 3322
enquiries@simonlycett.co.uk
www.simonlycett.co.uk

VEEVERS CARTER
020 7237 8800
info@veeverscarter.com
www.veeverscarter.com

WILD AT HEART
020 7229 1174
events@wildatheart.com
www.wildatheart.com

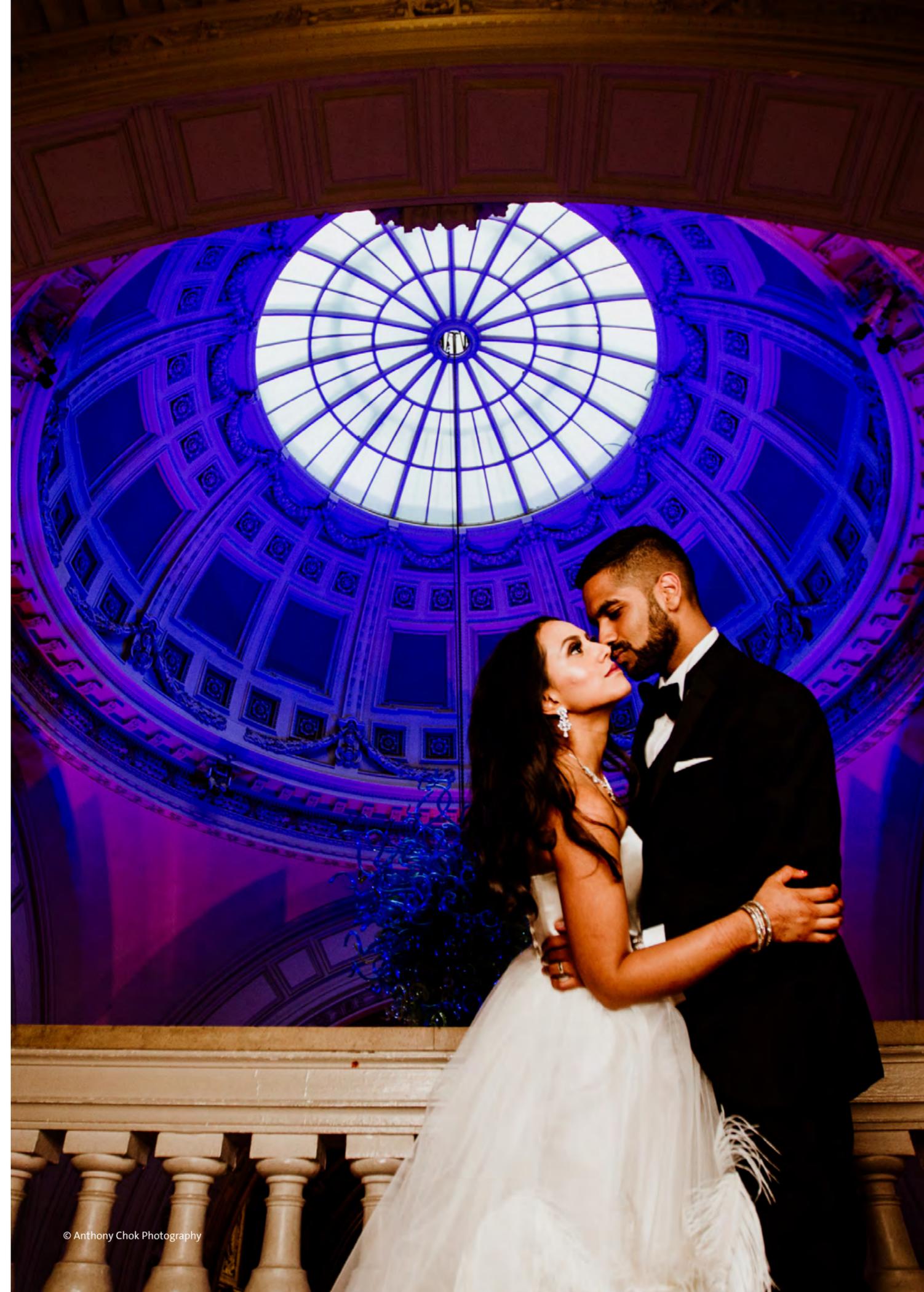
ENTERTAINMENT

EUPHONICA
020 3397 9018
hello@euphonica.com
www.euphonica.com

PRELUDE
020 8660 6647
sales@preludeentertainment.co.uk
www.preludeentertainment.co.uk

STERNBERG CLARKE
020 8877 1102
sales@sternbergclarke.co.uk
www.sternbergclarke.co.uk

VELVET ENTERTAINMENT
020 8947 8245
info@velvetentertainment.net
www.velvetentertainment.net





Contact

We would love to talk to you about holding your wedding ceremony or reception at the Victoria and Albert Museum, please do contact the Private Events team to start your journey.

Email corporateevents@vam.ac.uk

Tel +44 (0)20 7942 2888

 @vamevents

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