



News Release

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V&A announces 2023 programme from Donatello to Diva, Tartan to Chanel, the opening of Young V&A and commitment to increase access to the arts

- New exhibitions, galleries and displays at V&A South Kensington:
 - ***Donatello: Sculpting the Renaissance***, 11 February – 11 June 2023
 - ***DIVA***, 24 June 2023 – 7 April 2024
 - ***Gabrielle Chanel. Fashion Manifesto***, 16 September 2023 – 25 February 2024
 - ***Re:Imagining Musicals***, 15 October 2022 – 27 November 2023
 - ***Photography Centre Phase Two***, Spring 2023
- Young V&A announces opening in summer 2023 following the most radical redevelopment in its 150-year history
- V&A Dundee will celebrate its fifth birthday in 2023 with ***Tartan***, 1 April 2023 to 14 January 2024
- V&A East continues to increase access to the arts with a new emerging curatorial fellow role in partnership with Frieze, Deutsche Bank and artist Yinka Shonibare

Today the V&A revealed the first details of its upcoming programme for 2023 across its family of sites.

2023 marks the opening of landmark exhibitions at **V&A South Kensington** ranging from the first ever major UK exhibition on Renaissance master **Donatello**, to a celebration of the power and creativity of the **DIVA**. Following the success of the V&A's acclaimed fashion shows, ***Gabrielle Chanel: Fashion Manifesto*** will be the first UK exhibition dedicated to the work of French couturière, Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel, while a new display ***Re:Imagining Musicals***, opening in late 2022, will showcase previously unseen items from the museum's extensive Theatre and Performance collections. **V&A Dundee** will celebrate its fifth birthday with a new programme of exhibitions including ***Tartan***, a radical new look at one of the world's best-known fabrics and ***Plastic: Remaking Our World***, taking a fresh look at the promise and challenges of this extraordinary material.

2023 will also see the V&A continue its ambitious programme of multi-site developments with **Young V&A** opening its doors as a new national museum and powerhouse of creativity for children and young teenagers in summer 2023. In the year to opening, Young V&A's **Reinvent Festival**, will see the museum engage all schools in Tower Hamlets and partner with a series of creative organisations across east London and the UK.

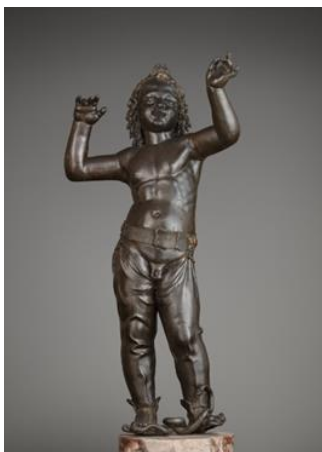
V&A East will appoint a new **emerging curatorial fellow** to support access and address racial disparity in the arts in partnership with Frieze, Deutsche Bank and artist Yinka Shonibare, and kick-off a major Schools outreach programme led by Director Gus Casely-Hayford. V&A East will also reach practical completion on the **V&A East Storehouse** building, ready to receive over 260,000 objects, 1,000 Archives and 350,000 library books in the V&A's biggest ever collection move – and the UK's largest house move to-date. At V&A South Kensington the completion of phase two of the **Photography Centre** will see the museum open the largest permanent gallery dedicated to photography in the UK.

Tristram Hunt, V&A Director, said: *"We are delighted to announce such a broad programme of activity across the V&A's growing family of sites, celebrating creativity in all its forms, from captivating sculpture by Renaissance master Donatello, to the pioneering designs of couturier Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel, and the global phenomenon – the diva."*

2023 also sees the opening next summer of Young V&A, and V&A Dundee will be celebrating a landmark 5 years as Scotland's design museum with a look at how Tartan became a world-renowned fabric. The next year will also bring us closer to the opening of our new sites on the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, and we will be sharing activity and events happening throughout 2023 as we realise the ambitious V&A East projects. There is truly a celebration of global creativity across the V&A in 2023."

2023 Programme Highlights

V&A South Kensington



Donatello: Sculpting the Renaissance

11 February – 11 June 2023

The first exhibition of its kind to be staged in the UK, ***Donatello: Sculpting the Renaissance***, will explore the exceptional talents of the Renaissance master. Arguably the greatest sculptor of all time, Donatello, (about 1386-1466), was in the vanguard of a revolution in sculptural practice in the early Renaissance. This major exhibition will offer a new vision of the artist and his impact on artistic development at this crucial time in the history of art. Featuring many works that have never been on display in the UK, the exhibition will explore Donatello's diverse creativity within the

vibrant artistic and cultural context of fifteenth-century Italy, and his influence on subsequent generations of artists.

The exhibition has been developed as part of a collaborative partnership with Fondazione Palazzo Strozzi and the Museo Nazionale del Bargello in Florence, and the Staatliche Museen in Berlin. Each institution has drawn on its own collections and curatorial expertise to stage three interconnected, but distinct exhibitions offering a celebration of Donatello's life and work in three parts.



DIVA

24 June 2023 – 7 April 2024

From the Opera goddesses of the Victorian era to today's global megastars, ***DIVA*** will celebrate the power and creativity of iconic performers, exploring and redefining what it means to be a diva and how this has been subverted or embraced over time across opera, stage, popular music, and film. Featuring fashion, photography, design, costumes, music and live performance drawn from the V&A collection and loans from across the world, the exhibition looks at how the performer has intersected with society and driven change through their voice and art. It will consider how the diva has been reclaimed and redefined and will examine the external and internal forces that contribute to shaping and worshipping the diva.

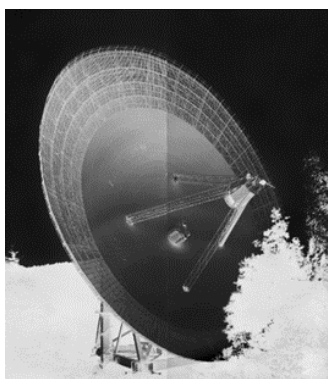


Gabrielle Chanel. Fashion Manifesto

With the support of CHANEL

16 September 2023 – 25 February 2024

The first UK exhibition dedicated to the work of French couturière, Gabrielle 'Coco' Chanel, ***Gabrielle Chanel. Fashion Manifesto*** will chart the evolution of her iconic design style and the establishment of the House of CHANEL, from the opening of her first millinery boutique in Paris in 1910 to the showing of her final collection in 1971. Featuring over 180 looks, seen together for the first time, as well as jewellery, accessories, cosmetics and perfumes, the exhibition will explore Chanel's pioneering approach to fashion design, which paved the way for a new feminine elegance and continues to influence the way women dress today. Based upon the *Gabrielle Chanel. Fashion Manifesto* exhibition organised by the Palais Galliera, Fashion Museum of the City of Paris, the exhibition will be re-imagined for the V&A and feature rarely seen pieces from the V&A's collection, alongside looks from Palais Galliera and the Patrimoine de CHANEL, the heritage collections of the fashion House in Paris.



Photography Centre - Phase Two

Spring 2023

Part of the V&A's ambitious FuturePlan, Phase Two of the V&A's Photography Centre will create the largest permanent gallery dedicated to photography in the UK. Four new gallery spaces will be added to the museum's critically acclaimed Photography Centre, enabling visitors to see and experience more of the V&A's world leading collection, and understand photography's diverse histories and extensive impact on our lives. The transformation includes the restoration of the gallery spaces to reveal original architectural features and to return them to their original purpose as a place to display art.

Later this year at V&A South Kensington



Hallyu! The Korean Wave

24 September 2022 – 25 June 2023

Supported by the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism Republic of Korea

Hallyu! The Korean Wave is the first exhibition of its kind to showcase the colourful and dynamic popular culture of South Korea. Rising to prominence in the late 1990s, the first tides of *hallyu*, meaning 'Korean Wave', rippled across Asia before becoming a worldwide phenomenon that challenges the currents of global pop culture today. The exhibition will explore the makings of the Korean Wave and its impact on the creative industries of cinema, drama, music, fandom, beauty and fashion.



Re:Imagining Musicals

15 October 2022 – 27 November 2023

Re:Imagining Musicals will celebrate the glittering world of musical theatre and explore the cultural significance of some of the industry's most iconic stories. Bringing together brand-new acquisitions and previously unseen classics from the V&A's extensive Theatre and Performance collections, this free display will celebrate the rich lineage and astounding craftsmanship behind some of the best-loved musicals. From *Miss Saigon* and *My Fair Lady* to modern classics *SIX the Musical* and *Everybody's Talking About Jamie*, *Re:Imagining Musicals* will explore how musicals have been adapted, revived, and retold for new audiences and reimagined against cultural and historical contexts.

Young V&A



Young V&A will open its doors in Bethnal Green in summer 2023 following a major redevelopment, transforming it into a new national museum dedicated to children and young people from early years to teens. A fun and joyful place to play, imagine and design, Young V&A will unlock children's creativity and help them build new skills and the creative confidence they need to thrive in our fast-changing world. It will also include a series of collaborations with creatives from performance artists to poets, designers, street artists, dancers, cartoonists, costume designers, photographers, and more.

Co-designed with and for children and young people, Young V&A's three interactive galleries, **Play, Imagine** and **Design**, include colourful and tactile sensory landscapes for its youngest visitors, and a gaming arcade and open design studio for its oldest, in the most radical overhaul in the museum's 150-year history.

Displaying 2,000 inspiring objects from the breadth of the V&A's global collections, new acquisitions include children's protest art engaging with issues from sustainability to gender, human rights and race. Other acquisitions include **inclusive dolls**, **sustainable fashion** and **The Hero Arm**, the world's most accessible 3D printed prosthetic co-designed with young people. Through these objects, Young V&A will highlight how art, design, and performance – and the ingenuity of children – can change the world.

While the museum is closed for construction, Young V&A is taking its year-long **Reinvent Festival** out into the community, paving the way to opening. Celebrating 150 years with 150 ways to be creative, the festival includes events in partnership with venues across east London and an array of creative ambassadors from children's author **Ed Vere** to artists **Emilie Queney** and **Zoom Rockman**. Over the next year, Young V&A will continue its long-established **schools programme**. By summer 2023, it will have engaged with every school in Tower Hamlets, through a series of free interactive assemblies and taster workshops.

V&A Dundee

V&A Dundee will celebrate its fifth birthday in 2023 with two major new exhibitions.



Plastic: Remaking Our World

29 October 2022 to 5 February 2023

Plastic: Remaking Our World will present the story of plastic from invention to global ubiquity, from the history of what was once considered a magical material to the challenge of plastic pollution today as one of the world's most urgent issues. The exhibition will feature product design, graphics, architecture and fashion from the collections of the V&A and Vitra Design Museum, as well as

collections all over the world. This is the first exhibition co-produced by V&A Dundee, the Vitra Design Museum and MAAT, with consultant curators from V&A South Kensington.



Tartan

1 April 2023 to 14 January 2024

Tartan will celebrate the global story of a unique pattern which expresses tradition, revolt and diversity, inspires playful and provocative design, and connects communities worldwide. It has a complex, rich, and sometimes painful history unequalled by any other cloth or pattern. Tartan is a textile which is adored and derided, inspiring great works of art and design, and is representative of unity and dissent, tradition and rebellion. This is the first major exhibition curated by V&A Dundee, with consultant curator Jonathan Faiers of the University of Southampton.

V&A East



V&A East continues to increase accessibility in the arts with the appointment of a new **V&A East curatorial fellow** in place by October 2022. Supported by Frieze and Deutsche Bank as part of its Emerging Curators Fellowship scheme to create opportunities for curators of colour and help address racial disparities in the arts, the role has been funded through the sale of a limited edition by artist Yinka Shonibare.

V&A East is also supporting young people taking their first steps in the creative sector – particularly those from the four Olympic Boroughs, Hackney, Newham, Tower Hamlets and Waltham Forest – with its programme of outreach and engagement. Following a successful pilot in partnership with Stratford Youth Zone, V&A East will expand its **V&A East Make Space** project providing regular free access to studio space, materials, and creative workshops for young people across multiple venues in east London, supported by Foundation for Future London. It will also expand its **secondary schools outreach programme** led by Director Gus Casely-Hayford. The programme designed with teachers from the Olympic Boroughs offers a range of interactive sessions from careers workshops to object packing and handling and insight into life behind the scenes at the museum.

Construction continues apace on V&A East's two new sites in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park ready for **V&A East Storehouse** to open at Here East in 2024, and **V&A East Museum** to open on East Bank in 2025. By 2023, **V&A East Storehouse** will have reached practical completion on its Diller, Scofidio and Renfro-designed building, kick-starting **the V&A's largest collection move – and the biggest UK house move to-date**. Over 260,000 objects, from the tiniest 16th century dress pin to European couture and global fashion and textiles, large-scale theatre stage cloths and costume, mid-century furniture, Japanese arms and armour and

architectural fragments and interiors from around the world, will move to a new purpose-built home. They will join 350,000 library books and 1,000 Archives of some of the world's leading creatives, from industrial designer **Sir Kenneth Grange**, to the **House of Worth**, and the revolutionary **Talawa Theatre Company**, to create an entirely new, immersive visitor experience transforming access to the V&A's collections.

On East Bank, 2023 will see fit-out begin on the 42.5-metre-high **V&A East Museum** building designed by O'Donnell + Tuomey. A newly appointed design team will create concept designs for the Museum's *Why We Make* galleries, which are a call to action exploring making for the future, in a process involving **V&A East's Youth Collective** – a paid, rolling annual opportunity for young east Londoners to help shape V&A East.

The curatorial team will continue to work with departments across the V&A to make new acquisitions for future display at **V&A East Museum**. Recent acquisitions include a series of sustainable garments by activists and fashion design duo **VIN + OMI**, who experiment with eco-textiles to make statement pieces that boldly tackle issues around waste, as well as ceramics by **Bisila Noah** that challenge Western views on art and craft, and a stage set for the 1958 production of ***A Taste of Honey***, which ran at the Theatre Royal Stratford East. All will join over 700 objects including **Kehinde Wiley's *Portrait of Melissa Thompson*** (2020), costumes by performance artist **Leigh Bowery**, textiles by **Althea McNish**, 19th century Himalayan amulets, community-led architecture and design by **Assemble and the Granby Workshop**, and bamboo building by Bali-based **IBUKU** on display in the Museum's *Why We Make Galleries* from 2025.

This summer, to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the London 2012 Games, V&A East is working with its East Bank partners, the BBC, London College of Fashion, Sadler's Wells and UCL East, to launch the first **East Bank Creative Programme**. The programme includes a series of collaborative and creative commissions across the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and the four Olympic Boroughs. **Gal-Dem** will curate a set of new site-specific artist commissions, and the programme will culminate with a finale moment in September.

– ENDS –

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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Notes to Editors

Social Media

- Twitter: @V_and_A
- Instagram: @vamuseum
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Donatello – Donatello, *Attis-Amorino*, c. 1435–40, partly gilded bronze, 103 × 55 × 45 cm, Florence, Museo Nazionale del Bargello, inv. Bronzes 448. Image courtesy of Museo Nazionale del Bargello, Florence / By permission of the Ministry of Culture. Photo Bruno Bruchi.

Diva – Whitney Houston performing at Wembley Arena, London, UK 5 May 1988. Photo © David Corio

Chanel – (L-R), Suit by Gabrielle Chanel. Worsted wool crepe, silk satin lining. Paris, 1969. Suit by Gabrielle Chanel. Wool and printed silk, Paris, 1966. Worn by Lauren Bacall. Given by the Educational Foundation for the Fashion Industries, New York. Coat, by Gabrielle Chanel. Bouclé wool and silk. Paris, 1961. Worn by Anne Gunning. Given by Sir Anthony Nutting in memory of Anne, Lady Nutting © Victoria and Albert Museum, London

Photography Centre – Vera Lutter, *Radio Telescope, Effelsberg, XV: September 12, 2013, 2013*, gelatin silver print, Museum no. PH.430-2021 © Vera Lutter

Hallyu! – PSY performs Gangnam Style, on TODAY, 2012, New York, USA. Courtesy of Jason Decrow, Invision, AP, Shutterstock

Re:Imagining Musicals – SIX the Musical - Original Broadway Cast Photo by Joan Marcus

Plastic: Remaking Our World – Precious Plastic, an alternative recycling system. Courtesy of Precious Plastic

Tartan – Cheddar Gorgeous in suit designed by Liquorice Black, 2017

Young V&A - Young V&A co-design workshop © Victoria and Albert Museum, London

V&A East - V&A East Youth Collective workshop © Victoria and Albert Museum, London