



V&A Academy Lunchtime Lectures

Summer 2023 Programme

Our free lunchtime lectures run weekly on a Thursday between 13.00-13.55 in the Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre. All are welcome to attend, and no pre-booking is required.

[Thursday 27th April](#)

Re:Imagining Musicals with Simon Sladen

Join Re:Imagining Musicals Display Curator Simon Sladen to discover the evolution and craftsmanship behind musical masterpieces and explore how some of the best-loved musicals have been created, adapted, revived, and retold throughout the ages.

[Thursday 4th May](#)

Donatello: Sculpting the Renaissance with Peta Motture

One of the greatest artists of all time, the Florentine sculptor Donatello was a revolutionary who epitomizes the Renaissance. Join Exhibition Curator Peta Motture for an insight into the making of the exhibition, and discover some of the highlights and unique stories included.

[Thursday 11th May](#)

London Craft Week: Sky Arts Master Crafters – Wood Carving with Clunie Fretton

Join us for an extra special Lunchtime Lecture in collaboration with Sky Arts' *Bill Bailey's Master Crafters: The Next Generation*. Delve into the woodcarving world and discover the history and importance of this heritage craft with award winning woodcarver Clunie Fretton, in conversation with V&A Curatorial Fellow in Furniture History, Jenny Saunt.

[Then, join us after the Lunchtime Lecture for an extra-special Craft Week event at 14.15 in the Learning Centre!](#) Join Clunie Fretton for a free live demonstration of wood carving, where she will show some of the pieces she's carved as well offering in depth insight into the techniques, the tools of the trade, and expert tips for any budding carvers. Space is limited to 140 attendees, and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

[Thursday 18th May](#)

Secrets of the Studio with Lauren Isles and Hannah Sutherland

Join V&A Textile Conservators Lauren Isles and Hannah Sutherland as they take us behind the scenes and pick apart exhibition preparation at the seams. After the talk, there will be a chance to ask questions and meet some of our studio best friends...the mannequins!

[Thursday 25th May](#)

The Pictures of Ancient Playthings Revisited: Making and Remaking a Masterpiece with Ricarda Brosch

Join Assistant Curator Ricarda Brosch to unravel the mystery of the 24 metre, 18th century scroll painting *Pictures of Ancient Playthings* in V&A's T.T. Tsui Gallery of Chinese Art, and explore how the painting was made and remade as a form of ancestor worship at the Qing imperial court.

Thursday 1st June: No lunchtime lecture this week

[Thursday 8th June](#)

Photographing the Bayeux Tapestry with Ella Ravilious and Silvija Banić

Join Curators Ella Ravilious and Silvija Banić for a talk dedicated to the history of Edward Dossetter's 19th Century Bayeux Tapestry photographs, and discover their relevance for the future research of the most important textile artefact from the Medieval period.

[Thursday 15th June](#)

Jake Elwes and The Zizi Show - a Deepfake Drag Cabaret with Jake Elwes

The Zizi Show, by British media artist Jake Elwes, is a deepfake drag cabaret that explores the intersection of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and drag performance. Join us to hear Elwes talk about the making of The Zizi Show, from collaborating with the best of London's drag scene to unpacking the biases of AI.

[Thursday 22nd June](#)

Between Two Worlds – Windrush 75 with Donata Miller

As we celebrate the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush in 1948, join the curators behind V&A's Between Two Worlds Display – which presents portraits of two gentlemen scholars created 280 years apart – for a virtual tour of the extraordinary archive created by Vanley Burke, and through the surface of the painting of Francis Williams.

[Thursday 29th June](#)

Stand & Deliver: Desirable Dress Accessories in the Georgian Age with Mark Wallis

Join Collector Mark Wallis for a lively illustrated talk looking at the perils that travellers in Georgian England endured, from coaches overturning to robbers on the road. Then, examine examples of original objects from Mark's private collection showcasing the types of valuables the highwaymen were after...

[Thursday 6th July](#)

A New History of 'Made in Italy': Fashion and Textiles in Post-War Italy with Lucia Savi

Join curator and fashion historian Dr Lucia Savi as she discusses her latest book 'A New History of Made in Italy', the first book to examine the role played by textile manufacturing in the development of fashion in Italy.

Take a look at what else is coming up at V&A Academy this Summer at
www.vam.ac.uk/courses

