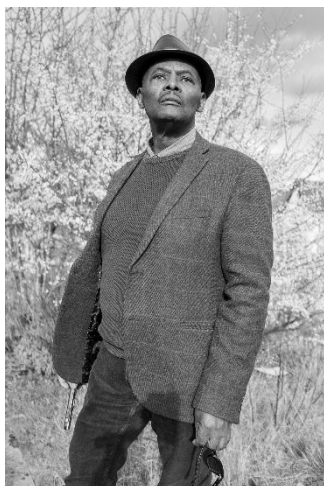




V&A season of events and displays mark the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the HMT Empire Windrush

The V&A marks the 75th anniversary of the arrival of HMT Empire Windrush with a season of displays, talks, workshops and events beginning this week and running throughout the summer. The programme of events will tell rich, layered stories about the Windrush generation and their legacies through objects from the V&A Collection and beyond, showcasing artists and designers associated with Windrush and exploring the impact of the Caribbean presence on art, design and culture in Britain.

All events at vam.ac.uk/season/2023/windrush-75



DISPLAYS

Between Two Worlds: Vanley Burke and Francis Williams

Opens Monday, 12 June 2023

Galleries 88a and 90

Free

Opening on the 12th June, *Between Two Worlds* explores two portraits created three centuries apart of two Jamaican gentlemen scholars - Vanley Burke and Francis Williams. This display brings together documentary photographs by Burke, the 'Godfather of Black British photography', and everyday things collected by him. These are placed adjacent to historical artefacts and scientific images that shed new light on the V&A's enigmatic portrait of 18th-century Jamaican writer Francis Williams. *Between Two Worlds* invites reflections on identity, cultural memory, racism and colonial legacies in two distant but related moments in British and Caribbean history.

TOURS

Historical and Hidden Caribbean Tour

Until Sunday, 26 November 2023

Starts at the meeting point. Cromwell Road foyer, V&A South Kensington

Free

On the last Sunday of every month, volunteer guides and examine the narratives of a Caribbean past. Visitors can appreciate the distinct traditions and dynamic culture of the Caribbean and discover the stories of selected objects in our collection and embrace the pursuit for freedom, the challenges of migration, the movement of people and the impact of creolisation.

TALKS

Andi Oliver in Conversation

Friday, 2 June 2023, 18.30 – 20.15

The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

Tickets cost £15 - £18 (Includes wine reception)

Andi Oliver, chef, broadcaster, and author in conversation with V&A Curator Jacqueline Springer with a hearty discussion about the political, racialised and cultural histories of food. Access, preparation of and presentation of food have geographic, racial, cultural and social origins. But food is also a highly political tool. Andi will explore – though the selection of key ingredients from around the world complemented by objects from the V&A's collection - how history is literally digested by us all.

Arthur Torrington CBE: Keeper of the Windrush Flame

Saturday, 10 June 2023, 14.00 – 17.30

The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

Tickets cost £10

British Guyanese community leader, activist, and historian Arthur Torrington CBE in conversation with renowned presenter Diane Louise Jordan. Together they will reflect on Arthur's legacy and how he would like to be remembered through his established career of over 50 years. The second half of the event Arthur and Diane will instead discuss the extraordinary life of Windrush pioneer John Richards.

V&A Academy Lunchtime Lecture: Between Two Worlds

Thursday, 22 June 2023, 13.00 – 13.55

The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre

Free, no booking required

The curators and conservators behind the Between Two Worlds display – which presents portraits of two gentlemen scholars created 280 years apart – discuss their approaches. Pairing Francis Williams and Vanley Burke side-by-side for the first time, the display examines how histories are narrated, and notions of Britishness and Jamaican-ness as expressed through the lives we create and the objects that are significant to us. In this behind-the-scenes talk, the team take you on virtual tour of the extraordinary archive created by Vanley Burke, and through the surface of the painting of Francis Williams.

The Front Room Portraits: Diaspora Migrant Aesthetics in the Home

Friday, 4 August, 19.00 – 21.30

Hochhauser Auditorium, Learning Centre

Tickets £12

Dr Michael McMillan will take inspiration from his much loved and critically praised installation The Front Room to examine the evolution of becomingness and subjectivity in Black British photography as displayed in the migrant home. With reference to Black style, gender, sexuality, desire, aspiration, pleasure and the dressed body as performance, Michael will give a multi-media presentation including numerous archive and contemporary formal portraits and everyday snaps featured in different iterations of The Front Room.

V&A Webinar Live – Designing the Diversity Coin with Designer, Dominique Evans (Teachers Only)

Tuesday, 20 June 2023

Online

Free

This live webinar for KS3-5, will allow students to hear from Dominique Evans, Designer at The Royal Mint, about her work on the Diversity coin and more. Students will develop knowledge about how to communicate a message through their designs, explore creative career pathways and connect to design ideas around diversity. The webinar will also feature a Q&A with the designer.

WORKSHOPS

Francis Williams: The Jamaican Scholar in His Indigo Blue Coat

Saturday, 8 July

Seminar Room 1, Learning Centre

Tickets £45

Participants will explore Caribbean craft making practices in a modern pop-up participatory workshop led by Dr Rose Sinclair, that interrogates and responds to the life situation of the Black 18th century Jamaican aristocrat Francis Williams. Using the painted portrait and a pattern participants will design their own bespoke hand-crafted coat, giving Francis a new freedom and identity to exist and examine his life today.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday Late: Windrush 75

25 August, 18.30 – 22.00

Museum-wide

Free

Marking the 75th anniversary of the Windrush arriving in the UK – a key moment in Britain's history of migration – this Friday Late celebrates Black British artists, musicians and creatives through performances, workshops, installations, and music across the museum after hours.

-ENDS-

For further press information please contact the V&A Press Office on 0207 942 2502 or email press.office@vam.ac.uk. Press images can be downloaded from pressimages.vam.ac.uk.
