ARE WE WELL?

Friday 26 July 2024
18:30–22:00

Revealing truths about how we live, design enables us to ask questions about the wellbeing of our economy, society and technology’s growing impact. This Friday Late kicks off the V&A’s Rapid Response Collecting 10th anniversary year and celebrates the act of collecting contemporary design objects in response to major moments in recent history. Through performances, talks, workshops, music and more, join us to explore methods for resilience and ways that we can come together in challenging times.
All events are free, and places are designated on a first come, first-served basis unless stated otherwise. Filming and photography will take place at this event. If you have any access requirements, please let us know in advance by emailing accessibility@vam.ac.uk.

Please note if the V&A or any of the activations reaches capacity, we will allow access on a one-in, one-out basis.

#FridayLate
DJ set by Ashley Holmes

*The Grand Entrance, Cromwell Road*

Immerse yourself in this sonic journey exploring the relationship between landscape, music, belonging and collective memory. Holmes’ creative practice explores embodied knowledge of Dub, Blues and Grime music in different diasporic communities. He also hosts a monthly show ‘Tough Matter’ on NTS Radio.

@ashleyholmes__
Digital Detox Dome
The Globe, Europe 1600–1815, Room 4
Drop in from 18:30 – 21:30

Come detox away from the rapid pace of our digital society with the V&A Youth Collective. Sit down to share relaxing crafts, exchange a story, recipe, drawing or thought with us and make your own wellbeing kit.
(Live) Corner Piece: I by Rohan Ayinde
The Raphael Cartoons, Room 48a
Two performances at 19:30 and 20:45
Talk at 20:00

Join interdisciplinary artist and poet Rohan Ayinde in a live exploration of our data-rich everyday through sound, poetry and movement. Energised by the Black radical imagination, the performances reflect on the physical, psychological and digital realms we inhabit, and how these can be re-examined and reimagined.

@rohanayinde
Rapid Response: What Now? What Next?  
*The Blavatnik Hall, Exhibition Road*
Drop-in, with 20-minute tours at 19:00, 19:30, 20:30

Please note, the tours have a limited capacity. Sign up from 18:15 at the Rapid Response desk in the Blavatnik Hall.

Kick off celebrations of Rapid Response’s 10th anniversary through this work in progress station. Learn more about the contemporary collecting at the museum by taking a tour of the Design 1900–Now gallery, and contribute your own suggestions for objects which speak to our changing economic, social and technological landscape.

#rapidresponsecollecting
Future Tropics film screening by Kent Chan

John Lyons Community Gallery, Learning Centre
Drop in, 18:30 – 21:00

Duration: 32 minutes

Encounter an imagined future scenario that speculates the impact of our changing climate. In a future mono-climatic world of forever-summers, might a global tropic mean the blurring of geographies, histories and cultures? Based in the Netherlands and Singapore, Kent Chan’s practice spans from film to curation, and considers the relationship between memory, climate and culture.

@kentzqchan
Life Album Covers
*Digital Studio, Learning Centre*
18:45, 19:30, 20:15

Please note, these sessions have a limited capacity. Sign up from 18:15 at the Learning Centre Reception desk.

Create your own ‘Life Album Cover’ while learning about the story of the South Kilburn CarniVale, a new community-led wellbeing, music and art festival in one of London’s first regeneration zones. LIN KAM ART, founded by Linett Kamala, is rooted in community empowerment, and amplifying all lives through festival and sound system culture.

@linett_kamala
@lin_kam_art
Urban Herbalism
The John Madejski Garden
Drop in until 20:30

Join Community Apothecary Waltham Forest for a workshop and tea-tasting inspired by the healing herbs found flourishing in allotments and growing in the wild. Connect with plants, histories of herbal medicine and more to learn how to support human and ecosystem health.

@communityapothecary.wf
Flowing Streams by Harun Morrison

National Art Library, Level 2
Drop-in until 20:30

Places are designated on a first-come, first served basis

Begin as a raindrop in a cloud and immerse yourself in developing a water-based board game with artist, Harun Morrison. Test out new rules and gameplay while thinking about the roles of water across industries, cultures and nature. This session will be accompanied by Hydrological Cycle, a meditative mix of electronica, with water-themed titles.

@harunishere
Bodies Bodied Bodies by Marisa Olson

*The Lydia and Manfred Gorvy Lecture Theatre, Level 2*

Two performances at 19:15 and 20:15

Duration: 30 minutes

Please note that this performance includes a video projection containing brief flashing imagery.

Join multidisciplinary artist Marisa Olson on a satirical and open-ended journey through the allusions associated with wellbeing. Experience this sonic and digital dive into Olson’s practice, drawing on the links between cultural histories of technology, disability and the environments which form society.

@marisaolson
Wellbeing and Repair Talk

Photography Centre, Room 98
The Kusuma Gallery
19:30

Ione Gamble, writer and founding editor of Polyester Zine joins V&A Curator Natalie Kane for this discussion exploring the relationship between wellbeing and social repair. Hear about embedding health conversations into society, through activism and radical care.

@ionegamble
Campaigning for Change with Justice4Grenfell

*Photography Centre, Room 98, The Kusuma Gallery*

Talk and performance at 20:30

Each year Justice4Grenfell hosts a design intervention in honour and memory of those who died in the 2017 Grenfell Tower fire. Join Yvette Williams (Justice4Grenfell), photographer Jeff Moore and Corinna Gardener (V&A) to discuss tools for social justice. This will be followed by a spoken word performance from poet Nelissa Mendy.

@officialj4g
@jeffmo69
@nyalissa

Please note that Justice4Grenfell’s Jubilee Street Party intervention is currently on display in Design 1900–Now
Croydon Urban Room
Medieval & Renaissance,
Room 64b, The Simon Sainsbury Gallery

Visit Croydon Urban Room, a pop-up space which seeks to democratise urban planning. Through the lens of Croydon’s town centre, learn more about the past, present and the future of urban spaces. Explore methods of creating nurturing neighbourhoods and opening up decision-making processes.

@croydonurbanroom
ALSO ON TONIGHT
Discount for under 26s across all exhibitions.

Fragile Beauty: Photographs from the Sir Elton John and David Furnish Collection
In partnership with Gucci
With further support from Foundation Socindec
The Sainsbury Gallery

NAOMI: In Fashion
Supported by BOSS
Gallery 40

Tropical Modernism: Architecture and Independence
Supported by James Bartos and Celia and Edward Atkin CBE and the estate of Hilda Rose Carloss
Porter Gallery
COVER ARTWORK

Image credit: Rohan Ayinde

KEEP IN TOUCH

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View photos of tonight’s event on flickr.com/fridaylate