

Programme

Made in London

Details

Thursdays, 1 May-5 June 2025. Onsite and Online.

Lecture recordings available in the accompanying Microsoft Teams environment, available at the end of each day, until 17 July 2025.

Overview

For centuries the label “Made in London” was synonymous with the very finest of manufacturing. From 18th century Spitalfields silks to the very finest contemporary fashion design, London has long been a leading centre of creativity and skill. Using the immense collections of the V&A, as well as contributions from contemporary specialist craftspeople, designers and historians this short course will look in detail at the contribution of London artisans to the decorative arts, past and present.

Your course leader

Mike Berlin is a Lecturer at Birkbeck College, University of London. He is a specialist in the social history of early modern London and has published extensively on the history of London’s guilds. Before joining Birkbeck, he was a research officer at the Centre for Metropolitan History, Institute of Historical Research.

Note: V&A Academy programmes are subject to change without notice.

Week 1 - 1 May

London and the Print Trade

14.00 London and Printing **Mike Berlin**

15.30 Letter Press Printing Today **New North Press**

Week 2- 8 May

Working in Wood & Stone: a living heritage skill

14.00 Fine Sculpture in wood **Clunie Fretton**

15.30 Fine Sculpture in stone **Felix Handley**

14 May- 12.45-13.30 In-Person Tea and Coffee Academy Social at V&A South Kensington*

Week 3- 15 May

London as 'a place of making'

14.00 The rise and fall of London as a place of making **Mike Berlin**

15.30 Endangered Crafts Red list **Daniel Carpenter, Heritage Crafts Association**

16.45 Meet and Greet (online ticket holders)

Week 4- 22 May

Silkweaving

14.00 Introductory session **Rose Sinclair**

14.30 Spitalfields Silkweaving **Mike Berlin**

15.30 Silkweaving today **Charlotte Bainbridge**

Week 5- 29 May

Coach making and Wheelwrighting

14.00 London Coach making **Mike Berlin**

15.30 Wheelwrighting Today **Edmund Shepherd, Croford Coachbuilders and Master Wheelwrights**

Week 6- 5 June

Cartier

14.00 Cartier, the London Workshop **Jenny Rourke, Head of Archives and Heritage, Cartier UK** and **Clyde Tabiner, Maison Culture and Learning Manager at Cartier**

15.30 Cartier: Creative Jeweller **Alexandre Auberson, Director of Cartier Jewellery Institute**

*This is an opportunity to meet fellow learners from onsite Academy courses and study days across all programmes! Complimentary tea, coffee and biscuits will be provided and feel free to bring your lunch along! This will take place in Seminar room 1 in the Learning Centre at V&A South Kensington. If you'd like to attend this tea and coffee social, please email us at courses@vam.ac.uk to confirm