

Programme

Seeking Antiquity: A.W.N. Pugin and John Hardman Jr, Makers of Modern Gothic

Details

Tuesday 15 July 2025. Onsite or Online.

V&A South Kensington, London

Overview

This study day marks the exhibition, *Makers of Modern Gothic: A.W.N. Pugin and John Hardman Jr* in the V&A's Julie and Robert Breckman Galleries (3rd March – 26th October 2025). Driven by a desire to address the challenges of modernity through architecture and social reform, Augustus Welby Northmore Pugin (1812–1852) pioneered the nineteenth-century Gothic Revival that still shapes our towns and villages. Pugin did not work alone. The exhibition showcases two major recent acquisitions of his drawings passed down through the families of Birmingham metalworker, John Hardman Jr, and the London builder, George Myers, that highlight Pugin's close collaborations with them.

Your course leaders

Max Donnelly is Curator of Furniture at the V&A. Angus Patterson is Senior Curator of Metalwork at the V&A. Olivia Horsfall Turner is Chief Curator of the Royal Institute of British Architecture and is former Senior Curator of Architecture and Design at the V&A. Grace Fannon is Assistant Curator of Ceramics, Glass, Decorative Art and Sculpture.

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

10.00-10.30	Arrival, registration and coffee
10.30-10.55	Welcome and video tour of exhibition Angus Patterson
10.55-11.20	Lecture: Pugin, Hardman and Myers: Acquiring the Drawings Olivia Horsfall Turner
11.20-11.45	Lecture: Pugin and Hardman: Letters, Drawings and Friendship Angus Patterson
11.45-12.00	Break
12.00-12.30	Lecture: Pugin and Myers: An Album of Drawings Max Donnelly
12.30-13.00	Lecture: Acquiring Pugin: An Ongoing Project Grace Fannon
13.00-13.15	Q&A

13.15-14.15 Lunch (not provided)

14.15-14.40	The Grange, Ramsgate Angus Patterson and Max Donnelly
14.40-15.25	Object spotlight
15.25-15.45	Lecture: Where else in the V&A to see Pugin Max Donnelly
15.45-16.00	Closing remarks and questions Olivia Horsfall Turner