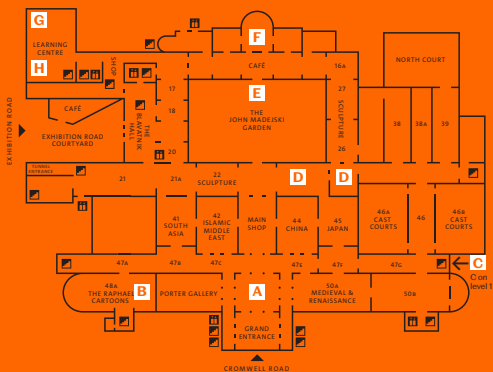


FRIDAY

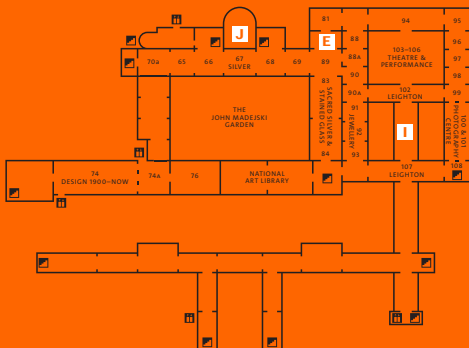


LATE

Level 0



Level 2



V&A

TASTE

Friday 25 July 2025
18:30–22:00

From dream core, Y2K to low-fi aesthetics, this Friday Late looks at how the world is being transformed by alternative expressions and tastes in visual art and pop culture.

Expressing irreverence, self-love and nostalgia, see how emerging artists, musicians and performers transgress traditional definitions of good taste. Collaging elements from diverse cultures, trends and eras, these ironic and bold expressions offer a spin on polished consumer culture and AI-driven aesthetics, inviting us to uncover new meanings of taste.

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.

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

A

DJ set by Maisi

*The Dome, Grand Entrance,
Cromwell Road*

Join DJ and artist Maisi's high-energy sets fusing nostalgic pop, club bangers, and leftfield edits with a playful, chaotic edge. She is the creator of Cxnty School Disco, a vivid club night celebrating hyper-femme anthems, Y2K sleaze, and messy dancefloor euphoria.

The dome will be transformed by her bold, irreverent energy, turning every set into a glitter-drenched, rule-breaking rave.

@maisimaisimaisi

@thecxntyschooldisco

B

THE PURGE

*The Raphael Cartoons,
Room 48a*

25-minute performances at
19:30, 20:30

We eat and eat, repeat and
repeat until the soft animal
of our bodies spill, wild and
bewildered. Splurge and spit.
Filling all the empty holes.
Unknowing, unthinking,
unbecoming. Fabulous
projection or fleshy insistence.
This is a prayer for failure.

@wet_mess



Josie Man

Medieval & Renaissance, Room 64b, The Simon Sainsbury Gallery. Entry through Korea, Room 47g and lift to level 1 off Room 50b

15-minute performances at
19:45 and 21:00

Immerse yourself in Josie Man's musical world celebrating self-love, strength and the transformative power of healing. Through the performances, the singer looks at the impact of modern beauty standards on us, advocating us to rewire these patterns.

Described as 'identity pop', her music embraces fluidity and authenticity, allowing fusions of sounds, moods and influences. Explore her Y2K-influenced collage of images on screen.

@agroovyboothang



Big Pink Angel

*Sculpture, Room 24,
The Dorothy and Michael Hintze
Gallery and Room 25*

Drop in from 18:30–21:30

DaddyBears shiny squishy textile sculptures sit alongside an installation unique to the V&A. Found furniture and toys are manipulated using the artist's own upholstery technique, rendering each object unrecognisable to its former life.

The re-imagining of process and form continues through to a giant textile rendering of a quilted pink satin angel. Big Pink Angel dangles from the V&A's banisters, strapped up by her own ribbons. She's covered in quilted imagery reflecting her time wandering the collections.

DaddyBears has used various embroidery, applique and quilting techniques inspired by those of which were taught to schoolgirls of the 17th century- the artist's take on these techniques is a modernised version used to illustrate a childlike naivety in her visual language.

@daddybearsxc



The Crab Girl Escaped from the Freak Show

*The John Madejski Garden
and Paintings, Room 82, The
Edwin and Susan Davies Gallery*
15-minute performances at
18:45 in the garden, and 20:00,
20:50 in Paintings

Step into the surreal world
of Petite Doll with a live
appearance of The Crab Girl.
Blending self-portraiture,
surrealism, and visual
storytelling, the artist steps
out of the photograph and into
real life, in a contemplative
living artwork performance.
A celebration of the
unconventional, The Crab Girl
is a hymn to finding beauty in
the strange, the surreal and the
disturbing.

@petite.doll
@bariskareli
@helenrose.sfx



Jenkin Van Zyl x SketchSesh Life Drawing

Gamble Room, Main Cafe

Drop in from 18:30–21:00.

Places designated on a first come first served basis.

SketchSesh brings their high-impact life drawing series to the V&A with a special session featuring artist and performer Jenkin van Zyl. Founded by artists James Davison and Simon Gray, SketchSesh is known for its vibrant, fashion-led approach to drawing – blending queer performance, bold styling, and expressive mark-making. Each session is designed to celebrate the body as a site of creativity, identity and play. Expect an evening of intense visuals, striking poses and a charged, collaborative atmosphere.

@sketchsesh @jenkinvanzyl



Curate-a-core

Learning Centre Digital Studio

Drop in from 18:30–21:30

Design your fashioncore using illustration, collage and draping with the V&A Youth Collective. Be inspired by different styles and playful projections and take your designs from moodboard to mannequin.



Open Studios: The Taste of Memory

*Learning Centre, John Lyons
Community Gallery*

Drop in from 18:30–21:30

Step into a special Open Studio with artist Ciara Neufeldt for a playful, hands-on exploration of taste and memory. Inspired by historical dessert displays, visitors are invited to drop in and contribute to a communal platter using plasticine, plates, and imagination. Learn more about Ciara's practice and get involved in this joyful celebration of form, food, and shared creativity.

@ciara.neufeldt

Supported by Adobe Foundation



Kawaii Agency

Prince Consort Gallery, Room 110. Lift to level 2 at back of Café
Drop-in from 18.30–21.30

Please be aware the works in this room contain adult themes including sexual connotations.

Kawaii Agency is getting sued. The charges? Desecration of good taste (but not even in a based way). The evidence? Appalling (but we will show them and you can be jury). The punishment? A public apology (but will you forgive?) Follow the trial live.

Kawaii Agency is a curatorial project started by Bart Seng Wen Long and Juliusz Grabianski, with a focus on emerging artists, Gen Z aesthetics, digital cultures and quirky new ideas.

@kawaii.agency

J

Wild Berry Red Bull

*Level 4, The Lydia and Manfred
Gorvy Lecture Theatre*

Lift to level 2 at back of Café

Drop-in 18:30–19:30

Take part in a livestream performance from New York artist Molly Soda, tracing our collective desires and how they have evolved along with the inception of the social web.

Taking inspiration from vision boards and adapting her own play Trivial Pursuit, Molly Soda will be exploring texts and images sourced from blogs, forums, decaying websites, and her own archive of online postings.

@molly__soda

COVER ARTWORK

Petite Doll with SFX from
Helen Sturtivant

ALSO ON TONIGHT

Design and Disability

Supported by Oak Foundation
The Porter Gallery

Free tickets are available
for Disabled people and a
companion.

Discount for under 26s

KEEP IN TOUCH

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View photos of tonight's event on [flickr.com/fridaylate](https://www.flickr.com/photos/fridaylate/)