

V&A Highlights 2013

SPRING 2013

David Bowie is

In partnership with Gucci

Sound experience by Sennheiser

23 March – 28 July 2013 (Media preview: 20 March 2013)

Album cover shoot for *Aladdin Sane*, 1973
© Duffy Archive



The V&A has been given unprecedented access to the David Bowie Archive to curate the first international retrospective of David Bowie's extraordinary career. Bowie is one of the most pioneering and influential performers of modern times and the exhibition will bring together more than 300 objects including handwritten lyrics, original costumes, photography, set designs, album artwork and rare performance material from the past five decades. Bowie's work has both influenced

and been influenced by wider movements in art, design, theatre and contemporary culture and the exhibition will focus on his creative processes, shifting style and collaborative work with diverse designers in the fields of fashion, sound, graphics, theatre and film.

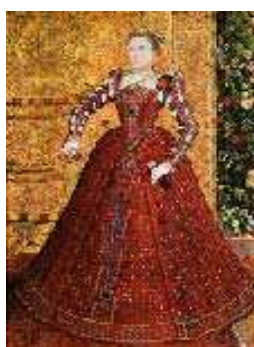
Treasures of the Royal Court:

Tudors, Stuarts and the Russian Tsars

Supported by the Friends of the V&A

9 March – 14 July 2013 (Media preview: 6 March 2013)

Hempden Portrait of Elizabeth I, attributed to Steven van Herwijck or Steven van der Meulen
England, c. 1560. Private Collection



This exhibition will examine the development of cultural diplomacy and trade between Britain and Russia from its origins in 1555 when the London Muscovy Company was founded. It will reveal the majesty and pageantry of the royal courts of Henry VIII to Charles II and Ivan IV (Ivan the Terrible) to the early Romanovs as they sought to strengthen their power against a backdrop of religious and social upheaval. Over 150 objects will be displayed including spectacular examples of British and French silver from the Tsars' Treasury sold through British merchants or

given to Russia as diplomatic gifts by successive English ambassadors from the reigns of Elizabeth I to Charles II. Tailor-made suits of armour from the Greenwich workshop, jewellery such as the Barbor jewel, sumptuous textiles, furnishings, fine clothing and portraits of ambassadors, courtiers and monarchs reveal life at the royal courts between 1509 and 1685. The exhibition is part of the V&A's programme of exhibition exchanges with the Kremlin.

With further support from Summa Group

SUMMER 2013

From Club to Catwalk: London Fashion in the 80s

10 July 2013 - 16 February 2014 (Media preview: 8 July 2013)

Willy Brown, 1980 © V&A Images



From Club to Catwalk will explore the creative explosion of London fashion in the 1980s. It will feature the work of designers such as Betty Jackson, Timney Fowler, Wendy Dagworthy, Helen David for English Eccentrics, John Galiano and Rifat Ozbek, who became increasingly successful internationally. The display will show the creative relationship between catwalk and club wear, and the emerging theatricality in fashion, reflected in magazines such as i-D and Blitz. The display includes outfits made specifically to be worn at clubs such as Heaven and Taboo, creations designed

and worn by the flamboyant clubber Leigh Bowery, glamorous dresses designed specifically for men, studded biker outfits by Pam Hogg and Katharine Hamnett, customised denim jackets by Vivienne Westwood and Richmond Cornejo and exuberant knitwear by Joseph, Artwork and Bodymap.

AUTUMN 2013

Pearls

21 September 2013 – 19 January 2014 (Media preview: 18 September 2013)

The Countess Spencer's Tiara © Qatar Museums Authority



Pearls are treasured for their beauty and have been associated with wealth, royalty and glamour across cultures for centuries. This exhibition will explore the history of natural pearls from the early Roman Empire to the present. On display will be spectacular jewellery showcasing the many different shapes and colours of pearls. Highlights include a 16th-century salamander

pendant, delicate art nouveau pieces, a group of magnificent tiaras worn by European royalty and a pair of drop pearl earrings owned by Elizabeth Taylor. There will also be robes embroidered in pearls worn by Far Eastern rulers. Painted portraits and photographs will document the fashion for wearing pearls and their symbolism in East and West. The exhibition will examine early experiments in developing cultured pearls and how Kokichi Mikimoto in Japan made them affordable for all women. The exhibition is organised in partnership with the Qatar Museums Authority who own the finest collection of jewels with natural pearls.

'Tomorrow', Elmgreen & Dragset at the V&A

Sponsored by AlixPartners

1 October 2013 – 2 January 2014

Elmgreen & Dragset 'The Collector's' Danish Pavilion, 53rd Venice Biennial, 2009



The V&A has commissioned leading contemporary artists Michael Elmgreen and Ingar Dragset to create a major site-specific installation in the former Textile Galleries. Throughout their career the artists have redefined the way in which art is presented and experienced, raising issues around social models and spaces, and prompting a re-thinking of the status quo.

This ambitious exhibition will include the production of a new filmed drama staged within the highly-choreographed environment of a grand domestic setting belonging to a fictional architect. Objects from the V&A's collection will be presented alongside artworks, furniture and every day items to create an unexpected encounter for the museum visitor.

Masterpieces of Chinese Painting 700-1900

26 October 2013 – 19 January 2014 (Media preview: 23 October 2013)

Zhao Ji, *Auspicious cranes*, c.1112
Liaoning Provincial Museum, Shenyang



Masterpieces of Chinese Painting will bring together the finest examples of Chinese painting from the beginning of the 8th to the end of the 19th century and will be the most comprehensive exhibition on the topic since 1935. Over 100 works, including some of the earliest surviving Chinese paintings as well as other extremely rare pieces, will be loaned from the greatest international collections. The

exhibition will examine the recurrent interplay between tradition and innovation which is characteristic of Chinese painting. It will chart the evolving themes and aesthetic preferences over the centuries from figure paintings on silk for tombs and temples, to the rise of landscape painting, and to the introduction of Western influences. The paintings will range from small-scale intimate works by monks and literati to scroll paintings over 12 metres long to present a complete overview of one of the world's greatest artistic traditions.

The Clothworkers' Centre for Textile and Fashion Study and Conservation

Opens 4 October 2013 (Media preview: 3 Oct 2013)

© V&A Images



The V&A holds one of the most important collections of textiles and fashion in the world, with around 104,000 items ranging from archaeological textiles to contemporary haute couture. The new Clothworkers' Centre based at Blythe House in Kensington Olympia, will provide world-class facilities for the care, study and enjoyment of this outstanding collection and will bring

the V&A's extensive textiles and fashion collection together under one roof for the first time. Designed by Haworth Tompkins Architects, it will provide a spacious new public study room, a seminar room, upgraded conservation studios and modern, custom-built storage offering visitors and researchers increased access and improved facilities to study and enjoy this important collection. The main entrance of Blythe House will also be reinstated to create a more welcoming street presence with a new reception area for all visitors to the V&A archives.

The Clothworkers' Centre is being made possible thanks to a generous lead grant from the Clothworkers' Foundation with further support from many others.

Jameel Prize 2013

Sponsored by Abdul Latif Jameel Community Initiatives

11 December 2013 – 23 March 2014 (Media preview: 10 December 2013)

The Jameel Prize is a biennial £25,000 international art prize for contemporary artists and designers inspired by Islamic traditions of craft and design. 2013 will be the third Jameel Prize. This exhibition will show the work of the 10 shortlisted arts and designers. The shortlisted artists and designers will be announced in the spring and the winner of the Jameel Prize 2013 will be announced on 10 December 2013.

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