

News Release

V&A Highlights 2016

MAJOR EXHIBITION

Botticelli Reimagined

Sponsored by Societe Generale

5 March – 3 July 2016 (media preview: 2 March 2016)



Sandro Botticelli, *Portrait of a Lady known as Smeralda Bandinelli*, c.1470-5

This innovative exhibition will explore the variety of ways artists and designers from the Pre-Raphaelites to the present have responded to the artistic legacy of Sandro Botticelli (1445-1510), assembling 150 works from around the world. Botticelli is now celebrated as one of the greatest artists of all time, but was largely forgotten after his death until his work was progressively rediscovered in the 19th century. *Botticelli Reimagined* will be the largest Botticelli exhibition in Britain since 1930. It will include around 50 original works by Botticelli from great collections across the world shown alongside more recent masterpieces of art and design including work by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Edward Burne-Jones, René Magritte, Elsa Schiaparelli, Andy Warhol and Cindy Sherman.

The exhibition is organised by the V&A and the Gemäldegalerie – Staatliche Museen zu Berlin

MAJOR EXHIBITION

Paul Strand: Photography and Film for the 20th Century

Supported by the American Friends of the V&A

19 March – 3 July 2016 (media preview: 16 March 2016)



© Paul Strand Archive/Aperture

A major retrospective of the work of American photographer and film maker, Paul Strand (1890-1976), and the first in the UK since the artist's death. Strand was one of the greatest and most influential photographers of the 20th century whose images have defined the way fine art and documentary photography is understood and practiced today. The exhibition will present around 200 objects spanning Strand's entire career, including his breakthrough trials in abstraction and candid street portraits, close-ups of natural and machine forms, and extended explorations of the American Southwest, Mexico, New England, France, Italy, Scotland, Egypt, Morocco, Ghana, and Romania. This is a touring exhibition organised by the Philadelphia Museum of Art. For the UK presentation a significant number of additional vintage prints from the V&A's own collection of the art of photography, one of the largest and most important in the world, will be shown.

The international tour is organised by the Philadelphia Museum of Art in collaboration with Fundación MAPFRE and made possible by the Terra Foundation for American Art

Undressed: A Brief History of Underwear

Sponsored by Agent Provocateur and Revlon

16 April 2016 – 12 March 2017 (media preview: 13 April 2016)



Corset, 1890-1895

This exhibition will address the practicalities of underwear and its role in the fashionable wardrobe whilst highlighting its sensual, sexual appeal. One of underwear's primary roles is to support, firm and shape the body to create the ideal body shape and substructure for the latest fashions. The exhibition will explore dress reformers and designers such as Paul Poiret, who argued for the beauty of the natural body, as well as entrepreneurs, inventors and innovators who have played a critical role in the development of increasingly more effective and comfortable underwear. On display will be around 140 garments and accessories for men and women together with fashion plates, photographs and film, advertisements and packaging to introduce changing concepts of the ideal body.

Engineering the World: Ove Arup and the Philosophy of Total Design

18 June – 6 November 2016 (media preview: 16 June 2016)



Sydney Opera House, ©
David Messent

Ove Arup (1895-1988) was the most influential engineer of the 20th century and the pioneer of a multidisciplinary approach to design that has defined the way engineering is understood and practiced today. This exhibition will focus on the design philosophy of Ove Arup, revealing his ideas of collaborative working, total architecture and design as a humanistic and technological tool for social responsibility. On display will be designs for some of Arup's first projects such as Sydney Opera House and the Penguin Pool at London Zoo, including previously unseen archival materials, shown alongside recent projects by Arup, the global engineering consultancy. There will be large-scale prototypes and building components as well as digital animations and models. The exhibition is part of the V&A's 2016 Engineering Season which will also comprise a site-specific installation in the John Madejski Garden by engineer and architect Achim Menges and an associated programme of talks, workshops and events.

This exhibition is made possible with the cooperation of Arup Group Ltd

Opus Anglicanum: Masterpieces of English Medieval Embroidery

1 October 2016 – 5 February 2017 (media preview: 28 September 2016)



Apparel for an alb with
Virgin (detail), c.1320-40

From the 12th to the 15th centuries, England was internationally famous mainly for one type of artistic product – elaborate luxury embroideries. These objects, were sought after by Kings, Popes and Cardinals, and often bear elaborate imagery. This exhibition aims to bring together an outstanding range of the surviving examples of this celebrated period in England's artistic production to both highlight the exquisite craftsmanship and to explore the

world in which they were created. Alongside the magnificent embroideries, many from the V&A's own collection, will be related material in other media such as paintings, manuscripts, metalwork and sculpture.

MAJOR EXHIBITION

You Say You Want a Revolution: Records & Rebels 1966-70

10 September 2016 – 26 February 2017 (media preview: 7 September 2016)



The Beatles Illustrated lyrics /
©Iconic Images /
Alan Aldridge

This major exhibition will examine the optimism, ideals and aspirations of the late 1960s, expressed through music, fashion, film, design and political activism, and their relevance to contemporary life. It will investigate the cultural upheaval of the period, the explosive sense of freedom expressed, and the legal changes that took place during those five revolutionary years as the foundation for the way we live now. The spine of the exhibition will be a musical odyssey through some of the greatest music and performances of the 20th century from Sam Cooke's 'A Change is Gonna Come', to The Who's 'My Generation', to Jimi Hendrix at Woodstock; and will focus on particular moments or environments that defined the cultural and social vanguard of the period, including clubs and counterculture, the Paris protests of May 1968, World Fairs, the Woodstock Festival of 1969 and communes on the West Coast of America. The exhibition considers how the finished and unfinished revolutions of the 1960s changed the way we live today and affect the way we think about the future.

For further PRESS information please contact the V&A Press Office on +44 (0)207 942 2502 or email press.office@vam.ac.uk (not for publication).

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