

V&A



Immodesty Blaize performs
at the V&A Theatre
Museum's Art of Tease.

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IN TERMS OF SHEER VARIETY AND SCALE, THE V&A IS THE GREATEST MUSEUM OF APPLIED ARTS IN THE WORLD

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ROUGH GUIDE TO LONDON

WELCOME

Whether you're working on your own designs, doing research, or just curious to know more, the V&A offers access to an unparalleled collection of international art and design. Year-round extensive permanent collections which include glass, textiles, ceramics, graphics, photography, jewellery and fashion are complemented by an exciting programme of exhibitions and events. This guide will help you utilise these and other V&A resources for study and pleasure. With free admission for all, make the most of the V&A.

Sarah Saunders
Student Events Organiser

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THE NEW
ARCHITECTURE
GALLERY
PROVES TO
BE THE ICING
ON THE
V&A'S
FRESHLY
BAKED CAKE

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JONATHAN GLANCEY, THE GUARDIAN

Eye Portrait Miniature, unknown artist,
probably England, around 1800.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The largest fashion and textiles collection in the world
- The Architecture gallery, a world-class collection of drawings, models, photographs and architectural fragments
- The Photography gallery displaying the work of key historical and contemporary photographers
- The 20th Century gallery featuring design from Bauhaus to Droog
- Traditional Japanese dress and samurai arms and armour
- A huge collection of European sculpture including remarkable pieces by Donatello, Bernini, Canova and Rodin
- Chinese art including dragon robes from the Imperial Court
- The British Galleries 1500–1900 including the Great Bed of Ware, designs by William Morris and complete rooms rescued from historic houses.



The Tomb of Shogun Ieyasu Tokugawa
at Nikko, Japan, 1875–1900

I LOVE THE EXHIBITIONS AT THE V&A

ANNA SUI, FASHION DESIGNER



COLLECTIONS

- The world's largest collection of Indian art outside India including masterpieces of Hindu, Jain and Buddhist sculpture
- The restored Paintings galleries, containing over 200 oil paintings and watercolours
- A breathtaking range of historical and contemporary ceramics
- Korean furniture, metalwork, ceramics and textiles
- The Cast Courts with copies of masterpieces of European art, from Michaelangelo's *David* to *Trajan's Column*
- The national collection of English silver and examples of modern silversmithing from around the world
- Raphael's cartoons for the Sistine Chapel tapestries
- The sparkling and colourful Glass gallery.

Museum Departments and contact details

There are many specialists in the V&A who can direct you to resources for your work. To find out more about an object on display, or to look at an object not currently on display, please call or email the following departments:

Fashion Photograph, John French, London, 1960s.

Sculpture

020 7942 2617
sculpture@vam.ac.uk
Metalwork
(includes silver and jewellery)
020 7942 2468
metalwork@vam.ac.uk
Ceramics and glass
020 7942 2073
ceramicsandglass@vam.ac.uk
Furniture and woodwork
020 7942 2292/2290
furniture@vam.ac.uk
Textiles and fashion
020 7942 2680
textilesandfashion@vam.ac.uk
Far East
020 7942 2244
far.east@vam.ac.uk
South and South-East Asia
020 7942 2322/2323
south.southeastasia@vam.ac.uk
Middle East
020 7942 2339
middle.east@vam.ac.uk
Books (National Art Library)
020 7942 2400
nal.enquiries@vam.ac.uk
Paintings, designs, photographs and prints
020 7942 2563
pdp@vam.ac.uk
Conservation
020 7942 2133/2089/2091
conweb@vam.ac.uk

RESEARCH

V&A Prints and Drawing Study Room

Free access to over a million of the V&A's prints, drawings, paintings and photography. The collections include historical and contemporary illustrations, fashion plates, wallpapers, posters, prints, greeting cards, ephemera and photographs. Open from Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00–17.00; please telephone 020 7942 2563 to make an appointment.

Indian & South-East Asian Study Room

Allows visitors to view the V&A's reserve collection of paintings and textiles from India & South-East Asia. The collection is available by appointment only, from Tuesday to Thursday inclusive. For further details or to make an appointment please email india.southeastasia@vam.ac.uk or call 020 7942 2322/2323.

RIBA Architecture Study Rooms

These rooms provide free access to the outstanding collections of drawings, sketchbooks and archives of the British Architectural Library, the Royal Institute of British Architects, and the administrative archive of the RIBA. The collection is available by appointment only, from Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00–17.00; for further details or to make an appointment please email drawings&archives@vam.ac.uk or call 020 7307 3078.



The Who Sell Out poster, Adrian George, 1960s.



The Archive Reading Room

Open Tuesday to Thursday, 10.00–16.30, by appointment only. Located at Blythe House, 23 Blythe Road, London W14

In the Archive Reading Room you can consult the Archive of Art and Design. The Archive has particular emphasis on British 20th-century design with material related to over 200 individuals, associations and companies. Also located here are the Beatrix Potter collections and the V&A Archives, a rich resource for studying the history of the V&A, one of the world's oldest and greatest decorative art museums, and for the broader study of art and design.

For further information call 020 7602 8832 or email archive@vam.ac.uk

National Art Library

Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00–17.00

The National Art Library (NAL) is the national collection of documentation on art, craft and design, and is open to the public as a reference library. For further information on visiting the NAL and how to register as a reader, call 020 7942 2400 or email nal.enquiries@vam.ac.uk or visit www.nal.vam.ac.uk

Above: The V&A's National Art Library.

RESOURCES

Images of the Collection

- Print on Demand – a quick and easy way to produce a print from a choice of over 400 images. Situated in the main V&A shop
- V&A Images – commercial research and support for professional use of the collection, with over 100,000 colour and 350,000 black and white images available. Call 020 7942 2966 for information or email vanda.images@vam.ac.uk
- Access to Images – an educational facility of on-line visual references to 26,000 images – visit www.images.vam.ac.uk
- Take your own photographs for research and study purposes in almost all of the V&A galleries.

To book a camera stand for use in the V&A call 020 7942 2400. You are also welcome to sketch in the galleries using dry art materials.

Learning & Interpretation
Resource Centre

Open by appointment only,
Monday to Friday 09.00–12.30
The L&I Resource Centre collects material on museology, museum and gallery education, arts education and V&A collections. It is available to students of museum education and museology. For more details call 020 7942 2204.

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A WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S WHAT OF THE NATION'S DECORATIVE ARTS

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WORLD OF INTERIORS



Photo of Dennis Lotis
recording artist, UK, 1950s.



THE V&A'S TEMPORARY SHOWS ARE AMONG THE BEST IN BRITAIN



ROUGH GUIDE TO LONDON

CONTEMPORARY

Bringing today's design from around the world to the V&A, the contemporary programme explores new ways to present and interpret the V&A's collections and offers an exciting programme of exhibitions, events and displays.

Programme highlights include:
Contemporary Exhibition Space

This gallery is the heart of the contemporary programme with changing exhibitions showcasing the best of today's art and design.

Friday Late Last Friday of each month (except December)

This popular events programme features exclusive live performances, guest DJs, late night openings, bars, food and more.

Fashion in Motion

A showcase for some of the most innovative and exciting fashion being created today.

For further information or to receive regular updates, email contemporary@vam.ac.uk

Programmes

A diverse selection of events is organised to complement the V&A's collections and exhibitions. For information on any of the following, call 020 7942 2211.



Ticketed Events

- Lectures and critical debates presenting designers and scholars in conversation exploring aspects of the history of art and design and contemporary culture
- Symposia, courses and conferences providing opportunities for in-depth study of the V&A collections and related subjects
- Student Events specially designed for college and university students including Style Lounge and Talking Design.

Free Events

- Gallery talks and tours revealing highlights from the collections
- Demonstrations showcasing artists' techniques

- Festivals and special events linked with cultural celebrations and exhibitions. Ticketed events usually have generous student concessions.

V&A ONLINE

Find the V&A online at www.vam.ac.uk. The V&A website allows easy access to V&A resources, including essential information for planning a visit, details of current and forthcoming exhibitions and events, a list of publications available, online shopping, advice and other services.

Above: Fashion in Motion, with designer Robert C. Williams, 2001

“
GO SEE FOR
YOURSELF.
I WAS
IMPRESSED
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INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY



Shopping

The shops at the V&A bring together books, reproductions, images, and resource material that reflect the whole spectrum of the V&A's collections and exhibitions, from Ottoman to Ossie Clark and Gothic to Gaultier. Shop 1 also includes the Crafts Council shop, Shop 2 relates to the current major exhibition and Shop 3 is particularly suitable for children and school groups. All profits are covenanted directly back to the V&A to benefit its collections and programmes.

Places to Eat

There are a range of food venues to suit all tastes, from the ornate Gamble Room to the main Café. The Café is also open for late supper on Wednesdays. Alternatively bring a sandwich and relax in the garden.

Access

Assistance dogs are welcome. Wheelchairs, portable induction loops for guided tours and accessible information formats are available. The Lecture Theatre also has an induction loop. There is full access to the galleries and the map

shows the routes that are suitable for wheelchair users and pushchairs. If you use a wheelchair or have limited mobility, you may like to book an escort to help you around the building. Call 020 7942 2211 or textphone 020 7942 2002 for further details.

Other V&A Museums

The V&A Museum of Childhood:
One of the oldest collections of toys and childhood artefacts in the world (020 8983 5200) Cambridge Heath Rd London E2 9PA
www.museumofchildhood.org.uk

The V&A Theatre Museum:

The National Museum of the Performing Arts, holding the world's largest and most important collections relating to the British stage (020 7943 4700) Russell St, Covent Garden, London WC2E 7PR
www.theatremuseum.org

Above: The V&A's John Madejski Garden.

INFORMATION

Open

10.00–17.45 daily

10.00–22.00 Wednesdays and last Friday of the month (selected galleries remain open after 17.45).

Admission

Admission to the V&A is free.

A separate charge may apply to special major exhibitions and events. Family tickets are available for major exhibitions.

Group visits and event bookings

For information on all our learning services and to book ticketed events and group visits, call 020 7942 2211 or email bookings.office@vam.ac.uk

Private group tours

Explore the V&A's permanent collections with a guided tour.

Call 020 7942 2529 or email groups@vam.ac.uk

Keep in touch

Visit www.vam.ac.uk and sign up for our free e-newsletter featuring details of exhibitions, courses and offers.

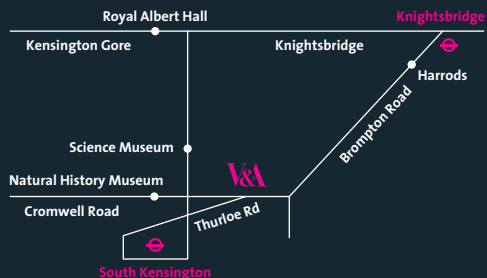
How to reach the V&A

🚶 South Kensington

Buses: C1,14, 74 and 414 stop outside the Cromwell Road entrance.

Victoria and Albert Museum

Cromwell Road London SW7 2RL
020 7942 2000
www.vam.ac.uk



Visitor Attraction of the Year 2004

Exhibitions and events are very occasionally subject to change without warning.

Please check in advance if visiting the V&A for a specific exhibition or event.