

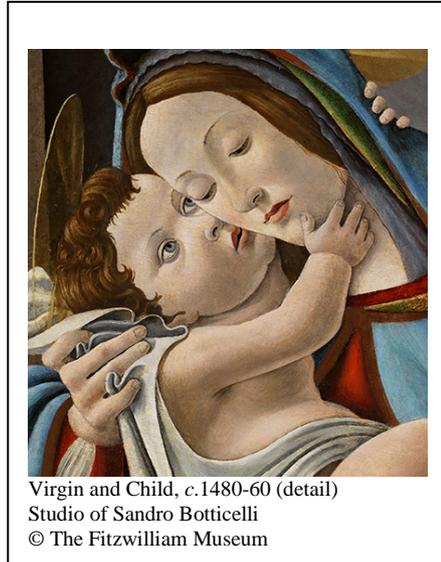
FITZWILLIAM MUSEUM EXHIBITION LISTINGS 2017

Mellon and Adeane Galleries

Madonnas & Miracles: The Holy Home in Renaissance Italy Until 4 June

Madonnas and Miracles aims to transform our understanding of a period that is often cast as intensely worldly and secular and reveal a hidden world of religious devotion found within the Italian Renaissance home.

The exhibition will bring a new appreciation of the relationship between the material and the divine. The diversity of domestic devotional life will be shown through an immensely broad range of paintings, prints, ex-votos, sculptures, books, jewellery and household items from the Fitzwilliam's collections as well as unprecedented loans from across the Italian peninsula. The exhibition is the result of four years of European-funded cross disciplinary work carried out by the Italian Department, the Faculties of History, Architecture and History of Art, at the University of Cambridge and incorporates their latest research.



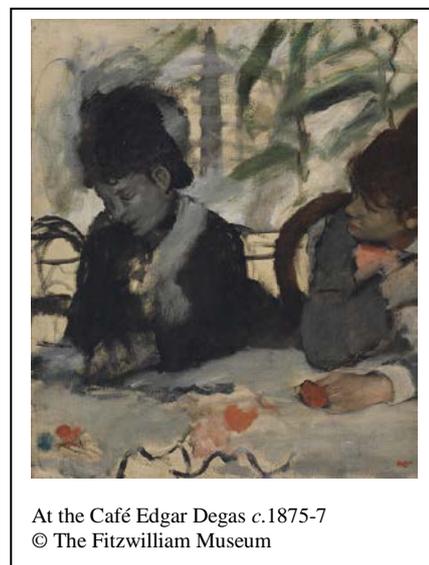
Virgin and Child, c.1480-60 (detail)
Studio of Sandro Botticelli
© The Fitzwilliam Museum

Degas: A Passion for Perfection

3 October - 14 January 2018

The Fitzwilliam Museum will mark the centenary of Degas's death with an exhibition that will exhibit its holdings of works by the artist - the most extensive and representative in the UK.

Consisting of paintings, drawings, pastels, etchings, monotypes and sculpture in bronze and wax, the Fitzwilliam's collection will be complemented by a group of drawings from King's College Cambridge, bequeathed to the College in 1946 by the economist John Maynard Keynes, who famously persuaded the



At the Café Edgar Degas c.1875-7
© The Fitzwilliam Museum

UK Treasury to allocate funds for the National Gallery to make a number of key acquisitions at the artist's posthumous sale in Paris in 1918. There will be a large number of highly significant national and international loans, many from private collections and exhibited here for the first time. The exhibition will travel to Denver Art Museum, our partnering institution, from February to May 2018.

Octagon Gallery

Elephants, Deities and Ashoka's Pillar: Coins of India from antiquity to the present

16 May – 1 October

As part of the commemoration in 2017 of the 70th anniversary of Indian independence – marked by the UK-India Year of Culture – this exhibition drawn from the Fitzwilliam's world-class numismatic collection, will explore the history of India through the coins produced from the 4th century BC until recent times. Cultural, religious, economic and political developments are richly illustrated by the coins on show. A display of currency produced since independence will conclude the display.

Codebreakers and Groundbreakers: From the Enigma Codes to the Decipherment of Linear B

24 October – 4 February 2018

The exhibition brings together for the first time the remarkable intellectual achievements of two groups of 'codebreakers'; those involved in breaking the WW II codes and those who, working at the same time as the first group but independently from it, deciphered the Linear B script – Europe's earliest comprehensible writing system. Both groups of 'codebreakers' have strong connections with the University of Cambridge and their work was ground-breaking in every respect: on the one hand, the breaking of the WW II codes saved lives and helped end the war, but also led to artificial intelligence and the emergence of modern computers. The decipherment of Linear B, on the other hand, was one of the most remarkable linguistic achievements of post-war Europe, which added 600 years to our knowledge of ancient Greek language and society.

The exhibition will display unseen archival holdings stored nationwide and within Cambridge Colleges, in relation to WW II codebreakers such as Alan Turing and William Tutte, and also from the Faculty of Classics' Mycenaean Epigraphy Archive – the single most important collection for Linear B studies in the world.

The exhibition is organised in collaboration with the Faculty of Classics and the Museum of Classical Archaeology, University of Cambridge.

Shiba Gallery

Making Waves: Discovering seascapes through drawings and watercolours

Until 21 May

The sea has been a source of inspiration for artists since the 16th century when it was conceived and popularised by Dutch and Flemish painters such as Hendrick Vroom, Jan Porcellis, the Willem van de Veldes and Ludolf Backhuysen. This exhibition brings together many rarely seen drawings and watercolours from across the collection, especially the bequest of Sir Bruce Ingram, that depict tempestuous seas, naval battles, serene harbours and bustling shores with fishermen selling their catch.

From Kabul to Kolkata: Highlights of Indian Painting in the Fitzwilliam Museum

29 May – 3 September

The Fitzwilliam's second exhibition to mark the 70th anniversary of Indian independence, the showcases a selection of Indian miniature paintings and drawings, ranging in date from the 16th to 19th century. The exhibition will include works produced under the patronage of the Mughal dynasty and other princely rulers, as well as several acquired by early British patrons and collectors in India. The paintings and drawings represent some of the main themes that engaged patrons and artists in India in the early modern period, including religious epic and myth, history, royal portraiture, hunting, natural history, music and architecture.

Charrington Print Room

Honey from Many Flowers: Carl Wilhelm Klobe and Salomon Gessner's *Idylls*

Until 10 September

Salomon Gessner (1730–88) was a Swiss artist and writer whose idyllic poetry and prose made him a household name in his lifetime. After his death his family invited a German printmaker, Carl Wilhelm Kolbe (1759–1835), to produce prints after a set of Gessner's landscape drawings, which capture the Romantic period's preoccupation with the pastoral idyll and delight in the natural world. This exhibition showcases a recently acquired complete set of Kolbe's twenty-five etchings, issued in five parts from 1805–11, together with a selection of works by eminent masters from whom Gessner drew inspiration, including Anthonie Waterloo, Allart van Everdingen and Claude Lorrain.

European Pottery

Sea to Shore: Paintings by Alfred Wallis & Christopher Wood Kettle's Yard at the Fitzwilliam

Until 27 August

This third display from Kettle's Yard collection brings together paintings by Alfred Wallis and Christopher Wood that are inspired by the sea and shore. Following the artists first meeting in St Ives in 1928, Wallis and Wood continued to capture innovatively their experiences of the sea. Their paintings also depict the flavour of life in port towns.

Fan Gallery

Sampled Lives: Samplers from the Fitzwilliam Museum

6 May – 8 April 2018

Showcasing over 100 samplers from the Museum's excellent and often unseen collection this display highlights the importance of samplers as documentary evidence of past lives. These beautifully embroidered and stitched samplers illuminate the lives of girls and women, from mid-17th century English Quakers to early 20th century school pupils, encompassing their education, employment, religion, family and societal status. The individuality of each sampler are in some cases the only surviving document to record the existence of ordinary young women.

- Ends -

For further information and images contact the Press Office:
01223 332941 | press@fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk

Notes to editors:

The Fitzwilliam Museum, Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1RB

FREE ADMISSION

OPEN: Tuesday - Saturday: 10.00 - 17.00

Sundays and Bank Holiday Mondays: 12.00 - 17.00

CLOSED: 24-26 & 31 December, 1 January and Good Friday.

Founded in 1816 the Fitzwilliam Museum is the principal museum of the University of Cambridge and lead partner for the University of Cambridge Museums (UCM) Major Partner Museum programme, funded by The Arts Council. The Fitzwilliam's collections explore world history and art from antiquity to the present day. It houses over half a million objects from ancient Egyptian, Greek and Roman artefacts, to medieval illuminated manuscripts, masterpiece paintings from the Renaissance to the 21st century, world class prints and drawings, and outstanding collections of coins, Asian arts, ceramics and other applied arts. The Fitzwilliam presents a wide ranging public programme of major exhibitions, events and education activities, and is an internationally recognised institute of learning, research and conservation. www.fitzmuseum.cam.ac.uk

Business Partners 2017

TTP Group plc, ACE Cultural Tours, Brewin Dolphin and Sotheby's all lend their support to the museum as 2017 Business Partners, enabling a dynamic calendar of exhibitions and events throughout the year.

Press | The Fitzwilliam Museum