

<b>NMDC News.....</b>	<b>1</b>
New NMDC Members.....	1
Emily Candler to Edit NMDC Newsletter.....	1
<b>Members' News .....</b>	<b>1</b>
World Collections Programme.....	1
Scottish National Portrait Gallery Redevelopment .....	1
Imperial War Museum Appoints New Director-General.....	1
Turning the Pages 2.0™ Wins Award.....	2
Royal Armouries Campaign Against Knives.....	2
Online Resource for UK Migration History from The National Archives .....	2
Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales Projects Recognised .....	2
Artist Donates Major Work to Tate .....	2
Fleet Air Arm Museum Awarded <i>Their Past Your Future 2</i> Funding .....	2
RAF Museum Online Archive Print Store .....	2
New Year Honours for NMDC Members .....	3
Ulster Museum Project Takes Art to the Street .....	3
<b>Current Issues .....</b>	<b>3</b>
McMaster Policy Review Published.....	3
Children's Plan Announced .....	3
DCMS Autumn Performance Report 2007 .....	4
Northern Ireland Museum Collections Survey.....	4
Consultation on Proposals for the Independent Safeguarding Authority .....	4
Consultation on Proposed Changes to Copyright Exceptions .....	4
MLA Council Restructuring .....	4
MLA Cultural Olympiad Team Announced .....	5
Immunity from Seizure Legislation Enables Exhibition to Open.....	5
BIG Young People's Fund 2 Programme Launched .....	5
Draft Cultural Property Armed Conflicts Bill Available for Comment .....	5
International Leadership Placement Opportunities.....	5
Report on Young People and Creativity.....	5
Report on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest.....	5
Research into Disabled Access to the Arts in Northern Ireland.....	6
Campaign for <i>Queen and Country</i> Stamps.....	6
DCMS Simplification Plan 2007.....	6
Report on British Philanthropy in the City.....	6
UK Ratifies UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expression .....	6
New Loans Pack, Guidelines and Standards from MDA .....	6
Marketing Information Online .....	6
Arts Research Digest Website .....	6
<b>Parliamentary Report .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Liverpool: European Capital of Culture 2008.....	7
Parliamentary Questions.....	7
<b>International Issues .....</b>	<b>7</b>
130 Works of Art Donated to Los Angeles Museum .....	7
Netherlands Restitutions Committee to Continue .....	7
Director of Metropolitan Museum of Art to Retire .....	8
Economic Impact of Metropolitan Museum of Art New Greek and Roman Galleries.....	8
Call for Free Admission to Museums in China .....	8
Art Institute of Chicago Gauguin Sculpture is a Forgery.....	8
Rome Exhibition of Looted Archaeological Treasures .....	8
Culture for International Development Portal .....	8
<b>Forthcoming Meetings.....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>2008 Exhibitions and Events .....</b>	<b>9</b>



January 2008

Welcome to this month's NMDC newsletter which contains an update on our activities, news from the museum sector and a selection of events and exhibitions at NMDC Member organisations in 2008. [www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)

## NMDC News

### New NMDC Members

The National Museum Directors' Conference welcomes three new members:

Dr. Christopher Brown, Director of the Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology;  
Rita McLean, Head of Museums & Heritage Services, Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery; and  
Mark O'Neill, Head of Arts and Museums at Culture and Sport Glasgow.

With Alec Coles, Director of Tyne and Wear Museums, who recently joined the NMDC, they bring membership to a total of 31 Directors. [www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/membership\\_expansion.html](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk/membership_expansion.html)

### Emily Candler to Edit NMDC Newsletter

Emily Candler has resigned as Secretary of the NMDC, following her maternity leave. She will continue to work for NMDC in a freelance capacity, including editing this newsletter from March 2008, while also developing her practical experience of museum management. Kate Bellamy will continue as Secretary to the National Museum Directors' Conference.

## Members' News

### World Collections Programme

The World Collections Programme is a £3 million initiative to share British cultural excellence and expertise with museums in Africa and Asia. Chaired by the Director of the British Museum, Neil MacGregor, the Programme will develop opportunities for international cultural dialogue through public programming, capacity building and exchange, digital access, research and conservation, building on existing collaborations. The partner organisations are: the British Museum; the Victoria and Albert Museum; the British Library; the Natural History Museum; Tate; and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

NMDC campaigned for the Programme, which aims to bring the collections to a wider audience and develop new partnerships worldwide. The Programme will receive £3 million over three years from April 2008. It is reported in the Art Newspaper at: [www.theartnewspaper.com/article.asp?id=7355](http://www.theartnewspaper.com/article.asp?id=7355)

### Scottish National Portrait Gallery Redevelopment

The Heritage Lottery Fund has earmarked £4.8 million and Scottish Government has awarded £5.1 million for *Portrait of the Nation*, a major redevelopment of the Scottish National Portrait Gallery. The proposed redevelopment will double gallery space and enable a 50% increase in the number of works on display. There will also be a larger shop and café and a new education suite, including a community gallery, art studios and a seminar room.

The cost of the project is £17.6m and the National Galleries of Scotland will launch a fundraising campaign to raise £7.7 million from private sources. It is envisaged that the building will close in spring 2009 and reopen to the public in autumn 2011. [www.nationalgalleries.org/aboutus/news/1:171/4782](http://www.nationalgalleries.org/aboutus/news/1:171/4782)

### Imperial War Museum Appoints New Director-General

Diane Lees, currently Director of the Victoria and Albert Museum's Museum of Childhood, has been appointed Director-General of the Imperial War Museum, with responsibility for the Museum's five branches and collections archives, from October 2008. Diane Lees will succeed Sir Robert Crawford CBE who retires in September 2008. Sir Robert has been Director-General of the Imperial War Museum since 1995 and was Chairman of the National Museums Directors' Conference from 2001 to 2006.

[www.iwm.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.5134](http://www.iwm.org.uk/server/show/ConWebDoc.5134)

### **Turning the Pages 2.0™ Wins Award**

The British Library's *Turning the Pages 2.0* won the Best Web-based Technology Project award at the British Computer Society's annual IT industry awards in December. *Turning the Pages 2.0*, which allows users to explore high-quality digital replicas of iconic books, was praised for its delivery of rich internet applications. A partnership between Microsoft, software developers Armadillo Systems and the British Library, *Turning the Pages 2.0* opens up the British Library's collections to a global audience.

[www.bl.uk/news/2007/pressrelease20071212.html](http://www.bl.uk/news/2007/pressrelease20071212.html)

### **Royal Armouries Campaign Against Knives**

To help combat knife crime, the Royal Armouries has launched a peer-to-peer campaign, *NTK: No To Knives*, which aims to persuade young people not to carry knives. With support from Government, the police and weapons awareness organisations, *NTK* aims to generate 1,000,000 pledges from young people not to carry knives on the website at [www.NTK.org.uk](http://www.NTK.org.uk)

### **Online Resource for UK Migration History from The National Archives**

An online learning resource offering free access to the experiences of migrants in the UK has been launched. Funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, *Moving Here Schools* was created by a partnership led by The National Archives to encourage pupils to explore Britain's multicultural society. Working with heritage institutions, the project enabled different minority communities to record their stories of migration through audio, video, photographs and crafts. [www.movinghere.org.uk/schools](http://www.movinghere.org.uk/schools).

### **Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales Projects Recognised**

The National Waterfront Museum's *Everywhere in Chains* exhibition, which commemorated the bicentenary of the 1807 Abolition of the Slave Trade Act has been named 'outstanding contribution to black heritage in Wales for 2007' by the Black History Foundation, for making black heritage more accessible. The exhibition, delivered with the National Library of Wales, and University of Wales, was supported by events, talks and performances at the National Waterfront Museum and three travelling exhibitions will visit libraries and museums across Wales. [www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/news/?article\\_id=400](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/news/?article_id=400)

A regeneration project developed by Big Pit, Torfaen County Borough Council and Pontypool & Blaenavon Railway using approximately 75% recycled or reclaimed materials, has won the British Association of Landscape Industries award for Use of Recycled Materials in Landscaping. Coity Tip trail opens up an area which was previously inaccessible and includes interpretation panels and a trail leaflet. [www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/news/?article\\_id=402](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk/en/news/?article_id=402)

### **Artist Donates Major Work to Tate**

Damien Hirst, who won the Turner Prize in 1995, has donated four works to Tate in the first phase of a major gift of works from his personal collection. In 2004, Damien Hirst and 23 other leading artists pledged significant works to Tate as part of the Building the Tate Collection campaign.

Nicholas Serota, Director, Tate said: "With such a limited budget for acquisitions, and when art market prices are high, Tate is indebted to international contemporary artists such as Damien Hirst for working with us on building the Collection." [www.tate.org.uk/about/pressoffice/pressreleases/2007/13679.htm](http://www.tate.org.uk/about/pressoffice/pressreleases/2007/13679.htm)

### **Fleet Air Arm Museum Awarded *Their Past Your Future 2* Funding**

Fleet Air Arm Museum is among 28 organisations that have received funding from *Their Past Your Future 2*, for projects that promote understanding of the impact of war. The project will work with local veterans groups and service personnel to generate material that will communicate the stories, experience and lives of individuals who have been affected by conflict. The material will be developed into a learning resource for schools and will be celebrated and shared at a family learning event to coincide with Veterans Day.

*Their Past Your Future 2* is the second phase of the Big Lottery Fund programme that will provide £1.5 million funding for projects over the next three years. The next round of funding will open in February. [www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press\\_releases/Their\\_past\\_your\\_future\\_2](http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press_releases/Their_past_your_future_2)

### **RAF Museum Online Archive Print Store**

The Royal Air Force Museum has launched its new online archive print store, which allows users to order high quality copies of photographs in the Museum's archive. It covers all eras of aviation history and a wide range of subjects, including the Royal Air Force, Civil Aircraft, Fleet Air Arm and Research Aircraft. The website also offers a range of gifts. [www.rafmuseumphotos.com](http://www.rafmuseumphotos.com)

## **New Year Honours for NMDC Members**

Lynne Brindley, Chief Executive of the British Library has been made a Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to Education in the New Year Honours List. Charles Saumarez Smith, former Director of the National Gallery, was awarded a C.B.E for services to Art.

[www.honours.gov.uk/upload/assets/www.honours.gov.uk/honours2008/2008uk.pdf](http://www.honours.gov.uk/upload/assets/www.honours.gov.uk/honours2008/2008uk.pdf)

## **Ulster Museum Project Takes Art to the Street**

The Ulster Museum has launched a community art project to enable new audiences to connect with the Museum's collections, while the Museum is undergoing a major redevelopment. Seven local community groups will create panels for construction hoardings around the Museum, inspired by their experiences of the Museum's collections.

Participants include adults with learning difficulties, ethnic minority groups, teenagers outside mainstream education, the elderly and cross-community groups and the panels will change every 3 to 4 months until the Museum reopens in 2009.. The first project features pieces created by Edgcumbe Training and Resource Centre, inspired by wall hangings by Henri Matisse in the Museum's collection.

[www.magni.org.uk/newsroom/?article=583](http://www.magni.org.uk/newsroom/?article=583)

# **Current Issues**

## **McMaster Policy Review Published**

The DCMS policy review *Supporting Excellence in the Arts - From Measurement to Judgement* by Sir Brian McMaster, former director of the Edinburgh International Festival, has been published. Commissioned by Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport James Purnell, the review proposes that state subsidy for the arts should focus on the pursuit of excellence and encourage risk-taking and innovation in cultural organisations. The Review's recommendations include:

- Funding bodies should introduce assessment based on self-assessment and peer review;
- The Arts Council, the British Council and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) should work together to implement an international strategy that stimulates international exchange;
- A more extensive and strategic approach to touring work and exhibitions;
- Funding bodies and arts organisations should prioritise excellent, diverse work that is relevant to Britain in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century;
- The board of every cultural organisation should contain at least two artists or practitioners;
- Publicly funded cultural organisations should remove admission charges for one week each year to help overcome the notion held by many that the arts are not for them;
- Ten-year funding for ten organisations with the most innovative ambition, to allow them to further that ambition and fulfil their potential.

The report calls on cultural organisations to embrace continuing professional development for their staff and find new ways of giving opportunities to young, diverse staff, and to be proactive in meeting the extra demand for their work that the Children's Plan cultural offer will generate.

The report was welcomed by James Purnell in his introduction to the report: "This review will mark a real shift in how we view and talk about the arts in this country. The time has come to reclaim the word 'excellence' from its historic, elitist undertones and to recognise that the very best art and culture is for everyone."

[www.culture.gov.uk/Reference\\_library/Press\\_notices/archive\\_2008/ccms002\\_08.htm](http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Press_notices/archive_2008/ccms002_08.htm)

[www.culture.gov.uk/Reference\\_library/Publications/archive\\_2008/mcmaster\\_supporting\\_excellence\\_arts.htm](http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Publications/archive_2008/mcmaster_supporting_excellence_arts.htm)

## **Children's Plan Announced**

The Children's Plan, the Government's vision to improve schools and the way parents and families are supported, has been launched. It includes a pledge that "all children, no matter where they live or their background, will have opportunities to get involved in high quality cultural activities in and out of school". £160 million will be allocated to improve the quality and range of places for young people to go and things for them to do, including facilities for sport, music, drama and art.

As part of increasing participation in positive activities, the Plan aims to work towards five hours a week of cultural activities, matching that for sport, to give young people the chance to develop as informed spectators, participants and creators. A series of pilots will take place across the country, to be run by a new Youth Culture Trust which will promote cultural activities for young people.

[www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/childrensplan/](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/publications/childrensplan/)

## **DCMS Autumn Performance Report 2007**

The DCMS Autumn Performance Report 2007 outlines progress towards Public Service Agreement (PSA) performance targets. It indicates that DCMS is on target to exceed its efficiency targets for 2007-8 and that progress is slower than expected against PSA targets, including those in PSA3, which aims to increase the take-up of cultural and sporting opportunities by priority groups by 2008. The report states that "it is hard to give an annual measure of performance. It is possible that there has been some "real" change but this is not yet large enough to be detected by the survey".

Commenting the objective to increase the number of people from priority groups accessing museums and galleries collections by 2% by 2008, the report says that DCMS will continue to build on progress achieved to date. [DCMS Autumn Performance Report 2007](#)

The Taking Part Survey progress report on PSA3 compares the baseline estimates from year one with the final estimates from year two. It found that for all targets there was no statistically significant difference between the year one and year two estimates, except for a significant decrease in women participating in active sport. [Progress report on PSA3: Final estimates from year two](#)

## **Northern Ireland Museum Collections Survey**

The Northern Ireland Museums Council has published a survey of the collections held by accredited museums in Northern Ireland. It looks at how museums are governed, the number and type of objects held in collections and their historical and heritage significance. The survey examines strengths and weaknesses in collections care and establishes a measurement system to assist work to improve standards and inform planning in museums.

The survey found that over 1.7 million objects are held in 19 local authority, 15 independent and 4 national museums in Northern Ireland. 43% of the objects were deemed to have National significance and 23% international importance. The survey found that the accreditation standard has led to a rise in collections management standards in the last two years, but that collections storage and documentation remain issues that need to be addressed urgently. [www.nimc.co.uk](http://www.nimc.co.uk)

## **Consultation on Proposals for the Independent Safeguarding Authority**

The Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Home Office and the Department of Health are consulting on proposals for the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA), which will be introduced in August 2008. Individuals wanting to work or volunteer with children or vulnerable adults will need to apply to the ISA.

The consultation asks respondents to consider a range of policy issues including: who the scheme will protect; who will need to join it; referring information to the scheme; how applications will be made; and how the scheme will be phased in. The consultation ends on **20 February 2008**.

[www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/conDetails.cfm?consultationId=1516](http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/conDetails.cfm?consultationId=1516)

## **Consultation on Proposed Changes to Copyright Exceptions**

The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills is consulting on the future of copyright, following the Gowers Review of Intellectual Property which recommended that aspects of the intellectual property system should be reformed. The recommendations considered include changes that will:

- enable schools and universities to make the most of digital technologies;
- allow libraries, archives and museums to make copies of works in their collections for the purposes of preservation;
- allow consumers to copy legitimately purchased content to another format; and
- provide a new exception for copying parody-style works.

The deadline for responses to the consultation is **8 April 2008**.

[www.ipso.gov.uk/about/about-consult/about-formal/about-formal-current/consult-copyrightexceptions.htm](http://www.ipso.gov.uk/about/about-consult/about-formal/about-formal-current/consult-copyrightexceptions.htm)

## **MLA Council Restructuring**

Proposals for restructuring the Museums Libraries and Archives (MLA) Council have been announced to staff. The proposals aim to ensure that maximum value is added to frontline delivery in the sector and to reduce costs by 25%, in response to the CSR settlement. It is planned to relocate MLA Corporate Services - HR, finance and IT staff - and posts managing specific programmes, such as Renaissance, to Birmingham by the end of September 2008, resulting in an MLA Council presence in London of no more than 25 staff.

Consultation is being undertaken with staff and their trade union, and steps are being taken to ensure that core business continues to be delivered while changes are made as quickly and effectively as possible. [www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press\\_releases/Council\\_reorganisation](http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press_releases/Council_reorganisation)

### **MLA Cultural Olympiad Team Announced**

The MLA has outlined its plans for work on the Cultural Olympiad this year and announced two appointments: Hedley Swain, currently Head of Museum Policy at MLA, will be Programme Director, with responsibility for ensuring that museums, libraries and archives play a key role in the Cultural Olympiad, and Isobel Siddons becomes Programme Manager for 2012, responsible for co-ordinating delivery of the International Exhibition Programme. [www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press\\_releases/a2008](http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press_releases/a2008)

### **Immunity from Seizure Legislation Enables Exhibition to Open**

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport James Purnell, signed the Commencement Order for Part 6 - Protection of Cultural Objects on Loan of the Tribunals, Courts and Enforcement Act 2007, on 31 December 2007. The legislation provides immunity from seizure for artefacts on loan to museums and galleries in the UK.

As a result, the Royal Academy of Arts has received notification from the Russian Government approving the loans for its exhibition *From Russia: French and Russian Master Paintings 1870–1925 from Moscow and St. Petersburg*, which will open on 26 January.

[www.royalacademy.org.uk/exhibitions/from-russia/statement-regarding-from-russia-french-and-russian-master-paintings-18701925-from-moscow-and-st-petersburg,544.AR.html](http://www.royalacademy.org.uk/exhibitions/from-russia/statement-regarding-from-russia-french-and-russian-master-paintings-18701925-from-moscow-and-st-petersburg,544.AR.html)

### **BIG Young People's Fund 2 Programme Launched**

The *Young People's Fund 2* National Grants programme was launched in December. Under the £38 million programme, BIG will support projects where young people take the lead in developing, running and evaluation of projects and activities, and those that help deliver the five 'Every Child Matters' outcomes. Grants of up to £5 million are available for projects that work with young people in England. BIG expects to fund approximately 20 projects. The deadline for applications is **4 April 2008**.

[www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_ypf2\\_national\\_grants.htm?regioncode=-uk&status=theProg](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_ypf2_national_grants.htm?regioncode=-uk&status=theProg)

### **Draft Cultural Property Armed Conflicts Bill Available for Comment**

The Government is inviting comment on the draft Cultural Property Armed Conflicts Bill, which has been published for pre-legislative scrutiny. The Bill will help ensure the security of the nation's most important cultural property in the event of armed conflict and signals that the UK takes seriously its obligations to respect and safeguard the cultural property of other nations. It is required to enable the UK to ratify the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict. [www.culture.gov.uk/Reference\\_library/Publications/archive\\_2008/draft\\_cultprop\\_armedconflict\\_bill.htm](http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Publications/archive_2008/draft_cultprop_armedconflict_bill.htm)

### **International Leadership Placement Opportunities**

As part of the Cultural Leadership Programme, emerging and mid-career leaders of black, Asian and minority ethnic background are invited to apply to extend their experience through overseas training placements. There are two placements open in the museums, libraries and archives sector: Public Relations and Marketing Associate at The National Gallery of Jamaica and Digital Resources Associate at The National Library of Jamaica. The placements are for up to three months and will be supported by grants of up to £15,000 each. Closing date: **14 January 2008**. [www.culturalleadership.org.uk](http://www.culturalleadership.org.uk)

### **Report on Young People and Creativity**

A report published by the National Lottery, co-authored with the Future Foundation, concludes that young people in the UK are keen to be seen as creative and recognise benefits associated with creative activity, including the chance to learn new skills, have fun and increase their self-confidence. It shows that 'doing things with friends' is a big motivator for involvement in creativity, but that there is a decline in creative engagement by women after the age of 14 and great regional variation in the amount of time spent on creative activity. [www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/news/docs/NLPU\\_Report\\_Creativity.pdf](http://www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/news/docs/NLPU_Report_Creativity.pdf)

### **Report on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest**

The annual report of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest for May 2006 to 30 April 2007, has been published. The Reviewing Committee provides independent advice to the Culture Secretary on the pre-eminence of cultural and historic objects seeking export licences.

Following recommendations from the Reviewing Committee, the Culture Minister placed temporary bars on the export of twenty objects of outstanding significance during this period. Of these, twelve items, worth over £7 million, were subsequently purchased and retained in the UK.

[www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press\\_releases/Export\\_report\\_07](http://www.mla.gov.uk/website/news/press_releases/Export_report_07)

### **Research into Disabled Access to the Arts in Northern Ireland**

The Arts Council Northern Ireland has released research examining barriers to disabled people's participation in and access to the arts in Northern Ireland. It found that disabled people are much less likely than the general population to attend or participate in arts events, but over half want to attend more frequently and 38% want to participate in art forms more often. The research has been used to inform the Arts Council's Five Year Plan *Creative Connections* and to support a range of policy and development work. [www.artscouncil-ni.org/news/2007/new17122007.htm](http://www.artscouncil-ni.org/news/2007/new17122007.htm)

### **Campaign for Queen and Country Stamps**

*Queen and Country* by artist Steve McQueen is series of facsimile postage stamp sheets featuring photographic portraits of British service personnel killed in the war in Iraq. The work was commissioned by the Imperial War Museum, where the work is on display, and the Manchester International Festival and was produced in collaboration with the families of the deceased.

The work has been presented to the Imperial War Museum by the Art Fund, which is supporting the artist's vision to produce an official set of Royal Mail postage stamps commemorating the servicemen and women. [www.artfund.org/queenandcountry](http://www.artfund.org/queenandcountry) [london.iwm.org.uk/server/show/conEvent.1868](http://london.iwm.org.uk/server/show/conEvent.1868)

### **DCMS Simplification Plan 2007**

The DCMS Simplification Plan 2007 reports on how DCMS is reducing unnecessary burdens on the organisations it regulates, and sets out how it will bring about further simplification measures over the next three years. It can be read at: [DCMS Simplification Plan 2007](http://DCMS Simplification Plan 2007)

### **Report on British Philanthropy in the City**

Policy Exchange has published *Give and Let Give: Building a culture of philanthropy in the financial services industry* a report on philanthropy in the City of London. Individual giving in the UK, at 0.73% of GDP, lags behind the United States where 1.67% of national wealth goes to philanthropic projects.

The report is designed to stimulate high-earning individuals to engage in philanthropic activities. It includes examples of best practice and makes recommendations for city companies, professional associations, government and individuals, to help embed a culture of philanthropy in the City of London. [www.policyexchange.org.uk/Publications.aspx?id=478](http://www.policyexchange.org.uk/Publications.aspx?id=478)

### **UK Ratifies UNESCO Convention on the Diversity of Cultural Expression**

The United Kingdom has ratified the 2005 UNESCO Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expression, which seeks to strengthen links between creation, production, distribution, access and enjoyment of cultural expression through cultural activities, goods and services. [portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL\\_ID=11281&URL\\_DO=DO\\_TOPIC&URL\\_SECTION=201.html](http://portal.unesco.org/culture/en/ev.php-URL_ID=11281&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html)

### **New Loans Pack, Guidelines and Standards from MDA**

MDA has introduced a **Loans Pack**, to advise on negotiating, managing and documenting the loan of objects between heritage organisations. The pack includes a new Loans In agreement template, fact sheets and example loans documentation. It is designed to help museums to develop SPECTRUM-compliant systems and procedures. [www.collectionslink.org.uk/manage\\_information/loanspack](http://www.collectionslink.org.uk/manage_information/loanspack)

**Guidelines for applications to the MLA/V&A Purchase Grant Fund**, grants made in 2006/07 and the objects acquired, are available online. Grants from the £1 million Fund to support the purchase of objects relating to the arts, history, culture and literature by museums, archives and libraries, are usually for up to 50% of the purchase price, which can be up to £300,000. [www.collectionslink.org.uk/raise\\_funds](http://www.collectionslink.org.uk/raise_funds)

MDA has announced a **revised SPECTRUM XML schema**, designed to help museums and cultural organisations exchange information about their collections. The schema includes a standard format for exchanging object records and support for Rights Management, and is designed to support the next generation of services delivering online access to collections. [www.mda.org.uk/schema.htm](http://www.mda.org.uk/schema.htm)

### **Marketing Information Online**

The Arts Marketing Association has launched a range of online resources to help make sense of information about audiences, visitors and participants. Information sheets, workshop notes and an A to Z of terms are available free at: [www.a-m-a.co.uk/ADUK\\_home.asp](http://www.a-m-a.co.uk/ADUK_home.asp)

### **Arts Research Digest Website**

Arts Research Digest, a digest of recent and current research in the arts, media and cultural sectors around the world, has launched a new website. The Online Digest, which is available to subscribers, also includes Arts Council England's electronic research archive, information on seminars and conferences, literature reviews and an annual index. [www.artsresearchdigest.co.uk](http://www.artsresearchdigest.co.uk)

# Parliamentary Report

## **Liverpool: European Capital of Culture 2008**

The Lords held a debate on Liverpool: European Capital of Culture 2008 on 10 December. In response to a question about how the Government is supporting Liverpool in preparing for the year, Lord Grantchester said: "Liverpool 08 will be a catalyst for the city's regeneration, both in buildings and in institutions. National Museums Liverpool, which includes the Walker Art Gallery, the Merseyside Maritime Museum, the Lady Lever Art Gallery, the National Conservation Centre, the new International Slavery Museum, among others, and the Liverpool and Merseyside record offices and St George's Hall have all benefited from over £100 million of spending... Liverpool has already gone from being 16th to the fifth most visited city since winning the bid. Visitor numbers at the National Museums have already risen from 700,000 in 2001 to almost 1.7 million this year". [Lords Hansard text for 10 Dec 2007](#) [10 Dec 2007 \(pt 0012\)](#)

In response to a question about Liverpool European Capital of Culture during Prime Minister's questions, Gordon Brown said Liverpool "is already one of the greatest cities in the world for music, sport and the arts. More people go to museums and art galleries in Liverpool than in any other city, so we wish it well as the city of culture". [House of Commons Hansard Debates for 09 Jan 2008 \(pt 0003\)](#)

## **Parliamentary Questions**

### **Visits to London Museums and Galleries**

Conservative candidate for London Mayor Boris Johnson asked the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport how many UK and London residents and how many non-UK residents visited museums and art galleries in London in each of the last eight years. Culture Minister Margaret Hodge outlined the figures available. [House of Commons Hansard Written Answers for 18 Dec 2007 \(pt 0041\)](#)

### **Olympic Games 2012: Finance**

In response to a question from Jeremy Hunt, Conservative Shadow Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, about the proportion of Olympics Legacy Trust funding that will be spent on cultural and sporting activities, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, James Purnell, said that the Legacy Trust aims to spend about 70% of its £40 million endowment on cultural projects and 30% on sporting projects, for national and regional programmes. It aims to support programmes that span both arts and sport and it is within its remit to use culture and sport to raise issues of environmental sustainability. [House of Commons Hansard Written Answers for 10 Dec 2007 \(pt 0024\)](#)

### **Portable Antiquities Scheme**

Labour MP Andrew Dismore asked the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport about the effect of the MLA's proposal not to increase funding for the Portable Antiquities Scheme. Responding for the government, Culture Minister Margaret Hodge said that any decisions on future funding for the Portable Antiquities Scheme are a matter for the MLA and that MLA intends to maintain current levels of support for 2008-09. [House of Commons Hansard Written Answers for 18 Dec 2007 \(pt 0042\)](#)

# International Issues

## **130 Works of Art Donated to Los Angeles Museum**

The Los Angeles County Museum of Art has acquired a collection of 130 paintings, sculptures, and drawings by leading modern artists that will "significantly transform the museum's collection of twentieth-century art". The fractional and promised gift from Janice and Henri Lazarof, a composer and professor emeritus in music at the University of California, includes works of art by Pablo Picasso, Paul Klee, Wassily Kandinsky and Alberto Giacometti.

Museum Director Michael Govan said: "At a time when the art market has made it nearly impossible for museums to purchase works of this quality, this important acquisition brings to the people of Los Angeles works by key figures that define the modern century." [www.lacma.org/press/releases/lazarofreleasefinal.pdf](http://www.lacma.org/press/releases/lazarofreleasefinal.pdf)

## **Netherlands Restitutions Committee to Continue**

The Netherlands Restitutions Committee, which investigates and assesses applications for the restitution of cultural assets that went missing during the Second World War, has been given a mandate to continue its work for another three years. Since the Committee began work in 2002 it has advised the Minister for Education, Culture and Science on 50 applications for restitution and is currently handling 41 cases. [www.restitutiecommissie.nl/en/diversen/persbericht.html](http://www.restitutiecommissie.nl/en/diversen/persbericht.html)



### **Director of Metropolitan Museum of Art to Retire**

Philippe de Montebello Chief Executive of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York will retire at the end of the year. He joined the museum as a curatorial assistant in 1963 and became Director in 1977. Mr de Montebello has overseen major renovation projects at the Museum, including the New Greek and Roman Galleries, and will pass on a \$2.9 billion endowment.

[www.metmuseum.org/press\\_room/full\\_release.asp?prid={B88665AC-60DB-4C8D-91A7-8643C3AE6180}](http://www.metmuseum.org/press_room/full_release.asp?prid={B88665AC-60DB-4C8D-91A7-8643C3AE6180})

### **Economic Impact of Metropolitan Museum of Art New Greek and Roman Galleries**

Tourists visiting The Metropolitan Museum of Art's New Greek and Roman Galleries in the first seven months since they opened spent \$567 million during their visits to New York City, according to a Museum audience survey. The new galleries opened in April 2007, costing \$218 million. In the period covered by the survey, the New Greek and Roman Galleries attracted more than 764,000 visitors. Of these, more than three-quarters had travelled from outside the City and spent a total of \$567 million on lodging, food, shopping, entertainment and related expenses during their stay.

[www.metmuseum.org/press\\_room/full\\_release.asp?prid={E8EDE417-CC12-49DF-B33F-5D555147617F}](http://www.metmuseum.org/press_room/full_release.asp?prid={E8EDE417-CC12-49DF-B33F-5D555147617F})

### **Call for Free Admission to Museums in China**

The Beijing Review cites an article in the Workers' Daily that reports that the Hubei Provincial Museum in central China received a 10-fold increase in visitors when it introduced free admission. The article states that Chinese museums operate largely on ticket income and calls for local governments that have benefited from economic growth to provide stable funding for museums. It concludes: "Culture is also an important part of people's lives, so it's hoped that in the coming years, the public can enjoy more free admission into cultural places such as museums".

[www.bjreview.com/print/txt/2007-12/25/content\\_92275.htm](http://www.bjreview.com/print/txt/2007-12/25/content_92275.htm)

### **Art Institute of Chicago Gauguin Sculpture is a Forgery**

The Art Institute of Chicago is in discussion with Sotheby's and a dealer about being recompensed for *The Faun*, a sculpture that it bought as a work by Paul Gauguin, that was in fact forged by Shaun Greenhalgh, who was recently convicted in the UK of conspiring to defraud art institutions and financial improprieties. The Institute purchased *The Faun* in 1997 from a private dealer who had bought it at auction at Sotheby's. The documentation relating to the work's provenance is now believed to be counterfeit.

[www.artic.edu/aic/aboutus/press/Gauguin\\_Statement.pdf](http://www.artic.edu/aic/aboutus/press/Gauguin_Statement.pdf)

### **Rome Exhibition of Looted Archaeological Treasures**

An exhibition of archaeological treasures at the Quirinal Palace in Rome features 67 vases, statues and other antiquities that were looted from Italy and have been returned following agreements between the Italian Culture Minister and international art collections.

*Nostoi: Returned Masterpieces* includes items that had been held by the J Paul Getty Museum and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts and a 6th-century B.C. Etruscan bronze sculpture returned by a private collector last month. The exhibition runs until 2 March.

[www.beniculturali.it/sala/dettaglio-comunicato.asp?nd=ss,cs&ld=2595&ricerca=1&titolo=&giorno=01&mese=12&anno=2007&cat=](http://www.beniculturali.it/sala/dettaglio-comunicato.asp?nd=ss,cs&ld=2595&ricerca=1&titolo=&giorno=01&mese=12&anno=2007&cat=)

### **Culture for International Development Portal**

The Culture for Development website provides resources on the role of culture in international development, focusing on museums, theatre and cultural heritage. It includes links to publications, discussion lists and directories of organisations and projects.

[portals.kit.nl/culture\\_for\\_development](http://portals.kit.nl/culture_for_development)

## **Forthcoming Meetings**

#### **Learning and Access Committee**

Thursday 31st January, 11am, Natural History Museum

#### **HR Forum**

Friday 7 March, 11am, Wallace Collection

#### **NMDC Meeting**

Friday 14 March, 11am, V&A

If you have any comments on the NMDC Newsletter or would like to contribute to a future edition, please email the Editor, Zoë Nasatyr, at [news@nationalmuseums.org.uk](mailto:news@nationalmuseums.org.uk)

[www.nationalmuseums.org.uk](http://www.nationalmuseums.org.uk)

Contact details for the NMDC Secretariat:

Kate Bellamy, Secretary

[k.bellamy@vam.ac.uk](mailto:k.bellamy@vam.ac.uk)

Telephone: 020 7942 2817

Suzie Tucker, Executive Assistant

[s.tucker@vam.ac.uk](mailto:s.tucker@vam.ac.uk)

Telephone: 020 7942 2818

# 2008 Exhibitions and Events

Highlights in 2008 include Liverpool European City of Culture 2008, the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War One and the bicentenary of the birth of Charles Darwin. The following is a selection of events and exhibitions taking place at NMDC member organisations during 2008:

**British Library:** *His Own Domain: Harold Pinter, A Life in Theatre*, from January, will pay tribute to Harold Pinter's life in the theatre and feature manuscripts, letters, photographs and recordings from his recently acquired archive. Also from January, *Bloomsbury Below Stairs, Grace Higgens at Charleston, 1920-1970* will show the Bloomsbury group through diaries, photographs and letters from the archive of housekeeper Grace Higgens. An exhibition focusing on the epic story of the *Ramayana*, from May, will feature 17<sup>th</sup> century Indian paintings in the collections. *Taking Liberties: the struggle for Britain's freedom and rights*, from October, will explore how the idea of citizenship and British liberty has developed. Developed in collaboration with the British Museum and The National Archives, the exhibition will feature iconic documents defending and defining British rights. [www.bl.uk](http://www.bl.uk)

**British Museum** will host *Hadrian: Empire and Conflict* from July, the first major exhibition dedicated to the life and legacy of Hadrian, who ruled the Roman Empire between AD117–138. The exhibition will feature over 200 loans, including sculpture, bronzes and architectural fragments, many on display for the first time in the UK, and will explore Hadrian's military achievements and his interest in architecture and Greek culture. From November, *Babylon: City of Wonder* will focus on the period of Nebuchadnezzar (reigned 604 – 562 BC) in the ancient city situated in modern day Iraq. [www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk](http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk)

**Imperial War Museum:** *For Your Eyes Only: Ian Fleming and James Bond* opening in April at the [Imperial War Museum London](http://www.iwm.org.uk) will look at the author and his fictional character in historical context. *War to Windrush*, from June, will tell the stories of Caribbean people in the First and Second World Wars, to mark 60 years since the MV *Empire Windrush* arrived in Britain. From September, *In Memoriam: Remembering the Great War* will commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Armistice, recounting the experiences of men, women and children through personal objects. *Holocaust Art*, also from September, will explore the Museum's collection of Holocaust-related art, alongside works by contemporary artists. At the [Imperial War Museum North](http://www.iwm.org.uk) *Contact: George Rodger's War Photographs*, from February, will explore the life and wartime work of one of the founders of the Magnum agency. *Horrible Histories: The Frightful First World War - The Exhibition*, from May, will commemorate the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of the conflict, with words and illustrations from the Horrible Histories books alongside art, film, photographs and objects from the Museum's collections. To mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the launch of *HMS Belfast*, a series of events will be held onboard the ship on 15 March. The [Imperial War Museum Duxford](http://www.iwm.org.uk)'s 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary will be marked by *Remembering RAF Duxford*, a series of talks and activities exploring the history of the airfield from the closing stages of the First World War, on 1 June, and the *Duxford 2008 Air Show* in September. Local communities and schools will tend allotments as part of *Dig for Victory: The War on Waste* from May at the [Churchill Museum and Cabinet War Rooms](http://www.iwm.org.uk). [www.iwm.org.uk](http://www.iwm.org.uk)

**The National Archives** *Archive Awareness 2008* campaign will take place in November on the theme *Community Participation: Take Your Place in History*. It will target users new to archives, with particular focus on community groups, Black and Minority Ethnic groups and schools. [www.archiveawareness.com](http://www.archiveawareness.com)

A **National Army Museum** online project that aims to recognise the contribution of ethnic minorities to the British Army will be launched in October 2008 as part of Black and Asian History Month. The project will showcase a shared Army heritage from Tudor England to the modern day and will be accompanied by a series of events at the Museum and the exhibition *We Were There*. [www.national-army-museum.ac.uk](http://www.national-army-museum.ac.uk)

**National Galleries of Scotland:** *Warder's Choice* at the [National Gallery of Scotland](http://www.nationalgalleries.org) from February will feature prints and drawings from the collection, selected by warding and front-of-house staff. From August, the [Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art](http://www.nationalgalleries.org) will host the first UK retrospective of work by Tracey Emin, featuring textiles, paintings, installations and new work made for the exhibition. At the [Dean Gallery](http://www.nationalgalleries.org), from June, *Foto Modernity in Central Europe, 1918–1945* will include more than 150 photographs, books and magazines, many on display in Britain for the first time. This will be complemented by *In the Realm of Phantoms: Surrealism and Photography in Czechoslovakia 1925–1950*, from October. At the [Scottish National Portrait Gallery](http://www.nationalgalleries.org) from April *Faces and Places*, a partnership with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland to mark its centenary, will feature people who have contributed to Scotland's built heritage. From October, *The Intimate Face: Portrait Drawings, Miniatures and Pastels from Ramsay to Lawrence*, developed in partnership with the British Museum, will explore intimate portraiture in Georgian and Regency Britain. [www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

**National Gallery:** From February, *Pompeo Batoni (1708-1787)* will mark the tercentenary of the birth of the artist, who was celebrated for his portraits and history paintings, and will include newly discovered and recently restored works. *Radical Light: Italy's Divisionist Painters 1891-1910* from June, will explore the relationship between Italian Divisionism and the emerging Futurist movement in the early 20th century. *Van Eyck to Titian: The Renaissance Portrait*, opening in October, will trace the development of 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> portrait painting in Northern and Southern Europe, side by side. From November, *Sisley in England and Wales*, organised with Amgueddfa Cymru, National Museum Wales, Cardiff, will highlight work by Impressionist Alfred Sisley made during two visits to Britain. [www.nationalgallery.org.uk](http://www.nationalgallery.org.uk)

**National Maritime Museum** will open *Simon Patterson The Undersea World and Other Stories*, the latest in its New Visions series of contemporary art exhibitions in May. The exhibition will feature a newly commissioned work inspired by Jacques Cousteau. *Turmoil and Tranquillity: the sea through the eyes of Dutch and Flemish masters, 1550-1700*, from June, will explore the Museum's collection of Dutch and Flemish maritime paintings and drawings. [www.nmm.ac.uk](http://www.nmm.ac.uk)

**National Museums Liverpool:** Artist Ben Johnson will take up residency at the Walker Art Gallery in January to complete a huge architectural portrait of Liverpool, commissioned to commemorate Liverpool European Capital of Culture 2008. *Ben Johnson's Liverpool Cityscape 2008 and the World Panorama Series* will go on display in May. *Art in the Age of Steam*, opening in April, will explore responses by artists to steam locomotion through more than 100 paintings, drawings, prints and photographs, including works by Claude Monet, Camille Pissarro and Edward Hopper. A new gallery, *SEIZED Revenue and Customs Uncovered*, will open at the Merseyside Maritime Museum in the spring, exploring the role of HM Revenue and Customs. At World Museum Liverpool *The Beat Goes On*, from July, will showcase Merseyside's music scene over the last 60 years and include material from record companies and private collectors. In the autumn the new *Egypt Gallery* will open at World Museum Liverpool, housing the museum's collection of Egyptian material. [www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk](http://www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk)

**National Museums Northern Ireland:** The Ulster Museum is closed until 2009 for a major redevelopment. During this period an outreach programme will include more than 200 exhibitions, library displays, lectures, talks and handling sessions. At Armagh County Museum, from March, *Belleek* will feature historic and contemporary ceramics from the Ulster Museum's collection of Belleek pottery. [www.magni.org.uk](http://www.magni.org.uk)

**National Museum of Science and Industry:** *Listening Post*, an electronic art work that eavesdrops on the internet, will be unveiled at the Science Museum, London in February. *The Science of Survival*, opening in April, will explore how the way we live will change in response to climate change and what we can do about it. Visitors will be invited to help solve problems in a city in 2050 and see how the choices they make affect their survival. *Dan Dare and the Birth of Hi-tech Britain*, opening in April, will chart the transformation of Britain from post-war shortages to an affluent consumer society, using the comic hero, Dan Dare, to reflect the optimism of the time. At the National Media Museum from March, *Henri Cartier Bresson's Scrapbook Photographs 1932-46* will feature photographs put together by the photographer for an exhibition at the end of the Second World War, on display in the UK for the first time. *Live by the Lens. Die by the Lens* from June, looks at film publicity and the photographers whose image-making talents can make or break a star's reputation. [www.sciencemuseum.org.uk](http://www.sciencemuseum.org.uk)

**National Museums Scotland:** From May part of the main site will close for the refurbishment of the Royal Museum building. Due to complete in 2011, the refurbishment will create 16 new galleries, a larger special exhibitions gallery, a state-of-the-art learning centre and new visitor facilities. *Your Museum is Changing*, opening in February, will provide a glimpse of how the revamped museum will look and invite the public to record their memories of the Museum, and an exhibition of objects that will be displayed in the refurbished Royal Museum building will open in the autumn. A new permanent gallery, *Scotland: A Changing Nation*, will open in July, exploring the lives and experiences of people living and working in Scotland since the First World War. An exhibition on *Jean Muir*, the first since her collection of over 18,000 sketches, patterns and garments was donated to the Museum in 2005, will open in November. *Hip Knits*, at the National Museum of Costume from March, will look at the last century of knitwear design and in May, the National War Museum will host *Call to Arms*, looking at what life was like for Scots in battle across the ages. [www.nms.ac.uk](http://www.nms.ac.uk)

**National Museum Wales:** The National Museum Cardiff will host the biennial *Artes Mundi III* exhibition, from March, which aims to recognise emerging artists from around the world and present their work to a wide audience. The exhibition will be accompanied by visiting artist presentations, activities with schools and communities, a conference and the awarding of the Artes Mundi Prize. The refurbished art galleries at National Museum Cardiff will reopen later in the year. [www.museumwales.ac.uk](http://www.museumwales.ac.uk)

**National Portrait Gallery:** *Vanity Fair Portraits: Photographs 1913-2008*, from February, will feature portraits from the early magazine (1913–1936) alongside works from contemporary Vanity Fair (1983-present). The 150 works will include portraits of well known subjects by photographers such as Cecil Beaton, Man Ray, Helmut Newton and Mario Testino. The exhibition will tour to the Scottish National Portrait Gallery in June. *Wyndham Lewis: Portraits*, from July, will explore the artist's record of literary figures such as Ezra Pound, T. S. Eliot and James Joyce. From October, *Annie Leibovitz: A Photographer's Life, 1990–2005* will include over 175 photographs from the photographer's professional work and private life. [www.npg.org.uk](http://www.npg.org.uk)

**Natural History Museum:** *Amazing Butterflies*, opening in April, will invite people to enter a maze as a caterpillar, explore the life cycle of butterflies and emerge into a tropical butterfly house. From November, the exhibition *Darwin*, part of Darwin200, will trace Darwin's life and the development of his ideas, concluding with an exploration of modern evolutionary biology. *Surprising Sharks* at the Natural History Museum at Tring from February will give visitors a chance to learn about sharks through Museum specimens, interactive displays and a specially designed tour. [www.nhm.ac.uk](http://www.nhm.ac.uk)

The **Sea Your History** project will be completed this year, with some 15,000 items available online from the Royal Naval Museum's 20th Century collections and those of its partners: the Fleet Air Arm Museum; the Royal Marines Museum; the Royal Navy Submarine Museum; the Fleet Photographic Unit; and the Portsmouth Royal Dockyard Historical Trust. An exhibition using material from the project to illustrate experiences of the Navy's people will open at the **Royal Naval Museum** in April. [www.seayourhistory.org.uk](http://www.seayourhistory.org.uk)

**Sir John Soane's Museum** will open a new education centre and research library next door to the Museum at No 14 Lincolns Inn Fields in the spring. The refurbished building will house staff offices, freeing the upper floors of the Museum, at No 13, to be restored and eventually opened to the public. [www.soane.org](http://www.soane.org)

**Tate:** Tate Liverpool celebrates its twentieth birthday in May, with music, song and dance events on the May Bank Holiday and a range of projects throughout the year. *Gustav Klimt: Painting, Design and Modern Life in Vienna 1900*, opening in May, will be the first comprehensive UK exhibition of Klimt's work. The BP British Art Displays at Tate Britain will be rehung in April and in autumn the Gallery will host *Bacon*, the first major London retrospective of the artist's work since 1985. At Tate Modern, as part of UBS Openings, *The Long Weekend* on the May Bank Holiday will feature spectacular events and activities, and the displays will be refreshed with new acquisitions and other works in the autumn. *Rothko*, opening in the autumn, will reunite the artist's Seagram murals with murals from Washington and Japan for the first time, and the ninth commission in The Unilever Series will be unveiled in October. The summer season at Tate St Ives will feature an exhibition exploring the development of St Ives as an arts colony from 1811-1927, with works by JMW Turner and Henry Moore. [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)

**Tyne and Wear Museums:** From April, the Laing Art Gallery will host *Love*, a National Gallery touring exhibition that looks at how artists respond to the pains and pleasures of love, featuring works by Chagall, Vermeer and Hockney. *The Face of an Emperor – Hadrian Inspects the Wall* at Segedunum Roman Fort, Baths & Museum from April, will feature a rare bronze head of Hadrian, as a precursor to the British Museum *Hadrian* exhibition. A new gallery highlighting Tyne & Wear Museums' collections of decorative art and contemporary craft will open at Shingley Art Gallery in spring. On 17 May Tyne and Wear Museums will join in *The Late Shows 2008*, with a programme of evening events, exhibitions and performance to celebrate Museums at Night. *One in Four* at the Discovery Museum from September, will explore the history and stories of disabled people in the North East over the past 170 years. [www.twmuseums.org.uk](http://www.twmuseums.org.uk)

**Victoria and Albert Museum:** *China Design Now*, opening in March, will explore the recent explosion of new design in China. It will examine the impact of rapid economic development on architecture and design in Beijing, Shanghai and Shenzhen, featuring around 100 designers. *Blood on Paper: The Art of the Book*, from April, will feature books created by artists including Henri Matisse, Pablo Picasso, Anthony Caro, Anish Kapoor and Anselm Kiefer. In May, the new *William and Judith Bollinger Jewellery Gallery* will open, tracing the story of jewellery from 2000 BC to the present through the V&A's collection of over 3500 jewels. The new *Sackler Centre for arts education* will open in the summer, doubling the Museum's education space and facilities. It will include an art studio, display space and a new seminar room and auditorium. From September, *Cold War Modern: Design 1945-75*, will bring together more than 300 exhibits from Soviet realist architecture to American pop art, to examine the art, design, architecture and popular culture of the Cold War. [www.vam.ac.uk](http://www.vam.ac.uk)

**The Wallace Collection** will host *Masterpieces from the Louvre: The Collection of Louis La Caze* from February, the first collaboration between the Wallace Collection and the Musée du Louvre, featuring paintings by Watteau, Lancret, Rigaud, Nattier and Fragonard, chosen to complement works in the Wallace Collection. From June, *Boucher and Chardin* will celebrate the painters and their response to the taste for tea drinking and chinoiserie in the 18th-century. [www.wallacecollection.org](http://www.wallacecollection.org)