

V&A Highlights 2011

SPRING 2011

MAJOR EXHIBITION

The Cult of Beauty: The Aesthetic Movement 1860-1900

Sponsored by Bank of America Merrill Lynch

With further support from Liberty

2 April – 17 July 2011

Private Collection c/o Christie's



The Cult of Beauty will be the most comprehensive exhibition ever staged on the Aesthetic Movement in Britain. Prizing the importance of art and the pleasure of beautiful things above all else, it was the first artistic movement to inspire an entire lifestyle. It will bring together many of the greatest masterpieces in painting by artists including Dante Gabriel Rossetti, James McNeill Whistler, Edward Burne-Jones and Frederic Lord Leighton with furniture, textiles and wallpaper by designers including E.W. Godwin, Christopher Dresser and William Morris. It will also

feature architecture, sculpture, fashion and literature and will explore the array of characters who dedicated their lives to the pursuit of a new beauty. The development of the movement will be chronicled over the four decades spanning the initial romantic bohemianism to the final Decadent phase and includes set pieces evoking the artists' houses.

EXHIBITION

Yohji Yamamoto

12 March – 10 July 2011

© Photograph by Ronald Stoops



This is the first UK solo exhibition celebrating the life and work of Yohji Yamamoto, one of the world's most influential and enigmatic fashion designers. This installation-based retrospective will explore the work of a designer who has challenged, provoked and inspired the fashion world. The main exhibition space, designed by Yamamoto's long-time collaborator, scenographer and lighting designer Masao Nihei, will present over 60 garments from Yamamoto's collections. It will be accompanied by a mixed-media timeline showing excerpts from his fashion shows, films and performances, graphic material and select photographs to

contextualise his career and highlight many of Yamamoto's creative collaborations. Other garments will be shown on mannequins amongst the treasures of the V&A creating a dialogue between Yamamoto's work and the different spaces in which they are displayed.

CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITION

Figures and Fictions: Contemporary South African Photography

12 April – 17 July 2011

Pieter Hugo, 2006. Courtesy of Michael Stevenson



The first UK exhibition of contemporary South African photography will be shown at the V&A this spring. It will feature over 150 works produced in the last 10 years by the most exciting and inventive photographers living and working in South Africa and will present the vibrant and sophisticated photographic culture that has emerged post-apartheid. The works on display respond to the country's powerful issues of identity across race, gender, class and politics. The photographs depict people within their individual, family and community life, practicing religious customs, observing social ritual, wearing street fashion and existing on the fringes of society. All the photographers question what it is to be human at home in South Africa. The 17 photographers in the exhibition range from established practitioners such as David Goldblatt to a new generation fresh to the international stage.

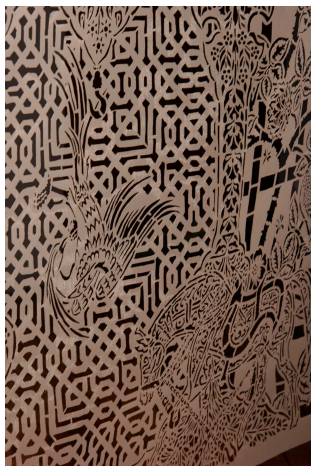
SUMMER 2011

DISPLAY

Jameel Prize

21 July – October 2011

Afruz Amighi, 2008. Courtesy of Nicelle Beauchene Gallery



The next Jameel Prize will be held in 2011. Launched in 2009, this international art prize is for contemporary artists and designers inspired by Islamic tradition. It is awarded every two years. The shortlist of artists and designers for the Jameel Prize 2011 will be announced in the spring. A jury of arts professionals will include the 2009 winner Afruz Amighi and will be chaired by Sir Mark Jones. More than 200 artists have been nominated from countries around the world – from Uzbekistan to Nigeria to the United States. They cover disciplines from across the visual arts and design, including painting, sculpture, video, furniture design, weaving and calligraphy. The exhibition of the shortlisted artists will open in July and the winner will be announced in September 2011.

The Jameel Prize is sponsored by Mohammed Abdul Latif Jameel, who conceived the idea after providing the financial support for the renovation of the V&A's Jameel Gallery of Islamic Art, which opened in July 2006.

AUTUMN 2011

MAJOR EXHIBITION

Postmodernism: Style & Subversion 1970-1990

Supported by the Friends of the V&A

24 September 2011 – 8 January 2012

Ettore Sottsass, made by Memphis, 1981. © V&A Images



This major exhibition will be the first comprehensive survey of one of the most contentious phenomena in recent art and design history. Offering a bold new interpretation of Postmodernism, the exhibition will explore a set of radical ideas that forever changed our understanding of style. *Postmodernism: Style & Subversion* will chart a broad range of design practices including radical design in Italy by the collectives Alchymia and Memphis; the club cultures of New York and London, which launched cultural icons such as Boy George, Grace Jones and David Byrne; and the proliferation of Postmodern architecture and fine art in the 1980s, including Philip Johnson's AT&T Building and the art of Jenny Holzer, Haim Steinbach and Jeff Koons. The exhibition will chart the rise and fall of Postmodernism, how it was adopted from a provocative architectural movement and went on to influence all areas of popular culture.

CONTEMPORARY EXHIBITION

Power of Making

6 September 2011 – 2 January 2012

© Gary Hutchins



Power of Making will present 100 crafted objects covering the widest possible outlets of creativity including items made by amateurs, those crafted out of necessity, as well as by leading international makers. The exhibition is conceived as a cabinet of curiosities to explore the universal nature of making. It will revisit the importance of skills to creativity and will provide a review of contemporary attitudes to making. The current resurgence of crafting, as a means of self expression, social participation and cultural definition will be examined and expertise, knowledge and innovation celebrated through displays of objects that push traditional making skills in new directions. There will also be a number of interventions across the Museum – new works will be placed alongside pieces from the V&A's collections to highlight how the knowledge that went into making them lives on. *Power of Making* is the second exhibition in the V&A/Crafts Council partnership.

DISPLAY

Private Eye at 50

19 October 2011 – 8 January 2012



To mark the 50th anniversary of the notorious magazine *Private Eye*, the V&A will hold a display looking at this particularly British phenomenon. It will explore how the magazine has used graphic satire and humour to accompany serious investigative journalism. Since it was founded in 1961, *Private Eye* has employed generations of great British cartoonists. The display will highlight contributions by many of the talented and influential artists most closely associated with the magazine including Willy Rushton, Ralph Steadman and Gerald Scarfe. It will also feature a timeline of the famous 'speech-bubble' covers and an evocation of the

Private Eye editor's office overflowing with papers, artwork and press clippings.

FUTURE EXHIBITIONS

- 2012 **British Design 1948-2012** (spring)
 Queen Elizabeth II by Cecil Beaton (spring)
 The Art of Hollywood Costume Design (autumn)
 India Design Now (autumn)
- 2013 **The Golden Age of the English Court: From Henry VIII to William III** (spring)
 Wedding Dress: 200 Years of Wedding Fashion (spring)
 Masterpieces of Chinese Painting (autumn)
 Horst: In Vogue (autumn)

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

General Information

For public enquiries and bookings please call 020 7942 2000 or visit www.vam.ac.uk
The V&A is open 10.00 – 17.45 daily and 10.00 – 22.00 on Fridays. Closed 25 and 26 December.
Admission to the V&A is FREE. A separate charge may apply to special exhibitions and events.