

# Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

## Exhibitions and Events 2022



**Canaletto**

**The Magic of Middle Earth**

**Hokusai's The Great Wave**

**FREE Entry**



# Welcome to 2022 at Worcester City Art Gallery & Museum

This year we are excited to bring to Worcester paintings by Canaletto, Turner and Rembrandt, as well as Hokusai's The Great Wave, and not forgetting the amazing summer exhibition The Magic of Middle Earth.

As ever there's plenty for families with museum trails, creative family workshops and fun activities.

The insightful Curator's Tours and the ever-popular Bite Size talks return for those who wish to delve deeper. For a full list of talks and tours, including those at our other museums please visit [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk) where you'll also find visitor information to help plan your visit.



## Your visit



**Enjoy FREE ENTRY,**  
donations welcome

Open Monday - Saturday 10.30 – 4.30,  
closed Sundays and Bank Holidays

The Art Gallery & Museum is **fully accessible**, please see  
[www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)  
for our access statement.

If you would like this leaflet in large  
print please email [gallerymuseum@  
museumsworcestershire.org.uk](mailto:gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk)

## Art, objects and more

As well as enjoying the exhibitions  
you can

- ✧ Visit permanent displays including verdant landscapes by Benjamin Williams Leader, the huge Sturgeon caught in the River Severn, and the mixing jug that poured the very first batches of the world-famous Lea and Perrins Worcestershire sauce
- ✧ Enjoy tasty treats from the brand-new Balcony Cafe
- ✧ Take home a gift from the Museum Shop

 **Worcester City Museum  
and Art Gallery**

 **@worcestermuseum**

 **museumsworcestershire**

Cover image: Katsushika Hokusai (1760-1849), The Hollow of the Deep-Sea Wave off Kanagawa, 1831, from the series 'Thirty-six Views of Mount Fuji'

## Skyscape

**29th January – 26th March**

Featuring the beautiful, the brooding and the serene, Skyscape celebrates five hundred years of artists' fascination with the sky. The exhibition offers a rare opportunity to view the popular art of landscape from a new perspective, through a succession of masterpieces by artists including Turner, Constable, Rembrandt, Dürer, Paul Nash and many more.

Take a deep breath and escape into Skyscape.

Exhibition organised by the Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford



### Want to know more?

Book your place on the **Skyscape Bite Size Talk** on 8th February or the  
**Curator's Introductory Tour** on 18th February

To book see [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)



John Ruskin, Study of Dawn: The First Scarlet on the Clouds, 1868 ©Ashmolean Museum, University of Oxford



## Spotlight exhibitions

### Worcester Life Stories

**Ends 5th March 2022**

From 1950s shopfronts and forgotten landmarks, to communities that migrated as the city developed, evocative images unlock memories of days gone by, and the stories re-told in the words of Worcester people.

This project is a collaboration with the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust.



### Return to Oceania

**12th March – 11th June**

Nineteenth century scientific naval explorations provided many museums with the collections they hold today. This exhibition looks at what was collected and why. It considers the impact of colonialism and empire on indigenous peoples and reflects upon the consequences of human activity on the world's great oceans and waterways.



Image courtesy of Mitchell Library, State Library of NSW

### The Power of Portraiture

**18th June – January 2023**

A celebration of the foundations of Worcester's art collection, the Power of Portraiture is the first time these portraits of historical figures have been displayed together for more than 100 years.

With thanks to the Leche Trust and the West Midlands Museum Development 'Expert Eye' programme.



### Hokusai's Great Wave: Reflections of Japan

**2nd April – 2nd July**

Exploring the extraordinary influence of Japanese art and culture, this exhibition brings together for the first time outstanding Japanese prints and Samurai armour from the Museums

Worcestershire collection, alongside Hokusai's Great Wave, and beautiful pieces from Tate and Museum of Royal Worcester.



Families - explore the exhibition in a fun way with the Mythological Creatures trail, just £1 from the Museum Shop

If you would like to support the Art Gallery & Museum and its amazing collections whilst enjoying unique Member benefits please download an application form for Membership from [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk) or pick up a leaflet next time you visit.



This stunning Japanese Samurai armour has been conserved especially for the exhibition and we are grateful to the Worcester Art Gallery & Museum Members for their contribution towards the conservation.

#### Want to know more?

Book your place on the exhibition **Bite Size** talk on 10th May or the **Curator's Introductory Tour** on 20th May. To book see [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)

Art Fund



This exhibition was made possible with a grant from the Weston Loan Programme with Art Fund





# Family Fun

## Always here for you

Based in the heart of the museum, the **activity space** is a lovely welcoming space for all the family with lots of materials to create your own masterpiece.

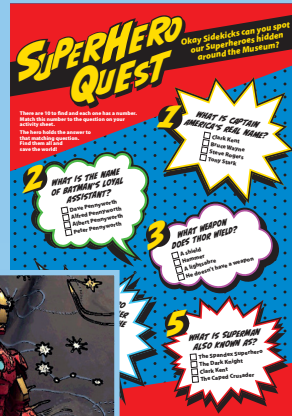
The Art Gallery & Museum is **fully accessible** and there are **baby-changing facilities**.

Fabulous **family trails** accompany many of the exhibitions, pick them up for £1 in the Museum Shop and explore the museum and the exhibitions in a fun way.

## Starting in January, the Superhero Quest!

Superheroes of the world unite at Worcester Art Gallery and Museum! Find all your favourite Superheroes including Thor, Hulk and Iron Man hidden around the Museum.

Enjoy family events and activities throughout the year and particularly at school holiday times. See [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk) for what's coming up.



# The Magic of Middle Earth

9th July - 17th September

From the collector who brought you May The Toys Be With You comes The Magic of Middle Earth! Journey beyond the books to discover the artistic legacy of J.R.R. Tolkien's incredible fantasy world.

This major new exhibition celebrates the fantasy world brought to life by Tolkien, and the generations of writers, artists, musicians, film makers, environmentalists and game designers it has influenced. Discover a magical treasure trove of over 200 rare objects and artworks. Fun for all ages, from little halflings to wizened wizards!



For more family fun explore the museum with the Elves and Dragons trail, just £1 from the Museum Shop.



# Delve deeper

On the **first Tuesday of each month** 11am – 3pm the doors to the Victorian Stewards Chemist Shop will be open for you to take a peek inside and hear the fascinating story of how it came from Worcester's High Street

## Curator tours of exhibitions

A series of informal, friendly curator tours of the exhibitions. Hear about the objects, artworks and behind-the-scenes work that goes into exhibitions and ask whatever questions you like!

Meet at the Art Gallery desk 11.30am, (tours last 30 – 60 mins), £3.

To book see

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

**18 February** - Introductory tour of Skyscape

**18 March** - Introductory tour of Return to Oceania with the World Cultures Curator

**20 May** - Gallery tour of Hokusai's Great Wave: Reflections of Japan in Worcester

**21 October** - Introductory tour of The Power of Portraiture

**18 November** - Gallery tour of Canaletto: A Venetian's View

## Bite size talks

Thirty minutes of fascinating facts about the Museum's collections and exhibitions. Talks start at 1.30pm, £3. To book see [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)

**8 February** - Introduction to Skyscape

**8 March** - Our Wardrobe: Highlights of the Costume Collection

**12 April** - Return to Oceania, new research into the objects, stories and impact of the 19th century scientific voyages to Oceania



**10 May** - Hokusai's Great Wave: Reflections of Japan in Worcester – hear about the research and conservation work done for this special exhibition

**14 June** - An introduction to the fascinating Vardo (wagons) collection that are a key part of Gypsy Roma and Traveller heritage

For the full programme of talks, tours and workshops at all our museums please see [www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk) where you can also join the mailing list.



View on the Grand Canal: From the Palazzo Bembo to that of Grimani Calerghi, now Vendramini. From The Woburn Abbey Collection.

## Canaletto: A Venetian's View

**24th September – 19th November**

Celebrating the wonderful work of Canaletto, featuring stunning paintings on loan from Woburn Abbey and Birmingham Museums together with artworks from Worcester's Fine Art Collection.

Canaletto revolutionised the use of colour, ground and canvas and pioneered the technique of painting from life. This exhibition explores Canaletto's work and the impact he had on the generations of artists who followed him.

### Want to know more?

Book your place on the **Bite Size** exhibition talk on 8th November or the **Curator's Gallery Tour** on 18th November

To book see

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



Embarkation of the Doge of Venice, for the Ceremony of the Marriage of the Adriatic. From The Woburn Abbey Collection.

With thanks to Birmingham Museums Trust and Woburn Abbey for loans from their collections, and to Worcester City Council for supporting the exhibition.

This exhibition has been made possible with Art Fund support.

Explore the museum and exhibition in a fun, family-friendly way with a family art trail, just £1 from the Museum Shop



**Live music and cocktails** in the relaxing surroundings of the Art Gallery. 5.30 – 8pm.

6th May, 1st June and 15th July



**Free entry** no booking needed. The perfect way to end the week.



Birmingham  
Museums





# Crafted For You with Worcester Society of Artists 75th Annual Exhibition

26th November – mid-January 2023

An opportunity to support local artists and craft makers and celebrate the wealth of creative talent in the county. From a hand-picked selection of the finest craft makers to the fabulously eclectic selection of art from Worcester Society of Artists these two exhibitions are a colourful, seasonal celebration of art and craft.



## Group visits

Bring your group for a glass of wine and a private introductory talk with the museum curators. Daytime and evening group talks are available to book for **Skyscape, Hokusai's Great Wave: Reflections of Japan, Return to Oceania, Power of Portraiture and Canaletto: A Venetian's View.**

For more information or to book please contact the Events Officer on **01905 25371**, email: [gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk](mailto:gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk)



## Are you a teacher or educator?

The Learning Service provides workshops and creative sessions to support various programmes of study – including history, art and design, science and cross curricular learning. All sessions are supported by the inspiring museum collections and are delivered in a safe and stimulating environment.

We deliver workshops adapted to suit your students' ages and all can be tailored to SEND groups.

For further information or to book a visit, please contact the Learning and Communities Co-ordinator on **01905 25371** or email: [gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk](mailto:gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk)



## Museum Shop

The Museum Shop is the perfect place to find unique greeting cards, souvenirs of your visit and special gifts to treasure. Discover books, cards, homeware and children's toys and games. Come and have a browse.

## Host your event with us

The Art Gallery & Museum has beautiful and inspiring spaces that can be hired for your special occasions or corporate events. If you'd like to be surrounded by fascinating art collections and exhibitions then the Art Gallery could be just the place to impress. To find out more call **01905 25371**.



## Balcony Café

The Balcony Café re-opens on 29th January for morning coffee, lunches and afternoon tea with home-made cakes. Pop by and treat yourself!



Love the Art Gallery & Museum?  
Pay a visit to our other museums –  
The Commandery in Worcester  
and the County Museum at  
Hartlebury Castle.



## Visitor information

**Open Monday – Saturday 10.30am – 4.30pm**, closed Sundays and Bank Holidays

Occasionally we need to close galleries to change exhibitions. If you are visiting to see something in particular please call in advance on **01905 25371**.

## How to find us

We are three minutes' walk from Foregate Street station and just five minutes' walk from Worcester High Street and the historic riverside.

## Car parking

The nearest car park is Pitchcroft Racecourse (just five minutes' walk). Parking for blue badge holders is at The Cross.

**Worcester City  
Art Gallery & Museum  
Foregate Street  
Worcester WR1 1DT**

**Tel: 01905 25371**

**Email: [gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk](mailto:gallerymuseum@museumsworcestershire.org.uk)**



For more information on exhibitions, events, talks and tours see  
**[www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)**

 **Worcester City Museum  
and Art Gallery**

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**[www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk](http://www.museumsworcestershire.org.uk)**



Museums Worcestershire is the joint museum service of Worcester City and Worcestershire County Councils.

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