



# NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

News release

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## National Portrait Gallery marks the King's coronation with new book

With over 150 portraits of His Majesty in its Collection, the National Portrait Gallery's new publication offers an insight into King Charles III's life in service ahead of his coronation.



**Charles III: The Making of a King**

23 March 2023 | £14.95 | 978-1-85514-577-1 |  
220 x 170 mm | Approx. 70  
Illustrations | 128 pages |  
Hardback

*Charles III: The Making of a King* celebrates the new King, His Majesty King Charles III, in the year of his coronation. King Charles was the longest-serving heir apparent as the Prince of Wales, and through 70 illustrations, this contemporary designed gift book offers a view into the new King's life.

The book follows the National Portrait Gallery's bestseller [Elizabeth II: Princess, Queen, Icon](#), which featured on the Sunday Times Best Seller list.

The beautiful gift book includes a timeline of key events from King Charles' life, highlighting his most important portraits from the National Portrait Gallery's Collection – from the beautiful portraits of His Majesty with his mother, Elizabeth II, to works depicting Charles' sons and of the wider royal family, including Camilla, Queen Consort; Diana, Princess of Wales; William and Catherine, Prince and Princess of Wales; Harry and Meghan, Duke and Duchess of Sussex, and Prince George of Wales.



The publication presents family photographs alongside formal portraits, and features works by key artists who have depicted the King from 1948 to the present day, such as Nadav Kander, Cecil Beaton, Marcus Adams, Lisa Sheridan, Lord Snowdon, Joan Williams, Patrick Lichfield, Norman Parkinson, Bern Schwartz, Carole Cutner and Bryan Organ.



L-R: NPG x136397. King Charles III; Elizabeth II; Louis Mountbatten, Earl Mountbatten of Burma; Princess Anne; Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh by Stuart Heydinger, for Bippa (31 May 1956) © reserved; collection National Portrait Gallery, London; NPG 5365. King Charles III by Bryan Organ (1980) © National Portrait Gallery, London.

*Charles III: The Making of a King* features an introductory essay by the National Portrait Gallery's Chief Curator, Dr Alison Smith, exploring how the collected portraits depict the King throughout his life, both as the Prince of Wales and now as he reigns as King Charles III.

*"Charles stands out in the history of the British monarchy for being an activist royal, and the portraits that chart the course of his life testify to the many interests he has developed alongside his official duties."*

Dr Alison Smith  
Chief Curator, National Portrait Gallery

Dr Alison Smith's recent publications include *Edward Burne-Jones* (2018) and *Reflections: Van Eyck and the Pre-Raphaelites* (2017).

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### Notes to editors

*Charles III: The Making of a King* is published on 23 March 2023, ahead of His Majesty's coronation in May, and is available to pre-order from the Gallery's online shop: [npgshop.org.uk/collections/books/products/charles-iii-the-making-of-a-king-hardcover-book](https://npgshop.org.uk/collections/books/products/charles-iii-the-making-of-a-king-hardcover-book)

### National Portrait Gallery

Founded in 1856, the National Portrait Gallery tells the story of Britain through portraits, using art to bring history to life and explore living today. From global icons, to unsung heroes, our Collection is filled with the stories that have shaped, and continue to shape a nation. We celebrate the power of portraiture and offer encounters with some of the



world's greatest and most exciting new artists, promoting engagement with portraiture in all media to a wide- ranging public by conserving, growing and sharing the world's largest collection of portraits.

The Gallery in St Martin's Place, London is currently closed until 22 June 2023, while essential building works take place on the Inspiring People redevelopment project, which will transform the Gallery, including a complete refurbishment of the building and a new learning centre. During the closure period, we have continued to share our Collection digitally, as well as through a series of nationwide partnerships and collaborations. [www.npg.org](http://www.npg.org)