



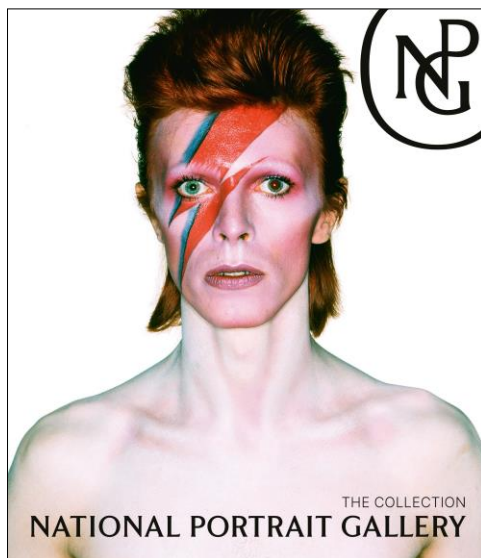
NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

News release

3 April 2023

National Portrait Gallery's new publication offers a sneak peek into the Gallery's Collection ahead of re-opening.

National Portrait Gallery: The Collection introduces the key people who have shaped the history of Britain, its culture and identity, by exploring essential highlights from the National Portrait Gallery's unrivalled Collection.



National Portrait Gallery: The Collection

13 April 2023 | £12.95 | 978-1-85514-573-3 |

220 x 190 mm | Approx. 100 Illustrations |

120 Pages | Paperback

National Portrait Gallery: The Collection is a new publication that will complement the redisplay of the Gallery's Collection when it re-opens on 22 June 2023 following the most extensive redevelopment of its building since 1896.

The publication includes an introduction from the Gallery's Director, Dr Nicholas Cullinan, and highlights key milestones in the Gallery's history, as well as new works acquired for the Collection that reflect the Gallery's current and future collecting priorities.

This fun, pocket-sized book takes the reader on a chronological journey through Britain's history in portraiture, from the Tudors to now, featuring the country's most important and famous individuals, from Queen Elizabeth I to Mary Seacole, and Virginia Woolf to David Bowie.



L-R: NPG 1. William Shakespeare, associated with John Taylor, circa 1610. NPG 6856. Mary Seacole, by Albert Charles Challen, 1869. NPG 7052. Malala Yousafzai, 2018. © National Portrait Gallery, London.

The publication features many of the Gallery's well-known and much loved portraits such as William Shakespeare, the first portrait it acquired, as well as exciting new works acquired for the Collection. This includes the first joint acquisition with the National Gallery, of Algernon Moses Marsden by Jacques Joseph Tissot.



NPG 7135. Algernon Moses Marsden, by James Jacques Joseph Tissot, 1877. © National Portrait Gallery, London

The book also features a detail our newest commission, of *Work in Progress* (2021–2), an important group portrait, co-created by Jann Haworth and Liberty Blake, focusing on women within the Collection.

The publication will feature a number of other acquisitions that are set to be announced ahead of the National Portrait Gallery's re-opening.

"Our Collection represents a constantly evolving picture of the nation, of how we view ourselves and who we choose to remember.

This book is intended to give a fascinating insight into the evolving and dynamic nature of British society and cultural identity."

Dr Nicholas Cullian
Director, National Portrait Gallery

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Notes to editors

National Portrait Gallery: The Collection is published on 13 April 2023, ahead of the National Portrait Gallery's re-opening in June, and is available to pre-order from the Gallery's online shop: <https://npgshop.org.uk/products/national-portrait-gallery-the-collection-paperback-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.

<https://www.npg.org.uk/>