



NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

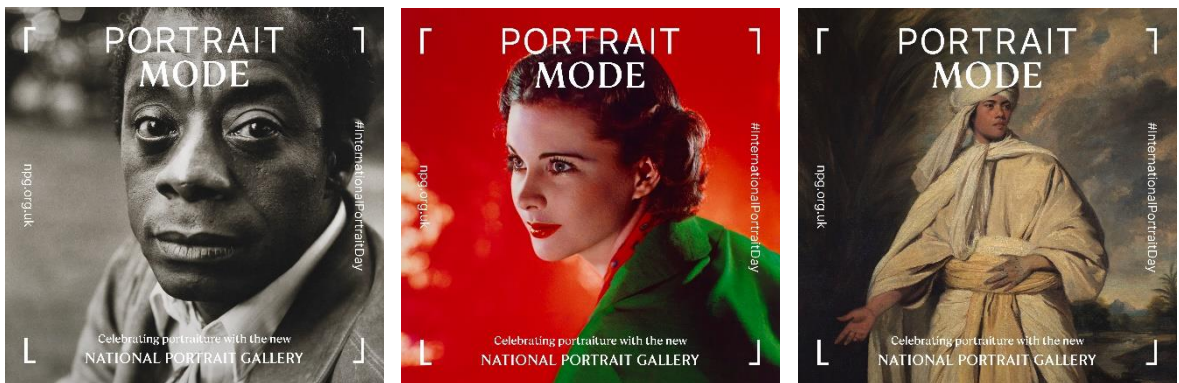
News release

Friday 12 May 2023

National Portrait Gallery invites participants across the UK to get into 'Portrait Mode' as it launches summer celebration of portraiture

Over 80 arts venues and organisations from across the UK will come together to celebrate all things portraiture from 1 June, as the National Portrait Gallery launches *Portrait Mode*.

Additionally, *Portrait Mode* will also see the creation of a new annual 'International Portrait Day,' celebrated on 23 June, inviting people around the world to share portraits as part of a collaborative virtual portrait gallery



L-R: *James Baldwin* by Mark Gerson © Mark Gerson / National Portrait Gallery, London; *Vivien Leigh* by Yevonde (1936), purchased with support from the Portrait Fund, 2021 © National Portrait Gallery, London; *Portrait of Mai (Omai)*, Sir Joshua Reynolds c. 1776. Image Courtesy of National Portrait Gallery, London and Getty.

The National Portrait Gallery has announced a summer celebration of portraiture in anticipation of its reopening on 22 June 2023. Titled *Portrait Mode*, this celebration will see the Gallery collaborate with over 80 organisations to highlight the incredible range of portraits on display in collections, galleries and spaces across London and the wider UK. Showcasing great artists – past and present – and inspiring people to get creative by sharing their own portraits, *Portrait Mode* will run from 1 June with a series of events until the end of July 2023.



In this large-scale collaborative project, *Portrait Mode* will encourage participants to embrace the art of portraiture this summer. Venues will foreground portraits in displays and exhibitions, social media, talks and tours, workshops, competitions and many more activities to celebrate portraiture and the return of the National Portrait Gallery. From the Barber Institute of Fine Arts in Birmingham to The Beaney in Canterbury, *Portrait Mode* will be activated in national, regional and commercial galleries across the country, large and small. Activities at participating venues will include an exhibition of masterpieces from Chatsworth House at Sotheby's and *SELFHOOD: An exhibition exploring being and becoming* at Christie's, five centuries of four-legged friends at The Wallace Collection's *Portraits of Dogs*, fashion photography in *Ashish: Fall in Love and Be More Tender* at the William Morris Gallery and a major exhibition at The Box in Plymouth, marking the 300th anniversary of the birth of Sir Joshua Reynolds. The celebrations will continue digitally to include social media campaigns from the Leicester Museum and Art Gallery, highlighting the museum's portrait of Sir David Attenborough by Bryan Organ, and Cornwall Museums Partnership, who will explore and celebrate Cornish portraiture across time.

In addition to this activity, *Portrait Mode* will also include the exciting new celebration of *International Portrait Day* on 23 June. Participating *Portrait Mode* venues will post portraits from their own collections across their social media channels, alongside organisations from around the world, who together will encourage the public to share their own portraits using #PortraitMode and #InternationalPortraitDay, creating a virtual portrait gallery.

"We are delighted to be working in an unprecedented collaboration with so many organisations nationally and internationally to all switch into Portrait Mode this summer, and are so grateful for the support of our colleagues as we all come together to celebrate portraiture and the Gallery's reopening on 22 June."

Nicholas Cullinan
Director, National Portrait Gallery

A new *Portrait Mode* page on the National Portrait Gallery's website will include an interactive map of the UK, on which all Portrait Mode activities across the UK will be listed. Visit www.npg.org.uk/portrait-mode from 1 June 2023 for more information.

Participating organisations in the UK include:

Agnews	Fortnum and Mason
Alison Jacques	Frederick Mulder Limited
Art Fund	Frieze
Art UK	Frith Street Gallery
Barbican Centre	Gainsborough House
Ben Elwes	Gagosian Shop
Bold Tendencies	Galerie Max Hetzler
Bowman Sculpture	Galerie Thaddeus Ropac
Browse and Darby	Galleries NOW
Cass Art	Gallery Oldham
Charles Dickens Museum	Gazelli Art House
Chatsworth House	Gillian Jason Gallery
Christie's	Glynn Vivian Art Gallery
Compton Verney Art Gallery and Park	GREAT
Connaught Brown	Hendrix & Handel in London
Cornwall Museums Partnership	Hay Castle Trust
Corvi-Mora	HOLBA
Coventry Archives, Herbert Art Gallery and Museum	Holburne Museum
Courtauld Gallery	ICA
Cristea Roberts	John Swarbrooke Fine Art
David Zwirner	Leicester Museum and Art Gallery
Dulwich Picture Gallery	LGDR
Flowers Gallery	Luxembourg + Co.
	Maas Gallery



Marlborough
Mall Galleries
Maureen Paley
Maybourne Hotel Group
Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art
Moretti Fine Art
National Museums Liverpool
National Museums Northern Ireland
National Trust
Northampton Museum and Art Gallery
Nottingham Castle Museum & Art Gallery
October Gallery
Offer Waterman
Omer Tiroche Gallery
One Aldwych
Ordovas
Philip Mould & Company
Phillips
Piano Nobile
Richard Green
Richard Nagy Ltd
Richard Saltoun Gallery
Robilant+Voena
Roca London Gallery
Royal Museums Greenwich
Royal Academy of Arts
Saatchi Yates

Selfridges
Simon C. Dickinson Ltd
Sotheby's
South London Gallery
South Shields Museum & Art Gallery
Southampton City Museum and Art Gallery
Stephen Friedman Gallery
Tyne & Wear Archives & Museums
The Artist Room
The Barber Institute of Fine Arts
The Beany House of Art and Knowledge
The Box, Plymouth
The Fine Art Society
The Foundling Museum
Timothy Taylor
Thomas Dane Gallery
University College London
Upstone
Victoria Miro
Wallace Collection
Watts Gallery – Artists Village
William Morris Gallery

ENDS

For further press information, images and interview requests, please contact:
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Notes to editors

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.uk