

AFRICAN HERITAGE AND CULTURE EMAIL PDF – APRIL 2017 (2)

Greetings One and All,

What an amazing response we have had at the V&A to the African Heritage Volunteer Tours in the Europe 1600 – 1815 Galleries. Thank you for spreading the word far and wide including France, Germany and many towns and cities across the UK, which has resulted in huge numbers of visitors arriving to hear well researched narratives of Africans in Europe during this period.

AFRICAN HERITAGE VOLUNTEER TOURS – FREE, DROP-IN

Many of you will be pleased to know that these tours are continuing between APRIL – DECEMBER 2017. Europe 1600 – 1815 African Heritage Galleries Tour Series are specialist structured tours researched, written and presented by 11 trained volunteer guides. Come and join them and share in their passion and pride as they reveal the extraordinary Afro-European narratives within the new Europe 1600 – 1815 Galleries.



African Heritage Tours in the Europe 1600 – 1815 Galleries are on Fridays at 15.00 and 19.30, and Saturdays at 15.00, and REPEAT WEEKLY every Friday and Saturday EXCEPT for the last week of each month. You are **STRONGLY** advised to check the dates of the tours you wish to attend in advance of your visit. Meet at The Meeting Point in the Grand Entrance of the museum.

TOURS ARE FREE, AND DROP-IN, NO BOOKING REQUIRED, TOURS ARE ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS. CHECK THE DATE AND THE TIME OF THE TOUR YOU WISH TO ATTEND AND MEET AT THE MEETING POINT IN THE GRAND ENTRANCE OF THE V&A MUSEUM WHERE THE VOLUNTEER TOUR GUIDE WILL COME TO COLLECT YOU. DUE TO UNEXPECTED CIRCUMSTANCES TOURS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

GROUP TOURS: If you wish to make a group booking of 20 - 30 visitors for a tour, you should contact Janet Browne by email: j.browne@vam.ac.uk outlining your contact details, the name of the tour, date and time you wish to visit. Please allow at least 2 weeks prior to your chosen date to book so there is time to discuss issues, and make the necessary arrangements with the volunteer tour guide.

There are **11 tours to choose from here, listing all the dates and times during APRIL – DECEMBER 2017 when they take place. There is a maximum of 25 visitors per tour. Daytime tours at 15.00 are listed in RED, and evening tours at 19.30 are listed in BLUE. Take your pick, turn up and enjoy:**

1.

The Black Image in European Art

Seeking hidden stories and untold lives that capture the imagination. Glimpse into the varied lives and status of those of African decent living during this period. Inspired by their presence in paintings, sculpture and interior design. We look for the narrative behind these mostly forgotten unnamed faces.

Volunteer Tour Guide - KIM SHELDON

Fridays, 15.00 – 16.00

21 April 2017; 19 May 2017; 16 June 2017; 21 July 2017; 18 August 2017; 15 September 2017; 20 October 2017; 17 November 2017; 15 December 2017

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

23 September 2017; 23 December 2017

2.

Mysterious Spectacle: The African Representation in European Art

An exploration of images of Africans in European Art from 1600 – 1815. The rise of the transatlantic slave trade and the presence of black people in Europe are illustrated in varied artefacts and paintings. We will consider the concept of the exotic African image and its significance in European culture.

Volunteer Tour Guide - JOY JOHNSON

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

6 May 2017; 3 June 2017; 5 August 2017; 2 September 2017; 7 October 2017; 4 November 2017; 9 December 2017

3.

An Indelible Footprint: African Presence in Europe

The black presence in Europe is more extensive than many people may think. The Europe Galleries display an array of objects that shed light on this rich and complex history. We highlight the stories, debates, impact of early globalisation, the changing African image, and the revolutionary changes that paved the way for the Europe we know today.

Volunteer Tour Guide – STELLA AKINTAN

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

5 May 2017; 2 June 2017; 7 July 2017; 4 August 2017; 1 September 2017; 6 October 2017; 3 November 2017; 1 December 2017

4.

Europe 1600-1815: Discovering the Black Histories Behind the Objects

From Page Boys to the Queen of Sheba; explore the motifs of Europe's depiction of African people. Hear about the real experiences of African Caribbean Men and Women during this time and beyond.

Volunteer Tour Guide - LAUREN JOHNSON

Fridays, 19.30 – 20.30

5 May 2017; 7 July 2017; 4 August 2017; 1 September 2017; 6 October 2017; 3 November 2017; 1 December 2017

5.

The African Gaze

This tour will give an overview of the African presence in 17th and 18th Century Europe as represented in a number of high quality artistic works. From blackamoors to rebel leaders - visitors will look at the experiences and achievements of individuals of African descent in European history at a time when the African body would become symbolic of degradation.

Volunteer Tour Guide – NADIA DENTON

Fridays, 19.30 – 20.30

12 May 2017; 9 June 2017; 14 July 2017; 11 August 2017; 8 September 2017; 13 October 2017; 10 November 2017; 8 December 2017

6.

Through the Looking Glass: Africa in Europe

Through examining a selection of objects in the Europe 1600 – 1815 Galleries, will highlight the African presence in Europe during this period; touching on narratives of exploration, exploitation, and expansion. You will explore how artisanal depictions of the “other” act as mirrors, reflecting how the artists' viewed themselves and their communities, and throwing concerns of status and self-image into sharp relief.

Volunteer Tour Guide – HOLLY GRAHAM

Fridays, 19.30 – 20.30

21 April 2017; 19 May 2017; 16 June 2017; 21 July 2017; 18 August 2017; 15 September 2017; 20 October 2017; 17 November 2017; 15 December 2017

7.

Idealism and Status Through Imagery

This tour will touch on the use of imagery for political idealism and social status. Artifacts in the European Galleries help us to gain an insight into the political ideals of the day and give a sense of what imagery conveyed depending on your status. The overriding complexities of the period had great impact and still informs us today.

Volunteer Tour Guide – NKECHI NOEL

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

22 April 2017; 20 May 2017; 17 June 2017; 15 July 2017; 19 August 2017; 16 September 2017; 21 October 2017; 18 November 2017; 16 December 2017

8.

Storytelling and Survival

Journey through selected artefacts that serve to remind us that Caribbean history is an unclaimed chapter of European history. This tour looks at the art and re-design of survival in the Caribbean. Come and hear stories such as the sacred role of the drum, how lips communicated without speaking, and how Carnival expresses freedom.

Volunteer Tour Guide - SHEBA MONTSERRAT

Fridays, 15.00 – 16.00

12 May 2017; 9 June 2017; 14 July 2017; 11 August 2017; 8 September 2017; 13 October 2017; 10 November 2017; 8 December

Fridays, 19.30 – 20.30

2 June 2017

9.

Black Heritage and Europe: Existence, Prestige and Power

Take a trip through the images and contributions of black people in Europe (1600-1800), exploring the social norms and power struggles of the day.

Volunteer Tour Guide – DONATA MILLER

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

10 June 2017; 12 August 2017; 9 September 2017; 14 October 2017; 11 November 2017; 2 December 2017

10.

Giving A Narrative To Those Who Had No Name

Who are you? Where do you come from? How did you survive and what do you feel? Questions we will ask each of the black figures represented in a selection of art works in the Europe 1600 – 1815 galleries. Explore the political and cultural attitudes on 'otherness' in these historic turbulent times, and piece together stories for future generations.

Volunteer Tour Guide – PENNIE MENDES

Fridays, 15.00 – 16.00

23 June 2017; 22 December 2017

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

13 May 2017; 22 July 2017

11.

Exploration, Exploitation and Global Trade 1600 - 1815

This period saw a dramatic increase in military, political and cultural control across the globe including the coasts of Africa. Tobacco, sugar, and humans were imported from the New into the Old World, contributing wealth to the rise of new Empires. Black images in Art and Design became more prevalent in the religious and secular world. Although enslavement was on the rise, some black Africans rose to positions of power and prestige, as seen in the beautiful works within the European galleries.

Volunteer Tour Guide – MARGARET RAFFIN

Fridays, 15.00 – 16.00

22 September 2017

Saturdays, 15.00 – 16.00

8 July 2017

Fridays, 19.30 – 20.30

23 June 2017, 22 December 2017

Images:

1. La Nature, Mus. no. C-361-2009;
2. Peter the Great with his Page, Mus no. 605-1882;
3. Toussaint Louverture on Horseback, Mus. no. 29510:20;
4. Bust of a Boy, Mus. no. A.18-1913;
5. Bust of a Youth, Mus no. 451-1869.

Museum Address:

Victoria & Albert Museum
Cromwell road
London
SW7 2RL

Nearest Station: South Kensington

Buses: C1, 14, 414 and 74

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Please note that I work part-time at the V&A and my usual days are Wed PM, all day Thursday and Friday.