



## BENEFACTORS OF THE WALLACE COLLECTION

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PROGRAMME OF EVENTS  
JULY - DECEMBER 2025

# WELCOME

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A *Hunt Breakfast*, by Jean-François de Troy, shows a group of richly attired men and women enjoying a picnic in anticipation of the hunt that follows in the pendant sketch, *Death of a Stag*. Both studies, now in the Dining Room, were made in 1737 in preparation for the large paintings *Un déjeuner près d'une ferme* (*Breakfast by a Farm*; Louvre, Paris) and *Les abois d'un cerf* (*The Death of a Stag*; location unknown). De Troy was commissioned to paint these as decorations for the large dining room of Louis XV's apartments at Fontainebleau, forming part of a major decorative scheme for which eight artists contributed twenty-three paintings altogether.

In 2024, the pair went to an external conservator for a much-needed cleaning, restoring the works to their former glory, allowing viewers to appreciate the lively, impressionistic brushwork which had so pleased Louis XV several centuries ago.

The conservation of *A Hunt Breakfast* and its pendant was generously supported by an anonymous donor.

Your continued support for our research, conservation and learning programmes is greatly valued.

**Cover and right**  
*Déjeuner près d'une ferme* (*A Hunt Breakfast*), 1737,  
Jean-François de Troy, (P463)

The image to the right shows the work before the conservation treatment.



All images of Wallace Collection artworks in this publication © The Wallace Collection

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This brochure lists the core events of the July – December 2025 Benefactor programme. We anticipate additions to the schedule as projects develop and opportunities arise, so please pay careful attention to further correspondence from the Development Office.

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## Benefactor Levels\*

Curator's Circle	£1,500
Conservator's Circle	£2,500
Director's Circle	£5,000

Young Benefactors have a separate calendar of events.  
Please contact the office for more information.

All times are BST/GMT.

## July

### Annual Summer Supporters' Talk

Monday 7 July

5.30pm, private view of the exhibition;

6.30 – 8.00pm, talk and reception

We are delighted to share that Grayson Perry will be leading our 2025 Annual Summer Supporters' Talk. He will tell us about his experience creating the landmark exhibition, *Grayson Perry: Delusions of Grandeur*, in collaboration with the Wallace Collection.

The evening will include an opportunity to explore the exhibition out of hours and, after the talk, a drinks reception.



Opposite

Grayson Perry © Richard Anset, shot exclusively for the Wallace Collection, London

## September

**Curator-led tour of Colour and Line:  
Watteau's Drawings at the British Museum**

**Wednesday 10 September**

**9.00 – 10.00am**

Alongside his prolific output of paintings, which are some of the most iconic and beloved of the 18th century, Antoine Watteau drew incessantly and with breathtaking talent. Showcasing his extraordinary skill as a draughtsman, this exhibition will shine a spotlight on the museum's world-class collection of Watteau on paper for the first time since 1980.

At the Wallace Collection, his fêtes galantes in particular are widely celebrated; this exhibition will show us another dimension of an artist whose work captures the atmosphere at the end of Louis XIV's reign and the Rococo.



**Left**  
*Five studies of a Woman's Head*,  
 Chalk, 1716-1717, Antoine Watteau,  
 The British Museum

**Opposite**  
*Chest of Drawers*, 1780, Jean-Henri  
 Riesener (F247)

**Private tour of *Heiress: Sargent's American Portraits* at Kenwood House**

**Wednesday 24 September**

**9.00 – 10.00am**

No other artist's name is as synonymous with the beauty and glamour of the late 19th and early 20th centuries as John Singer Sargent's, whose portraits of society elites included many of the American women who crossed the Atlantic to trade money for titles.

Celebrated both in Europe and in America, Sargent was 'the artist' of the Gilded Age, popular for his elegant form of realism and ability to capture the essence of his sitter. The exhibition challenges old stereotypes, using 18 portraits to reveal the rich legacy these women have left on the British aristocracy and their adoptive country.

## October

**Focus on... Versailles at the Wallace Collection**

**Thursday 9 October**

**9.00 – 10.00am**

Many of the finest objects in the Wallace Collection were made for the magnificent interiors of Versailles. From Louis XIV to Louis XVI, each reign would become associated with the style and fashion of the day, shaped by the artists and patrons' desire to embrace the most daring contemporary designs. Together with Alex Collins, Curator of Decorative Arts, we will journey through the splendour of Versailles by focusing on pieces that have an intimate relationship with the palace and its royal inhabitants, delving into the provenance of these incredible works.

This event will be followed by coffee and pastries in the restaurant.

**Tour of the Armourers' Hall**

**Monday 27 October**

**11.00am – 12.30pm**

The Armourers & Brasiers' Company, founded in 1322 by King Edward II, is one of the 110 livery Companies in the City of London. Built in 1837 on a site they have occupied since the 15th century, the Armourers' Hall is home to a stunning array of arms and armour from across the centuries.

Join the Wallace Collection's Curator for Arms and Armour, Keith Downen, to explore the objects in this renowned collection and learn more about the history of the guild dedicated to this unique form of craftsmanship.





## November

**Curator-led tour of *Marie Antoinette Style* at the Victoria and Albert Museum**

**Monday 3 November**

**9.00 – 10.00am**

The first major UK exhibition to focus on the legacy of Marie Antoinette, this show will journey through the ill-fated queen's undeniable influence over design, fashion, film and art.

With a wide range of objects and media, including an ornate perfume burner on loan from the Wallace Collection, the exhibition will explore Marie Antoinette's timeless appeal and how her complex character, style, and notoriety continue to inspire us over 250 years later.

**Supporters' preview day for *Caravaggio's Cupid* at the Wallace Collection**

**Tuesday 25 November**

**12.00 – 5.00pm**

This November, for the first time in the UK, the Wallace Collection will display Caravaggio's striking *Cupid as Victor*, on loan from the Gemäldegalerie in Berlin.

Commissioned by Marchese Vincenzo Giustiniani, the *Cupid as Victor* (1601-02) is an undisputed masterpiece by Caravaggio, depicting the Roman god of desire in an animated, provocative pose. Displayed alongside the Wallace Collection's own statue on the same theme and works from the Giustiniani collection, this free exhibition will explore the relationship between artist and patron, whilst drawing visitors' attention to a single painting in Caravaggio's unrivalled body of work.

All Benefactors have private access to *Caravaggio's Cupid*, with up to 3 guests, before the exhibition opens to the public on Wednesday 26 November.

### Opposite

*Perfume Burner*, 1773-75, Pierre Gouthière (mounts), François-Joseph Belanger (designer), Augustin Bocciardi (jasper cutter) (F292)

## December

### Focus on... Pre-Impressionism at the Wallace Collection

**Tuesday 2 December**

**9.00 – 10.00am**

The Impressionist movement was a landmark shift in Western art, irrevocably challenging how the outdoors could be represented on canvas.

Focusing on paintings from the 18th and early 19th centuries, Alison Smith, Director of Collections and Research, will show us how depictions of landscapes, gardens, and the natural world from this earlier period pre-empted the distinguishing traits of Impressionism.

This event will be followed by coffee and pastries in the restaurant.

### Festive Drinks at the Wallace Collection

**Monday 8 December**

**6.30 – 8.30pm**

Celebrate the arrival of the festive season with a drinks reception at Hertford House to toast the year's achievements, thanks to your generous support.

As well as our much-anticipated 'Caravaggesque' festive decorations and jovial atmosphere, you can expect the Wallace Collection's curators to be scattered across the galleries giving talks on their favourite objects.

Opposite  
*Venice: the Piazza San Marco (detail)*,  
1828,  
Richard Parkes Bonington (P375)



Wallace Collection Benefactors are warmly welcomed at the art fairs listed below. Please contact the Development Office for further information.

### FAB Paris

La Biennale Paris - Fine Arts Paris

**Saturday 20 - Wednesday 24 September 2025**

Located under the glass roof of the prestigious Grand Palais Ephémère, 2025 will see exhibitors return to FAB Paris, France's only art fair that celebrates art from antiquity to the present day.

### Frieze Masters

London

**Wednesday 15 - Sunday 19 October 2025**

Coinciding with and within walking distance of Frieze London, Frieze Masters gives a unique view on the relationship between old and new art by showing works made before the year 2000.



## FOR THE CONSERVATOR'S CIRCLE AND ABOVE

### November

#### The Augsburg Service in conservation

**Wednesday 12 November**

**10.30 - 11.30am**

Created in the mature German Rococo style, the Wallace Collection's Augsburg Service is one of the largest remaining in existence. With its luxurious materials and playful designs, the toilet and breakfast set survives as a product of the material culture that shaped 18th-century domesticity.

In late 2025, our conservation team will start much-needed treatment on these pieces. We invite you upstairs to our in-house studio to learn more about these fascinating objects and the patient work required to care for them.

This event will be followed by coffee and pastries in the restaurant.

#### Don't forget your additional Conservator's Circle benefits

- An overview of our forthcoming conservation projects
- Regular updates from conservators and the Development Office on the progress of conservation projects
- Priority booking for Benefactor events and trips

For enquiries please contact:  
[benefactors@wallacecollection.org](mailto:benefactors@wallacecollection.org)  
+44 (0)20 7563 9511



Left  
Covered Glass from  
the Augsburg Service (W258)

# FOR THE DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

## September

### Director's Dinner

**Monday 29 September**

**6.30 – 10.30pm**

Members of the Director's Circle are invited to our annual dinner to thank them for their generous support of the Wallace Collection. This special occasion will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the museum and look ahead to its exciting future.

Below

*Cupid as Victor* c.1601-2,  
Caravaggio (Michelangelo Merisi),  
Gemäldegalerie, Berlin  
© Jörg P. Anders



## November

### Private tour of *Caravaggio's Cupid at the Wallace Collection*

**Tuesday 25 November**

**10.30 – 11.30am**

Join Xavier Bray, museum Director, to uncover the remarkable story of Caravaggio's *Cupid as Victor*, and that of its illustrious patron. Together, we will explore what this highly accomplished work, with its characteristic intensity and use of light and shadow, can tell us about the baroque master himself.

This event will be followed by a champagne brunch in the restaurant.

### Don't forget your additional Director's Circle benefits

- Assistance accessing exhibitions and museums around Europe\*
- Priority booking for Benefactor events, galas and celebratory dinners
- Private reception and advanced preview of exhibitions for Director's Circle members only
- A complimentary catalogue from each Wallace Collection exhibition

\*subject to availability and contacts

For enquiries please contact:

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**+44 (0)20 7563 9511**

# EVENTS AT A GLANCE

Mon 7 July	5.30pm, private view of the exhibition; 6.30 – 8.00pm, talk and reception	Annual Summer Supporters' Talk with Grayson Perry
Wed 10 September	9.00 – 10.00am	Curator-led tour of <i>Colour and Line: Watteau's Drawings</i> at the British Museum
Wed 24 September	9.00 – 10.00am	Private tour of <i>Heiress: Sargent's American Portraits</i> at Kenwood House
Mon 29 September	6.30 – 10.30pm	Director's Dinner for Benefactors at the Director's Circle level
Thur 9 October	9.00 – 10.00am	Focus on... <i>Versailles</i> at the Wallace Collection
Mon 27 October	11.00am – 12.30pm	Tour of the Armourers' Hall
Mon 3 November	9.00 – 10.00am	Curator-led tour of <i>Marie Antoinette Style</i> at the Victoria and Albert Museum
Wed 12 November	10.30 – 11.30am	The Augsburg Service in Conservation for Conservator's Circle Benefactors and above
Tue 25 November	10.30 – 11.30am	Private tour of <i>Caravaggio's Cupid</i> at the Wallace Collection for the Director's Circle
Tue 25 November	12.00 – 5.00pm	Supporters' preview day for <i>Caravaggio's Cupid</i> at the Wallace Collection
Tue 2 December	9.00 – 10.00am	Focus on... <i>Pre-Impressionism</i> at the Wallace Collection
Mon 8 December	6.30 – 8.30pm	Festive Drinks at the Wallace Collection

For enquiries or to book, please contact the Development Office:

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**+44 (0)20 7563 9511**

## Further Information

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For more information on how you can support the Wallace Collection, please contact the Development Office:

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**E** [benefactors@wallacecollection.org](mailto:benefactors@wallacecollection.org)

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Admission free  
Open 7 days a week  
10am - 5pm

**W** [wallacecollection.org](http://wallacecollection.org)  
**Twitter** [@WallaceMuseum](https://twitter.com/WallaceMuseum)  
**Facebook** [/wallacecollection](https://www.facebook.com/wallacecollection)