



museumaker

Unlocking the creative potential
of museum collections

www.museumaker.com

From Summer 2010

museumaker is a prestigious national project, involving sixteen museums across four participating regions



museumaker 16 projects locations

Each museum offers a programme of events for their local communities and groups as well as activities that everyone can get involved with: go to the events calendar on the museumaker website for an up to date programme or contact the individual museums. Some partner museums are working with makers to develop new contemporary souvenirs for their shops. Following the launch of Woodhorn's products on 12 June, there will be new lines at other museums as their projects develop.

For more information please visit www.museumaker.com

Images, from top row, left to right: workshop at Orleans House Gallery; Geffrye Museum; mima; creating *A Dark Day in Paradise* by Clare Twomey for the Royal Pavilion, photo © Matthew Andrews; woodland walk at Killhope; *Orange Brooch* by Lina Peterson, commissioned maker at the University of Nottingham Museum





museumaker is a national programme running at sixteen museum sites across the East Midlands, London, North East and South East. museumaker unlocks the creative potential of their many diverse collections through collaborations with the best of contemporary craft. Each museum project includes intriguing commissions and engaging events and activities. The full programme is available on www.museumaker.com

1

Rebecca Chitty and Jessamy Kelly are making Coal Bowl, Blue Plaque Plate, Coaster and Soot Storm at Woodhorn Northumberland Museum Archives and Country Park
From 12 June 2010

The focus of the commissions is retail development. Working with a retail consultant, both makers have developed new contemporary souvenirs. Rebecca's Coal Bowl, Blue Plaque Plate and Coaster and Jessamy's Soot Storm (a new take on an old favourite – the snow dome) are inspired by the makers' response to the spirit of the museum's permanent display of paintings by the Ashington Group. Interest in these 'Pitmen Painters' has recently heightened thanks to the success of playwright Lee Hall's National Theatre hit.

www.experiencewoodhorn.com
www.productofyourenvironment.co.uk
www.jessamykellyglass.com

2

Steve Manthorp & Sue Lawty are engaging with young people at Killhope, The North of England Lead Mining Museum
March – November 2010

Killhope offers an outdoor experience in an evocative post-industrial rural landscape, bringing social history to life. Following a two stage process for museumaker, Steve Manthorp initially led a series of Magical Mystery tours, enriching young people's understanding of Killhope and contemporary craft. In the second stage Sue Lawty, artist in residence at the V&A, will create Letters in Lead (working title), a permanent installation of woven lead inspired by the work undertaken in the first stage.

www.killhope.org.uk
www.manthorp.co.uk
www.vam.ac.uk/suelawty

3

Laura Baxter is making A Garden of Lantern Birds at The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle
30 October 2010 – 31 January 2011

John and Josephine Bowes built a spectacular 'French chateau' to house their stunning collection of fine and decorative arts. In the spirit of Josephine Bowes, who loved to support and encourage artists and craftspeople to develop their work, the museum has commissioned Laura Baxter. She is creating a group of 'lantern birds': illuminated laser-cut metal birds, positioned outside, inspired by the birds in the museum's paintings, textiles and ceramics collections and featuring filigree patterns from the Blackborne Lace Collection.

www.thebowesmuseum.org.uk
www.laurabaxter.co.uk

4

Lin Cheung, Ted Noten and Laura Potter are making Family Treasures at Museums and Galleries, Middlesbrough
February 2010 – March 2011

Working together, Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima), the Dorman Museum and the Captain Cook Birthplace Museum are commissioning UK jewellers Lin Cheung & Laura Potter and the Dutch designer Ted Noten to collaborate with residents of Middlesbrough to create pieces of jewellery that will reflect the individuals' interests, ideas and ambitions. Each piece will be made in editions of two: one will enter the Museums' collections while the other will be gifted to the commissioner to be worn in the real world.

www.middlesbrough.gov.uk
www.lincheung.co.uk
www.laurapotter.co.uk
www.tednoten.com

5

Susan Bradley is making Twist at Alford Manor House
From Autumn 2010

A contemporary Summer house with nostalgic references of life in rural Lincolnshire, Twist is inspired by the Museum's archive of straw work celebrating past harvests. The commission is sited in the newly restored Victorian walled garden. Susan Bradley is best known for her intricately cut metal designs, used in interior and exterior spaces around the world. Alford Manor, at the foot of the Lincolnshire Wolds, is the largest thatched manor house in the country.

www.alfordmanorhouse.co.uk
www.susanbradley.co.uk

6

Jane Wildgoose is making Life Is Very Sweet at The Harley Museum & Gallery
18 July – March 2011

Bompas & Parr is making Dinner of Doom
4 December 2010

Taking two approaches to the history of dining and entertainment, the Harley Gallery have commissioned Jane Wildgoose to create a beautiful installation of sugarcraft and shell flowers drawing on the wealth of the Portland Collection, charting the history of a British family since 1600; and Bompas & Parr, the Jellymongers, to stage a food and film extravaganza in the grounds of the Welbeck estate in Nottinghamshire.

www.harleygallery.co.uk
www.janewildgoose.co.uk
www.jellymongers.co.uk

7

Lina Peterson is making Ancient|Modern: Wearable Hybrids at the University of Nottingham Museum
1 October – 17 December 2010

The University of Nottingham Museum holds archaeological artefacts excavated in the East Midlands and from the Mediterranean reflecting the everyday lives of people, including jewellery. This project creates hybrid artifacts, merging ancient objects with contemporary materials and ideas. Ancient pieces spring to life with Lina's interventions and the importance and meaning of personal adornment are eloquently expressed in the museum's commission.

www.nottingham.ac.uk/museum
www.linapeterson.com

8

Susie MacMurray is making Promenade at Kedleston Hall

19 July – 30 September 2010

Visitors can stroll through this temporary installation in Kedleston's imposing Marble Hall; a shimmering maze, composed of thousands of metres of gold thread wound between the alabaster pillars. Designed for lavish entertaining, Kedleston is a stunning example of the work of architect Robert Adam. Promenade is created by a maker renowned for her site-specific interventions in historic spaces.

www.nationaltrust.org.uk/kedleston
www.susiemacmurray.co.uk

9

Timorous Beasties are making The Valentines Textile: Deckchairs, Parasols & Windbreaks at Valentines Mansion, Redbridge

19 July – 30 September 2010

A bespoke Valentines Textile, created by renowned Glasgow design studio Timorous Beasties, takes inspiration from the history of the Mansion, built for the widow of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the 17th century. In the walled kitchen garden, featuring rococo grottoes, a dovecote and café, deck chairs, wind-breaks and parasols will add to visitors' enjoyment of a vibrant programme of Summer activities.

www.valentinesmansion.com
www.timorousbeasties.com

10

Nicola Malkin is making Well Crafted Footnotes at the Women's Library, Tower Hamlets

28 October 2010 – 26 March 2011

Peer above bookshelves and peek under tables; discover craft that brings to life the stories held within the Women's Library. Inspired by the lives of women and the history of the library, find gigantic everyday objects that evoke strong memories and familiarities. Connect with the pieces and discover the documents behind them. Traditional craft techniques are reworked in simple ways to captivate and intrigue audiences.

www.thewomenslibrary.ac.uk
www.nicolamalkin.com

11

Kei Ito is making Sitting the Light Fantastic at the Geffrye Museum, Hackney

14 September 2010 – Autumn 2012

Extraordinary lighting in the gardens of this well-loved museum of domestic history, Kei Ito creates an ethereal parade of chairs and lamps inspired by the global cultural influences that have shaped English furniture, ornaments and textiles. Made from woven fibre optics and larger than life, their glow will create a sense of ghostly magic. Kei's work is stimulated by geometric pattern and different costume and textile traditions.

www.geffrye-museum.org.uk
www.keiito.com

12

Eleanor Pritchard is making Place Setting at Orleans House Gallery, Richmond

12 June – 26 September 2010

Join a fantasy guest list spanning four centuries: aristocrats, architects and housekeepers are seated at an embroidered and gilded banquet table, each with famous and forgotten stories embroidered on a napkin. Drawing inspiration from the architectural details of Orleans House, Ham House and Strawberry Hill, Place Setting showcases plasterwork, sugarwork, quilling and damask techniques to stunning effect. Part of the Heritage Now! project.

www.richmond.gov.uk/arts
www.eleanorpritchard.com

13

Richard Jackson is making Exchanging Luminance at The Lightbox, Woking

From October 2010

Just three years old, The Lightbox, Woking's exciting new gallery, museum and shop offers a focus for contemporary art, craft and design in the region. Designed by Marks Barfield Architects, the museum won the Art Fund Prize 2008. The museummaker commission is a stainless steel and glass piece by sculptor Richard Jackson, to light up the garden on winter afternoons and summer evenings and draw visitors into the courtyard and the building.

www.thelightbox.org.uk
www.richardjackson-glass.com

14

Cathy Miles is making The Toolshed at the Guildhall Museum, Rochester

22 May – 31 August 2010

Inspired by one of the Guildhall's star exhibits, the Seaton Tool Chest, a complete set of 18th century furniture making tools, Cathy Miles' temporary installation of sculptural wire tools (her first large scale work) explores tools in the widest sense. Community participation is at the heart of the work, Cathy will be in residence in June (check web site for programme details) and a substantial Summer Holiday activity programme is planned.

www.medway.gov.uk/tourism/44632.htm
www.cathymiles.com

15

Laura Thomas is making Architectural Glass at The Beane Art Museum & Library, Canterbury

Showcased January 2011, installed 2012

Opened in 1899 through the bequest of Dr James Beane, the 'tudorbethan' museum and library is currently closed until 2012 for a major £12 million redevelopment project. Laura Thomas's three internal windows will mark the juncture of the old and new buildings. A sense of structure, deriving from her weave practice will be evident and inspiration will be drawn from The Beane's important stained glass collection to create a sensitive permanent work to complement exhibits.

www.futurebeaney.com
www.laurathomas.co.uk

16

Clare Twomey is making A Dark Day in Paradise at the Royal Pavilion, Brighton

8 June 2010 – 16 January 2011

Architect John Nash drew on the talents of many artists to create a pleasure palace for the Prince Regent. For museummaker, a 21st century maker is creating an installation for the interior of the Royal Pavilion. Clare Twomey's 'swarm of beauty and menace' – thousands of black ceramic butterflies – encourage visitors to reflect on the building's past hedonism, and invite them to consider their own values and priorities.

www.brighton-hove-pavilion.org.uk
www.claretwomey.com