

# Fashion Museum Bath

Fashion Museum  
July – December  
2019

COLLECTION  
STORIES



Bath & North East  
Somerset Council

[fashionmuseum.co.uk](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk)

*"A thoughtfully curated and fascinating exhibition which explains how and why fashions change."*

*"Has to be among the very best places to see the history of fashion."*

*Online reviews from Tripadvisor in 2019*

**Front cover image:**  
1900 Wedding dress. Bodice and matching skirt of cream silk satin with hand-made lace trimmings, wax orange blossom corsage and 1.8 metre long train.

**This page:**  
1948 Black and red wool crepe appliqué jacket, with black sequins by Lucien Lelong. Worn by Vivien Leigh.

1982 Red and black spotted silk ballgown, with bows and puffed sleeves designed by the Emanuels.



## Welcome

The Fashion Museum Bath is one of the world's great museum collections of historical and contemporary dress.

Fashion has the power to capture the imagination and to illuminate personal and social stories. The Museum's headline exhibition, *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*, shows how fashions have changed throughout the ages, whilst the annual *Dress of the Year* selection shines a spotlight on contemporary fashion.

Continuing throughout 2019 is *Glove Stories*, where exquisite, historical gloves are interlaced with our headline exhibition. The *Collection Stories* Gallery and *Fashion Focus* displays offer an exciting new look behind the scenes of the Museum's outstanding collection.

Visitors can also create their own period outfit from the replica dressing up items, based on the Museum's collection.

The accompanying events programme offers creative workshops, family activities and special one-off experiences. The Museum also hosts the Bath branch of the Knitting and Crochet Guild.

A visit to the Museum lasts an hour or more and includes an audioguide available in 12 languages.

Find out more at [fashionmuseum.co.uk](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk), Facebook, Pinterest, Instagram and Twitter. You can also get in touch at [fashion\\_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:fashion_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk)

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Fashion Museum!

**'One of the world's best fashion museums...'**  
*Condé Nast Traveler*



**Condé Nast**  
**Traveler**



# A History of Fashion in 100 Objects

The Fashion Museum Bath presents 100 'star' objects from its collection in the headline exhibition *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*. Taken together, these objects showcase a history of fashion from the 1600s to the present day.

Fashion touches everyone's life – it is intrinsically linked to society – and *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects* references moments in history, as well as personal stories.

## Images left to right:

1890s, Black woven silk boned corset, with tiny blue and pink flowers.

1870, White and coral red woven silk evening dress.

1906, Chauffeur's coarse cotton *duster* coat.

1610s, Man's multi-coloured silks and spangle embroidered *nightcap*.

1740s, Yellow, red and blue brocade woven silk *closed robe*.



# Glove Stories



One of the best collections of gloves in the world can now be viewed at the Fashion Museum. Woven throughout *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*, *Glove Stories* showcases the breadth and depth of The Glove Collection of the Worshipful Company of Glovers of London, which is cared for and housed at the Fashion Museum.

Visitors can see exquisite examples of historical gloves from the past 400 years; many of which have never been displayed to the public before. Highlights include a curious pair of gloves in a walnut shell from the 1830s and a costume glove from the Star Wars film, *The Empire Strikes Back*. From late July the Museum will also be displaying the rarely seen coronation glove of Queen Elizabeth I, originally worn in 1559. This has been especially loaned by Dents Museum to the Fashion Museum as one of a number of royal gloves in *Glove Stories*.

**Left:** Soviet Cosmonaut space suit glove, about 1986. Courtesy of the Worshipful Company of Glovers of London.

## COLLECTION STORIES

Buried within the Fashion Museum's collection are hundreds of fascinating individual fashion stories. The new *Collection Stories* Gallery invites visitors to view 19th-century dress and accessories and discover some of these hidden narratives.



From shoes and bonnets to lace and wedding dresses, the treasured pieces, specially selected for display amongst the storage boxes, hint at the astonishing size and depth of the Fashion Museum collection.

The *Collection Stories* Gallery will also showcase a special space for regularly changing displays called *Fashion Focus*, beginning with an enchanting collection of antique dolls and accompanying life size fashions from the same historical period.

**Left:** Cream silk court waistcoat embroidered in floral and oak leaf design. From the 1850s.

**Above:** Purple silk satin shoes richly embroidered with glass beads and diamanté, about 1898. Made by Maxen-Gantiez, Paris.



# Events programme

## Family Activities

Free to attend with Museum entry, no need to book. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

### Beaded Beauties

**Tuesday 23 July**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

We have some beautiful beaded dresses on display in the Fashion Museum. Use beads and sequins to create a special design of your own.

### Folded Fancies from the 60s and 70s

**Tuesday 30 July**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

Take a look at 20th-century fashion displays and use origami to create special miniature outfits from the 1960s and 1970s.

### Woolly Wonders

**Tuesday 6 August**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

There are some interesting crochet designs in the Fashion Museum's collection. Use a cardboard frame and wool to create a crochet-effect design.



Left: John Galliano Newsprint Gloves.

### Fashion of the Future

**Tuesday 13 August**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

Fashion designers are always creating designs that are one step ahead of the clothes we see on the high street. Look at our *Dress of the Year* collection and use unusual materials to create something really different.

### Magazine Mix-up

**Tuesday 20 August**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

Have you explored the gloves on display in our *Glove Stories* exhibition? Use magazine collage to create a design in the style of John Galliano's amazing newsprint gloves.

### Cloche Hat, Posh Hat

**Tuesday 27 August**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

Decorate and accessorise traditional hat designs into something modern by adding colour, pattern and 3D elements.

### Gloves Galore

**Tuesday 29 –**

**Thursday 31 October**

**13.30–15.30**

Use a hand template to create glove-like decorations such as a wreath or garland. Take a look at the work by artist Rozanne Hawksley in our *Glove Stories* display for some inspirational ideas!



### On a Starry Night

**Sunday 15 December**

**10.30–12.30 and 13.30–15.30**

Wrap up warm and join us to create multi-coloured star ornaments using yarn.

## Jane Austen Fashion Tea

**Sunday 29 September, 3–5pm**

**Tickets £45**

Take afternoon tea in the elegant surroundings of the 18th-century Assembly Rooms. This will be followed by a talk from Rosemary Harden from the Fashion Museum on the fashions of Jane Austen and the Regency era. Enjoy a visit to the Fashion Museum afterwards as part of your ticket.

To book visit [fashionmuseum.co.uk/janeaustentea](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk/janeaustentea)



Right: 1815 White cutwork embroidered cotton gown with spencer-style bodice.



## Creative Activities

### Saturday Sketching

**First Saturday of every month,  
10.30–12.30**

Sketch the beautiful objects on display in the *Collection Stories* exhibition, with suggestions of key spots of interest. Self-led sketching sessions in the Museum, materials provided. Free to attend with Museum entry.

### Bath Knitting & Crochet Guild

**Second Saturday of every month,  
10.00–12.00**

Monthly knitting and crochet session which takes place in the Assembly Rooms. Free to attend, all skill levels welcome.

Continuing throughout 2019

## Learning at the Fashion Museum

There are many ways to learn at the Fashion Museum, from a teaching session to a self-guided visit. Our sessions are closely linked to the curriculum and also cater for young people who are developing an interest in fashion and textiles. For more information please visit [fashionmuseum.co.uk/learn](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk/learn)



## Royal School of Needlework classes



### Bespoke Embroidery: Inspired by 1690s Crewelwork Petticoat

**Saturday 20 July, 10.00–16.00**

Recreate the ship motif on an historic crewelwork petticoat with **Deborah Wilding**.

### Bespoke Embroidery: Inspired by 1600s Gauntlet Gloves

**Saturday 3 August, 10.00–16.00**

Recreate the decoration on a beautiful tabbed gauntlet glove with **Kate Barlow**.

### Bespoke Embroidery: Inspired by 1700s Embroidered Waistcoat

**Saturday 17 August, 10.00–16.00**

Learn how to recreate an embroidered bird motif using silk shading techniques with **Kate Barlow**.

### Bespoke Embroidery: Inspired by 1850s Court Waistcoat

**Saturday 7 September, 10.00–16.00**

Recreate the stunning floral decoration on a man's court waistcoat with **Deborah Wilding**.

### Bespoke Embroidery: Inspired by Jane Austen

**Saturday 21 September, 10.00–16.00**

Make a lavender bag using traditional whitework techniques from the time of Jane Austen with **Deborah Wilding**.



Tickets £84, plus £30 for materials payable in cash on the day. Book at [www.royal-needlework.org.uk/courses](http://www.royal-needlework.org.uk/courses).

All sessions run from 10.00 to 16.00 and are held in the Study Facilities. People attending these sessions need to be comfortable climbing stairs.



The Assembly Rooms are open nearly every day, free of charge  
01225 477789



## Assembly Rooms

The Assembly Rooms were designed to be a place for dancing and music. When they were completed in 1771 they were described as 'the most noble and elegant of any in the kingdom', with the Ball Room accommodating as many as 800 people. Today, the building contains the finest set of 18th-century chandeliers in the world. Visitors can view the Assembly Rooms when not in use.

### Private Hire

The Ball Room, Tea Room, Card Room and Great Octagon are all available for private hire for weddings, conferences, dinners, parties and other events.

Visit Bath's Historic Venues  
**bathvenues.co.uk** for more information  
or call 01225 477786.

**f** Bathshistoricvenues  
**t** @bathvenues  
**p** bathshistoricvenues  
**i** bathshistoricvenues

Above: The Ball Room.

The Museum Shop is open every day | 01225 477712  
The Café is open nearly every day | 01225 444477

13

## Museum Shop

The shop sells a carefully chosen selection of gifts, fashion accessories, jewellery and stationery to accompany the Fashion Museum's special exhibitions programme.

The comprehensive book range covers everything from fashion history and stand out designers, to specialist pattern and children's activity books.



Left (above): Fashion Museum Guidebook

Left to right: Gorgeous gifts featuring star objects from the new Collection Stories display.

## Café

The café serves hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and cakes. It is open every day when not booked for an event.





## Dress of the Year

The Fashion Museum's collection is brought up-to-the-minute with its annual *Dress of the Year* selection.

Each year, the Museum invites a top name from the fashion industry to select an outfit that encapsulates the prevailing mood of fashion, represents the past year and captures the imagination. The chosen design then becomes part of the museum's world-class collection and is displayed in the headline exhibition *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*.

**Right:** Silk embroidered redingote style coat worn with light blue jersey shorts and 'Archlight' sneakers by Nicolas Ghesquière for Louis Vuitton, S/S 2018.  
Courtesy of Louis Vuitton.

**Far Right:** Man's light pink cashmere twill suit, 'B24' sneakers and chunky metal necklace by Kim Jones for Dior, S/S 2019.  
Courtesy of Dior.



## Dressing Up at the Fashion Museum

The Museum's exhibits are brought to life through its unique dressing up collection. Visitors of all ages can try on replica dress from the Georgian, Regency and Victorian periods, based on some of the outfits on display. Corsets, bonnets and top hats are also on hand to complete your historical look. We love to see your dressing up too so don't forget to share your pictures on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

*"Costumes galore and you get to dress up however old you are!"*

## Visiting the Fashion Museum Bath

15

The Fashion Museum is located in the Assembly Rooms, near The Circus and Royal Crescent, less than 15 minutes' walk from the Roman Baths and 20 minutes from the rail and bus stations.

### Open daily

#### January–February

open 10.30 last entry 16.00 close 17.00

#### March–October

open 10.30 last entry 17.00 close 18.00

#### November–December

open 10.30 last entry 16.00 close 17.00

Closed 25/26 December

See [fashionmuseum.co.uk](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk) for prices. Book in advance and **save 10% on your entrance ticket** (tickets must be booked at least 24 hours in advance). Viewing the Assembly Rooms is free of charge (when not in use).

Why not combine your visit with a trip to the Roman Baths and Victoria Art Gallery and **save an average of £7** on entry prices with a **Saver Ticket**.

Want to visit the Fashion Museum, Roman Baths and Victoria Art Gallery as many times as you like? Buy our **Annual Pass** and save money all year round.

Book online at [fashionmuseum.co.uk](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk)

**Tel:** 01225 477789

**24-hour info:** 01225 477867

**Information:** [fashion\\_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:fashion_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk)

**Groups:** [fashion\\_bookings@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:fashion_bookings@bathnes.gov.uk)

### Other facilities:

- Special guided tours by prior arrangement
- Group discount (20+ people) T: 01225 477173
- Child carriers and baby changing facilities

The Assembly Rooms is owned by the National Trust and managed by Bath & North East Somerset Council, which owns and runs the Fashion Museum.

The museum galleries are fully wheelchair accessible. Please see [fashionmuseum.co.uk](http://fashionmuseum.co.uk) for our Accessibility Guide.



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**Back cover image:** Glove worn by Queen Elizabeth I at her Coronation in 1559; single cream leather woman's left hand glove with embroidery in couched silver and silver coiled metal thread in globe and stylized plant design, silver metal thread fringe. © Dents Museum Collection



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*Glove Stories*



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