

Media release
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Contemporary Artists Featured in *From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers* Lead Talks and Workshops



From left to right: Lucy Waters, *Gender Pain* (2023), Charlotte Hodes *In The Glade* (2005-6) and Daisy Collingridge *Bodyscape No 4* (2023) © The Bowes Museum, Barnard Castle. Photography by Claire Collinson

From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers (8 February – 29 June 2025) at The Bowes Museum is accompanied by an exclusive programme of talks and workshops led by contemporary artists whose artworks are displayed in the exhibition.

Joséphine Bowes, an artist, collector and patron for the arts, left behind a legacy that continues to inspire and shape the vast collection of the museum. This exhibition provides a rare opportunity to see how her vision intersects with the work of contemporary artists, creating a bridge between past and present.

The contemporary pieces featured in the exhibition link to the themes of *Trendsetters and Trailblazers* which were inspired by Joséphine's collecting practices including her love of the natural world, awareness of the age's gender and class dynamics and her reverence of the sea and celebration of the sky. From Phoebe Cummings installing her clay work, *Timeline* (2025), just days before the exhibition opened to Joy Labinjo capturing friends and family in her colourful and large-scale painting, *Chosen Family* (2024), the exhibition truly feels alive.

As part of the exhibition programme, the museum invites visitors to connect with the artists behind the artworks featured in *From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers*. Through a series of talks and hands-on workshops, visitors have the chance to hear directly from featured artists, learn more about their practice and explore the ideas behind their work. These events echo Joséphine's own passion for sharing art and vision behind the museum, making creativity something to experience, not just observe.

Talks and Workshops

Surreal Life Drawing with Daisy Collingridge

Experience life drawing like never before with acclaimed artist Daisy Collingridge. In this unique workshop, the model wears one of Collingridge's surreal textile suit sculptures, like the quilted artwork, *Bodyscape* (2023), featured in the exhibition. Explore the boundaries of life, and study

texture, shape and movement in a whole new way and get tips from Collingridge on how to bring drawing to life.

The workshop is 10 May, 1:00 - 3:00, included in admission and must be booked.

Upcycled Plate Painting with Lucy Waters

Take time to be creative with exhibiting artist Lucy Waters in an afternoon of plate painting. Using upcycled ceramic treasures from charity shops, Waters will guide attendees in designing their own decorative blue tableware inspired by her own style and her ceramics in the exhibition.

The workshop is 7 June, 1:00pm-3.00pm, included in admission and must be booked.

Exhibiting Artist Talks: Charlotte Hodes

Join artist, Charlotte Hodes to learn about her art practice and how art collections and archives are an inspirational source for her projects. Hode's work in the exhibition takes the form of ceramic vases which blur the lines between fine and decorative arts. Discover how the artist constructs her images from inception to realisation, using the process of drawing and collage.

The talk is on 24 May, 2:30pm - 3:30pm, included in admission and must be booked.

These opportunities allow visitors to connect with contemporary artists, experience *Trendsetters and Trailblazers* from fresh perspectives and even try their hand at becoming artists themselves.

For more information on these artist workshops and talks please visit:

<https://thebowesmuseum.org.uk/whats-on>

-ENDS-

Note to editors:

Pictures of the artist's artworks linked to these events can be found [here](#).

For film and photography requests and more information, please contact our Marketing & Communications Coordinators:

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About *From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers*

8 February – 29 June 2025

A landmark exhibition celebrating the 200th anniversary of museum co-founder Joséphine Bowes, showcasing three centuries of art and creativity. Featuring works from the Bowes' collection alongside international loans, expect to see an eclectic mix of paintings, sculptures, textiles and ceramics from world-renowned artists including Pablo Picasso and Sir Grayson Perry CBE and emerging contemporary artists like Joy Labinjo and Lucy Waters. The exhibition highlights Joséphine's visionary approach to collecting and offers a glimpse into how her remarkable artistic insight might have shaped The Bowes Museum's collection today.

About The Bowes Museum

The Bowes Museum is a charity managing a Grade 1 listed accredited Museum and Grade 2 listed parkland in Barnard Castle. Founded by Joséphine & John Bowes 150+ years ago, this purpose-built Museum brings together an extraordinary, Designated collection of European fine and decorative art as a cultural resource for the people of Northern England, where today we celebrate artists, designers and makers.

The Bowes Museum receives funding from Durham County Council and, as a National Portfolio Organisation, receives support from Arts Council England. Arts Council England is the national development body for arts and culture across England, working to enrich people's lives. [artscouncil.org.uk](https://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

The Bowes Museum is a member of the Discover Durham partnership of attractions, whose commitment is to promote Durham as an exciting and vibrant group travel destination and to provide the travel trade with a professional and knowledgeable service. [discoverdurham.co.uk](https://www.discoverdurham.co.uk)

Admission to The Bowes Museum is £17.70 for local members (residents of County Durham and Darlington), £20.00 for members (residents elsewhere), £19.50 for a day ticket, £21.45 for a day ticket including gift aid. Under 18s, full time students and carers are free.

As a registered charity (number 1079639) The Bowes Museum needs to generate more than half of its income each year to care for the historic collection, buildings and parkland. Your donations are vital to that work. Visit thebowesmuseum.org.uk/support/ for more information.



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