

## DRESSED FOR DEPARTURE: FASHION IN THE AGE OF RAIL FROM 27 SEPTEMBER 2025 – JANUARY 2026

Commemorating the Stockton and Darlington Railway's bicentenary, this special display brings together historic fashion, toys and artworks that reflect on how the engineering marvel reshaped lives and culture.

Discover: see what is thought to be the world's first toy train set up close, gifted by Edward Pease, the 'Father of the Railway', to his son. Discover garments from key moments in the region's railway history and artworks that capture its journey through the picturesque landscapes of Teesdale.



### DID YOU KNOW OUR EXHIBITIONS ARE UNIQUE TO BOWES AND CAN'T BE SEEN ELSEWHERE?



- \* Five new outstanding exhibitions including work by international, national and regional artists.
- \* Evening concerts \* Exclusive Members' days
- \* Hundreds of FREE family activities
- \* 22 galleries showcasing ceramics, textiles, silver, glass & more – explore your favourite art forms!

### MORE THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO AND WATCH OUT FOR

Watch out for an exclusive series of concerts in the intimate setting of the historic Jubilee room. Artists include the acclaimed singer-songwriter **Nerina Pallot** amongst others. Keep an eye on our website and socials for forthcoming announcements throughout the year.



### DISCOVER, CREATE AND CONNECT!

Hands-on activities, workshops and trails for all ages – perfect for curious minds and creative souls! Come and enjoy weekly activities throughout the museum and parkland: Stay and Play sessions, Artists Makers workshops, Members Days, LGBTQIA+ events. You might be surprised at just how much is on offer! Stay connected, find all activities on our website and follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

### HUNGRY OR LOOKING FOR A UNIQUE GIFT?

Café Bowes and the museum shop are FREE to non-members and non-ticket holders!



Barnard Castle, County Durham, DL12 8NP  
(10mins off A66, 20mins from A1)

[thebowesmuseum.org.uk](http://thebowesmuseum.org.uk)



Open Daily 10am - 5pm | +44 (0)1833 690606

Email: [hello@thebowesmuseum.org.uk](mailto:hello@thebowesmuseum.org.uk)

Charity Number: 1079639



Supported by  
ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND



  
**THE BOWES  
MUSEUM**  
County Durham

## DISCOVER WHAT'S ON OFFER IN 2025



Make the most of your membership\* and enjoy unlimited free visits to explore, create and connect.

- \* 5 outstanding exhibitions
- \* 22 fascinating galleries
- \* Over 90 FREE workshops



### Some of what's on offer:

**Adults:** Still life drawing, guided tours, expert talks, exclusive members' days and behind-the-scenes access.

**Families:** Artist Maker sessions, weekly Stay & Play, Nature Spotter activities and more!



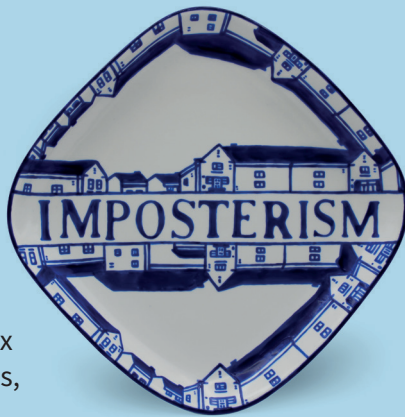
\*Membership from just £17.70 per year. Under 18s FREE. All activities are also included with general admission.



## FROM JOSÉPHINE BOWES: TRENDSETTERS AND TRAILBLAZERS

8 FEBRUARY –  
29 JUNE 2025

A landmark exhibition celebrating the 200th anniversary of museum co-founder Joséphine Bowes. A feast for the eyes, the show features an eclectic mix of paintings, sculptures, textiles and ceramics from world-renowned artists including Pablo Picasso and Sir Grayson Perry CBE, contemporary artists like Joy Labinjo and Lucy Waters, and a special commission by Phoebe Cummings. The exhibition highlights Joséphine's visionary approach to collecting and presents how her vision has shaped the collection today.



Top image: 'Imposterism', 2023, Lucy Waters. Courtesy of the artist.

Bottom image: 'Chosen Family', 2024, Joy Labinjo. Courtesy of the artist and Tiwani Contemporary. © Joy Labinjo, Deniz Guzel Photography

## JOSÉPHINE: A WOMAN OF TASTE AND FASHION

22 MARCH 2025 – MARCH 2026

Discover the timeless elegance, expertise and innovation of Joséphine Bowes' textile collection in this captivating display.

From opulent historical textiles to the cutting-edge creations of French haute couture, highlights include iconic designs from Yves Saint Laurent, Jeanne Paquin and Elsa Schiaparelli, as well as intricate embroideries and breathtaking lacework. Examples of Joséphine's style influences from the mid-18th century will also be on show, alongside rare surviving pieces from her personal wardrobe and material from the archives.



## NATHAN COLEY: YOU CREATE WHAT YOU WILL FROM JUNE 2025

(see website for more details)

Towering at 7 metres, Nathan Coley's striking outdoor installation invites you to reflect on the profound power of creation. The illuminated text installation is one in a series of Coley's public announcements that have been shown around the world to great acclaim. It is an artwork that very much resonates with The Bowes Museum's founders and future purpose.

## DISCOVER HOW MUCH IS ON OFFER



## PIPPA HALE: PET PROJECT 26 JULY 2025 – 1 MARCH 2026

Art becomes play with Pet Project, this is ceramics like you've never seen before. You're invited to experience our collection in a bold, hands on way! Step into a world where the museum's precious figurines are reimagined as 2.5 metres tall 'squishees'. Made to be hugged, climbed and played with, we want you to get hands on, create imaginary scenes and forge personal connections.

Get involved: share your own treasured animal figurines, adding a personal touch to this dynamic exhibition. Get creative: decorate your own ceramic object and take home a piece of the experience. Get inspired: learn about traditional decorating and manufacturing techniques, as well as the cultural stories behind the collection.

