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A visitor looking at David Lisser's *Surface Tension, Orchid* (2024) in exhibition, *From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers*
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Final weeks to see the highly acclaimed *From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers* at The Bowes Museum

This month marks the final opportunity to experience *From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers*, a landmark exhibition celebrating the 200th anniversary of The Bowes Museum's co-founder Joséphine Bowes.

The highly acclaimed exhibition showcases three centuries of art and creativity, offering a glimpse into how Joséphine's remarkable understanding of artistic trends and cross-genre approach to collecting might have shaped the museum's collection today.

Featured in the exhibition are more than 60 artists, designers and makers shaping trends in western culture including Sophie Anderson (1823 – 1903), Pablo Picasso (1881 – 1973), Grayson Perry (b.1960), Magdalena Odundo (b.1950), Phoebe Cummings (b.1981), and Lucy Waters (b.1999).

Visitors have described *From Joséphine: Trendsetters and Trailblazers* as: “a superb exhibition”, and have commented, “Joséphine was one beautiful, strong, clever and talented woman,” and “the mix of old and new was very inspiring.”

The exhibition has been accompanied by a rich events programme supported by contemporary artists, from life drawing with Daisy Collingridge (b.1990) to an insightful talk with Charlotte Hodes (b.1959).

Jane Whitehead, Interim Director of Programmes and Collections said: “This exhibition has really enabled visitors to see the significance of Joséphine Bowes as a female collector. Her incredible artwork is set alongside that of high-profile contemporary artists, many of which have never exhibited in the north of England, honouring Joséphine’s pioneering spirit.

“I encourage people to visit and take this opportunity to see outstanding art that can often only be found in other major galleries in city locations”.

From Joséphine Bowes: Trendsetters and Trailblazers is open until Sunday 29 June 2025.

-ENDS-

Note to editors:

Please find images of *From Joséphine: Trendsetters and Trailblazers* [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 Labrinjo 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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