




Access

For further information pick up an access guide from the Information Desk
Telephone +44 (0)20 7323 8299/8599
Minicom +44 (0)20 7323 8482
(Information Desk) or 8920 (Box Office)
Facsimile +44 (0)20 7323 8616
Email information@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk
boxoffice@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk
Visit www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/visit/access.html

Sign interpreted lecture:
Flying visits: The Past from Above
Thursday 23 November, 13.30  

Sign interpreted gallery talk:
Images of the Nativity
Wednesday 20 December, 13.15 

We offer a sound-enhancement system for some gallery talks.
Facilitated by the British Museum volunteers.

Pick up *What's on* in large print from the Box Office/
Information Desk or telephone +44 (0)20 7323 8599/8850

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Because the British Museum brings together cultures from every continent on the globe, when you become a Member, your support goes a long, long way.

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The current *British Museum Magazine* includes:

- *Voices of Bengal* season
- The vision of Georg Gerster
- Power of the Polynesian gods
- Concepts of Greek architecture

Shop & eat

Bookshop
Great Court
Monday –Wednesday 09.30–18.00
Thursday – Friday 09.30–20.00
Saturday 09.30–18.00, Sunday 12.00–18.00

Souvenir Shop
Great Court
Monday –Wednesday 09.30–18.00
Thursday –Friday 09.30–20.00
Saturday 09.30–18.00, Sunday 10.00–18.00

Grenville Shop
Next to Room 3
Monday – Wednesday 09.30–18.00
Thursday – Friday 09.30–20.00
Saturday – Sunday 10.00–18.00

Children's Shop
Great Court
Monday – Saturday 09.30–18.00
Sunday 10.00–18.00

 Shop online at www.britishmuseum.co.uk – over 1,000 exclusive books and products

Families

Ask in the Reading Room
Hamlyn family trails free
Six trails to help you explore different parts of the Museum at your own pace.
Supported by the Helen Hamlyn Trust in memory of Paul Hamlyn

Ford activity backpacks free
Puzzles, games and other activities.

Art materials free
Find and draw your favourite object.

Children's COMPASS free
Explore the Museum's collections online.
Made possible by the Ford Motor Company Fund.

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Websites to support Key Stage 2 and 3 learning www.ancientcivilizations.co.uk

Paul Hamlyn children's library free
A wide range of books about your favourite objects and cultures.

Court Restaurant
Fine cuisine overlooking the historic Reading Room.
Lunch 12.00–15.00, afternoon tea 15.00–17.30 and dinner on Thursday and Friday evenings 17.30–22.30
Upper floor, Great Court

Gallery Café
Hearty meals, sandwiches, soups, salads, desserts and hot & cold drinks in a family-friendly atmosphere.
Open daily 10.00–17.00
Off Room 12, Main floor

Court Cafés
Freshly made snacks, sandwiches, salads, cakes, desserts and hot & cold drinks.
Sunday – Wednesday 09.00–17.30
Thursday – Saturday 09.00–21.00
Great Court



Hamlyn family trails

Ask at the Information Desk
Hands On free
Handle genuine objects from the Museum's collections with our trained volunteers.

Ask at the Audio Tours Desk
Family audio tour £
Join Stephen Fry on the trail of bodies, beasts and board games.



Gallery opening hours
Saturday – Wednesday 10.00–17.30, Thursday – Friday 10.00–20.30
Closed 1 January, Good Friday and 24–26 December
Certain galleries are subject to different opening times.
Full details are available from the Box Office/Information Desk or
www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

Great Court opening hours
Early or late, relax over a book or enjoy a meal with friends under one of the most contemporary rooves in London. See page 15 for more details.
Sunday – Wednesday 09.00–18.00, Thursday – Saturday 09.00–23.00
Closed 1 January, Good Friday and 24–26 December

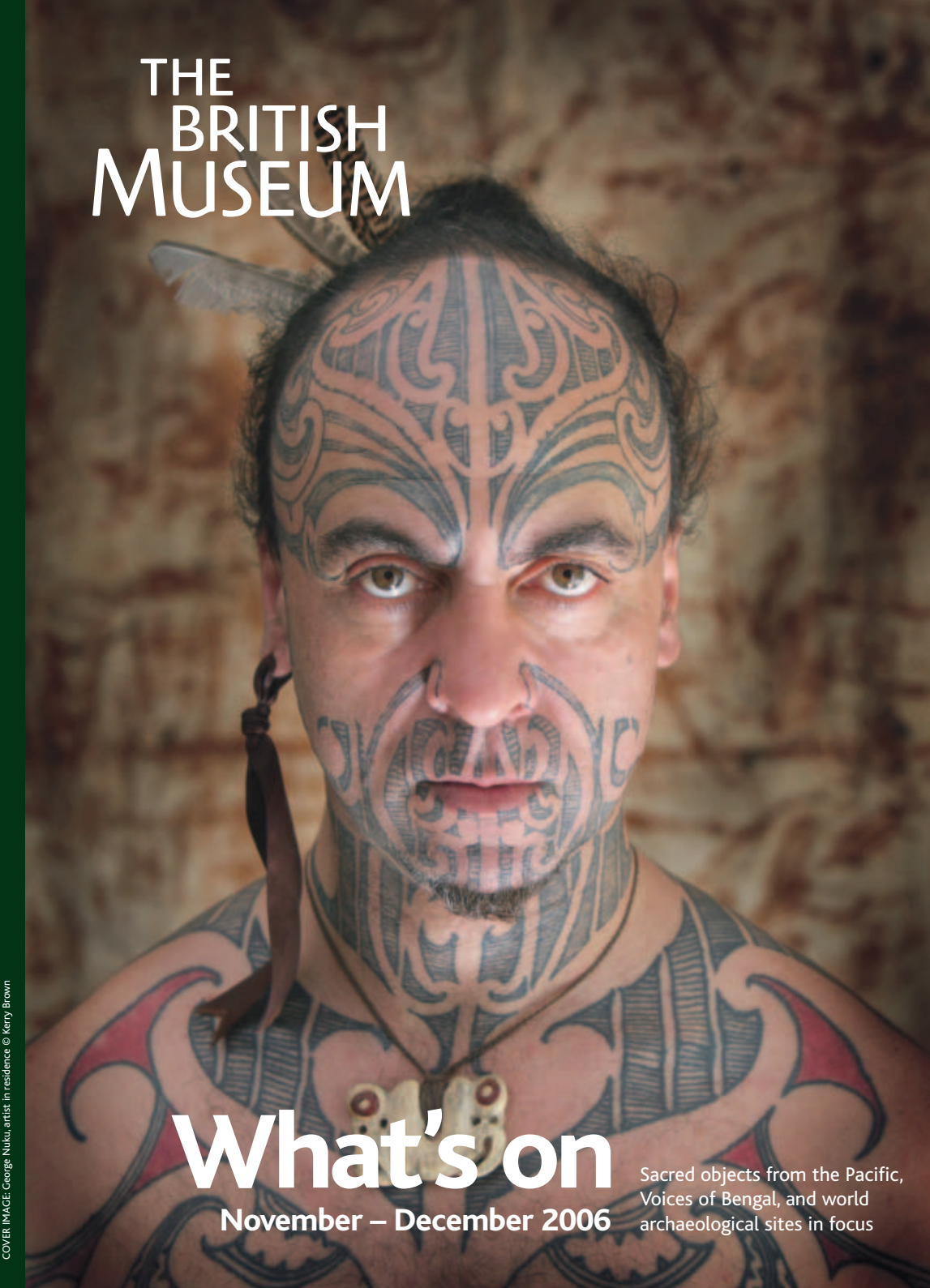
Reading Room opening hours
Saturday – Wednesday 10.00–17.30, Thursday – Friday 10.00–20.30
Closed 1 January, Good Friday and 24–26 December
Telephone +44 (0)20 7323 8838
Minicom +44 (0)20 7323 8113
readingroom@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

Booking
Unless otherwise stated, book events through the Box Office/Information Desk 10.00–16.45 daily
Telephone +44 (0)20 7323 8181
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Book selected events online at
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Booking fees apply

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COVER IMAGE: George Nuku, artist in residence © Kerry Brown

What's on
November – December 2006

Sacred objects from the Pacific,
Voices of Bengal, and world
archaeological sites in focus

November						11
1	Wednesday	11.00 & 14.00	GC	Special event	Artist in residence	G Nuku
		13.15	1	Gallery talk	Pacific objects in the Enlightenment Gallery	G Nuku
2	Thursday	11.00 –12.00	92	Gallery talk	Special series: Japan prehistory to present	
		11.00 & 14.00	GC	Special event	Artist in residence	G Nuku
		13.15	46	Gallery talk	French ceramics: Rococo to Revolution	H Williams
		18.30	BP	Lecture	Daggers, Daring & Devotion: the literary image of Old Bengal	£ T Stewart
		20.00 –21.00	SL	Performance	This is not fusion: a musical journey	£ A Chaudhuri
3	Friday	11.00 & 14.00	GC	Special event	Artist in residence	G Nuku
		13.15	92	Gallery talk	New display: Japan prehistory to present	T Clark
		14.00 –16.30	SL	Study session	French art from Clouet to Seurat	£ H Williams
		18.30	SL	Film	In Search of Famine (Akaler Sandhaney)	£
		18.30	BP	Performance	A Tagore music evening	£
4	Saturday	11.00 & 14.00	GC	Special event	Artist in residence	G Nuku
		12.00 –16.00	GC	Family event	Pacific Islands day	
		13.00	BP	Film	Letter from an Ordinary Girl	S Datta
		13.15	5	Gallery talk	Celebrating Pacific Islands day	G Nuku
7	Tuesday	11.00 –12.00	92	Gallery talk	Special series: Japan prehistory to present	
		13.15	91	Gallery talk	Krishna devotion in Bengal and Assam: paintings, textiles and prints	R Blurton
8	Wednesday	13.15	90	Gallery talk	Avigdor Arikha: then and now	G Sujo
9	Thursday	11.00 –12.00	92	Gallery talk	Special series: Japan prehistory to present	
		13.15	41	Gallery talk	Medieval goldsmithing	S La Niece
		13.30	SL	Lecture	The Shark God: encounters with myth & magic in the South Pacific	C Montgomery
		18.30	BP	Lecture	Modernism and the East	£
		18.30	RR	Community	Storytelling with Seema Anand – Travelling stories	S Anand
10	Friday	13.00 & 15.00	92	Special event	The Way of Tea	
		13.15	68	Gallery talk	The HSBC Money Gallery	L Phillips
		13.30	SL	Film	Singing Pictures – Women Painters of Naya	
		18.30	SL	Film	Devdas	£
11	Saturday	09.45 –17.15	BP	Seminar	Changing climates, Evolving humans	
		13.15	58	Gallery talk	The Amarna Letters: diplomacy in the Ancient World	L Oakes
12	Sunday	14.00	91	Family event	Tales from Bengal	S Anand
		18.30	BP	Performance	South Asian Music Youth Orchestra	£
14	Tuesday	11.00 –12.00	92	Gallery talk	Special series: Japan prehistory to present	
		13.15	73	Gallery talk	The Greeks in Southern Italy	C Perry
15	Wednesday	13.15	90	Gallery talk	Drawings by 18th century French masters	S Duffy
16	Thursday	11.00 –15.00	BP	Study day	The Ancient world – student day	
		11.00 –12.00	92	Gallery talk	Series: Japan prehistory to present	
		13.15	72	Gallery talk	Ancient Egypt and the island of Cyprus	G Hart
		13.30	SL	Lecture	Pioneers of aerial archaeology	C Trümpler
		18.30 –20.00	BP	Community	The Other Me	
		18.30	SL	Lecture	Iraq and archaeology	£ D George
17	Friday	13.15	35	Gallery talk	Flying visits: The Past from Above	£ L Fitton & S Moorhead
		13.30	SL	Film	The Last Navigator	
		14.00 –16.30	BP	Special event	Meeting Avigdor Arikha in person	£ A Arikha
		18.30	SL	Film	Sand in the Eye (Chokher Bali)	£ S Datta
18	Saturday	12.00	SL	Lecture	Genghis Khan: life and legend by John Man	J Man
		13.15	5	Gallery talk	Leaves and Song: exploring the living dynamic of Taonga	R Raymond
		14.00 –16.00	SR	Workshop	Drawing techniques throughout the ages: Clouet to Seurat	£ H Williams
		15.00	BP	Performance	Bengal’s treasures: songs of Tagore and Nazrul	£ Dhwani
21	Tuesday	13.15	27	Gallery talk	Death and Afterlife among the Aztecs	E Baquedano
22	Wednesday	13.15	69	Gallery talk	Outside the Empire: Byzantine money in the wider world	B Cook
23	Thursday	13.15	91	Gallery talk	The Great Continuum: 1000 years of tradition across Bengal	S Datta
		13.30	SL	Lecture	Flying visits: The Past from Above	S L Fitton & S Moorhead
		18.30	BP	Lecture	Taboo and the West	£
24	Friday	13.00	SL	Film	Paradise Bent: Boys will be girls in Samoa	
		13.15	35	Gallery talk	Heavenly views: sacred sites from the air	£ J Reeve
		14.00	SL	Films	The Apu Trilogy (films start at 14.00, 16.15 & 19.00)	£
25	Saturday	11.00 –16.30	GC	Family event	Bengali Blast! Bengali community family day	
		13.15	25	Gallery talk	Contemporary art in the African Gallery: patterns and process	N Hynes
		14.00 –18.00	BP	Films	Bangladesh film day	£ T Masud & C Masud
28	Tuesday	13.15	35	Gallery talk	Reading African landscapes	£ N Badcott
29	Wednesday	13.15	24	Gallery talk	The crystal skull: scientific insights	M Sax
30	Thursday	13.15	1	Gallery talk	Sir Walter Raleigh and the Molyneux Globes	K Sloan
December						
1	Friday	10.30 –19.00	BP	Conference	Pacific Islands conference: Taboo in the Pacific: managing sanctity	£
		13.15	35	Gallery talk	The Andes from the air: a condor’s eye view	£ C McEwan
		14.00	SL	Film	Mutiny on the Bounty	£
		18.30	RR	Performance	The Memory Palace	£ C Power
		19.30	SL	Film	Samoan Wedding	£
2	Saturday	13.15	25	Gallery talk	Contemporary art in the African Gallery: patterns and process	N Hynes
		14.00 –20.00	BP	Conference	Pacific Islands conference: the Pacific Islands in Britain	£
4	Monday	13.30	BP	Lecture	Contemporary Polynesian performances and cultural identity	A Kaeppler
		13.30	SL	Film	Matai Samoa	
5	Tuesday	13.15	91	Gallery talk	Kantha: the embroidery tradition of Bengal	R Blurton
6	Wednesday	13.15	5	Gallery talk	Curator’s introduction to Power & Taboo	L Bolton
7	Thursday	13.15	90	Gallery talk	Images of Christmas	H Williams
8	Friday	11.00 –14.30	ST	Workshop	Power & Taboo: drawing in the exhibition	£ R Jewell
		13.00 & 15.00	92	Special event	The Way of Tea	
		13.30	SL	Lecture	From city skyline to monastic cell: Christian landscapes	R Loverance
		17.00	SL	Film	Moana	£
		18.00	25	Performance	FABRICA: mystic tales of fabrics and patterns from Africa	Beyondor
		18.15 & 19.15	FH	Performance	Camden Concert Band	
		18.30	SL	Film	Tabu	£
9	Saturday	10.00 –17.00	BP	Study day	Syria study day	£
		10.00 –13.30	SL	Seminar	Turquoise mosaics from Mexico	£
		13.15	27	Gallery talk	Snakes and dragons: roots of Mexican myth – a creative exploration	D Bewley
10	Sunday	14.00	91	Family event	Tales from Bengal	S Anand
11	Monday	18.30	SL	Film	Diaspora Diaries	Beyondor
12	Tuesday	13.15	24	Gallery talk	Gods and ghosts in the Solomon Islands	B Burt
13	Wednesday	13.15	61	Gallery talk	Ancient Egyptian animals: X-ray vision	J Ambers
14	Thursday	13.15	68	Gallery talk	Fakes and forgeries	J Adam
15	Friday	13.15	92	Gallery talk	New display: Japan prehistory to present	T Clark
16	Saturday	13.15	4	Gallery talk	Lions and sphinxes in Ancient Egypt	G Hart
19	Tuesday	13.15	5	Gallery talk	An artist works with the Pacific collections	R Jewell
20	Wednesday	13.15	90	Gallery talk	Images of the Nativity	S H Chapman
21	Thursday	13.15	68	Gallery talk	Contemporary collecting in the Coins and Medals Department	L Phillips
22	Friday	13.15	27	Gallery talk	Games and sports in Ancient Mexico	E Baquedano
Book selected events at www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk						Events diary

Enjoy your visit



PHOTOGRAPH © NICEL YOUNG

Late openings at the British Museum

In addition to normal opening hours (see back page), the British Museum is also open late on certain days.

Selected galleries are **open late**
Thursday & Friday until 20.30

The Reading Room is **open late**
Thursday & Friday until 20.30 so you can:

- find resources for visiting with children
- use books for adults and children
- access COMPASS, the interactive multimedia database of the collections
- study in the Reading Room

The Great Court is **open late**
Thursday – Saturday until 23.00 so you can:

- eat with friends in the Court Restaurant on Thursdays and Fridays

Online resources

www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

- Monthly e-newsletter
- Online booking
- Explore the Museum's collections
- Visitor information
- Buy books and gifts

Tours, Talks and Hands On

Ask at the Box Office/Information Desk about:

- guided tours
 - free gallery tours – eyeOpener
 - hands on object handling
- For gallery talks (45 minutes with a curator or guest speaker) see the Events diary, pages 11–13



Ask at the Audio Tours Desk about:

- audio tours, including Highlights tour

Venue key

- 1** Room number
- GC** Great Court
- BP** BP Lecture Theatre, Clore Education Centre (CEC)
- SR** Sackler Rooms, CEC
- SL** Stevenson Lecture Theatre, CEC
- ST** Studio, CEC
- RR** Reading Room
- FH** Front Hall

Power & Taboo: Sacred objects from the Pacific

Until 7 January 2007 **5**

Through the British Museum's remarkable early collections from the region *Power & Taboo* explores Polynesian ideas about the gods and how to manage their power.

Admission free

See pages 4–5 for *Power & Taboo* events

VOICES OF BENGAL

See pages 6–7 for *Voices of Bengal* events

Myths of Bengal

Until 7 January 2007 **91**

An exhibition featuring religious stories, scrolls and artefacts investigating the rich tradition of storytelling in Bengal.

Admission free

The art of peace: Paintings by the poet Tagore

Until 3 December 2006 **3**

A display of paintings by the Bengali poet and Nobel prize winner Rabindranath Tagore.

Admission free

Bengali Myths

T. Richard Blurton
£8.99 (paperback)
Available online
or in the
Museum shops



PRINTS & DRAWINGS

See page 9 for
Prints & Drawings events

Avigdor Arikha from life: Drawings and Prints 1965–2005

Until 7 January 2007 **90**

An exhibition honouring Avigdor Arikha's gift to the British Museum of 100 works on paper.

Admission free

French Drawings: Clouet to Seurat

Part 2: Watteau to Seurat

Until 7 January 2007 **90**

French master drawings from the 18th and 19th centuries.

Admission free

Catalogue
available online
or in the
Museum shops
£25 (paperback)



Images of the Nativity

17 November 2006 –

12 January 2007 **90**

A special display focusing on the portrayal of the Nativity in prints and drawings.

Admission free



NOW OPEN

The Japanese
Galleries **92**

Admission free

See page 9 for related events

The Past from Above: Through the lens of Georg Gerster

16 November 2006 –

11 February 2007 **35**

See over 100 of the world's historic sites captured by Georg Gerster's aerial photography. Objects from the Museum's permanent collection will provide an added insight into the lives of the people behind featured archaeological sites from around the world.

£5, concessions £4

See page 8 for

The Past from Above events



© GEORG GERSTER/PANOS PICTURES 2006

The Acropolis, Athens, Greece

COMING SOON

A New World: England's first view of America

15 March – 17 June 2007

£7, concessions available

Tickets on sale from
January 2007

First Emperor

Opens Autumn 2007

Admission charge

Supported by Morgan Stanley

Lectures, demonstrations & workshop

EVENING LECTURE

Taboo and the West

Thursday 23 November,
18.30 **BP**

A panel of art historians, anthropologists and psychoanalysts will discuss the relationship between Modernist art and Pacific art, and the way the concept of taboo has been treated in Western thinking.

£5, concessions £3

In partnership with

London Review
OF BOOKS

LUNCHTIME LECTURES

Admission free,
booking required

The Shark God: encounters with myth and magic in the South Pacific

Thursday 9 November,
13.30 **SL**

Award-winning journalist Charles Montgomery explores how myths are born in his new book, *The Shark God*, with spectacular photos and stories from his South Pacific expedition.

Contemporary Polynesian performances and cultural identity

Monday 4 December,
13.30 **BP**

Adrienne L Kaeppler, Smithsonian Institute, Washington, looks at the importance of performance to the cultural life of contemporary Polynesians, focusing on the *Pacific Festivals of Art* held every four years in the Pacific islands.

FAMILY EVENT

Pacific Islands day

Saturday 4 November,
12.00–16.00 **GC**

A day of dance, storytelling, crafts, arts and talks. Join workshops and watch performances by Pacific Islands artists and cultural groups.

Admission free, just drop in



Kou wood bowl, from the Hawaiian Islands, 18th century

ARTIST IN RESIDENCE

George Nuku

30 October – 4 November,
11.00–13.00 and
14.00–16.00 **GC**

George Nuku is a highly regarded Maori artist who works in bone, wood, shell, polystyrene and Perspex. He is also a performance artist. He will be based in the Great Court for six days demonstrating his art and working with the public.

Admission free, just drop in to his Maori meeting house



George Nuku painting a temporary tattoo

CONFERENCE

Pacific Islands Public Conference

In partnership with the Sainsbury Research Unit, UEA.

Taboo in the Pacific: managing sanctity

Friday 1 December,
10.30–19.00 **BP**

Talks and academic papers relating to *Power & Taboo*.

The Pacific Islands in Britain

Saturday 2 December,
14.00–20.00 **BP**

Talks, demonstrations and performances by Pacific Islands artists and cultural groups. In partnership with the Pacific Islands Society of the UK and Ireland (PISUKI).

Each day: £18, concessions and members of PISUKI £12 Book through the Box Office

For further information telephone

+44 (0)20 7323 8045 or email pacific.conference@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

WORKSHOP

Power & Taboo: drawing in the exhibition

Friday 8 December,
11.00–14.30 **ST**

The Polynesian collections in the British Museum have had a continuing influence on both indigenous and Western-trained artists, including Henry Moore. Participants will handle objects and draw in the exhibition.

Tutor: Rebecca Jewell


20 places

£15, Members and concessions £12

FILMS

£3, concessions £2

(unless stated)

Free lunchtime films are in collaboration with the  Royal Anthropological Institute

The Last Navigator

Friday 17 November,

13.30 

An American navigator is taught the skills of navigation by a traditional Micronesian navigator on Satawal island.

Director: Andre Singer

UK, 1989, 50 mins

Admission free, booking required

Paradise Bent:

Boys will be girls in Samoa

Friday 24 November,

13.00 

A study of the Samoan fa'afafine: boys who are raised as girls and play an important role in Samoan culture. The tensions arising in Samoa due to the influences of the western drag scene are played out through the film's main character Sindy.

Director: Heather Croall

Australia, 1999, 51 mins

Admission free, booking required

Mutiny on the Bounty (1935)

Friday 1 December, 14.00 

The famous story of the 18th century conflict between aristocratic adventurism and life as a press-ganged ordinary seaman. With Charles Laughton as Captain Bligh and Clark Gable as Fletcher Christian.

Director: Frank Lloyd

USA, 1935, 132 mins



Samoa Wedding

Samoa Wedding

Friday 1 December, 19.30 

Brand new urban romantic comedy set in Auckland. Four Samoan mates, almost thirty but not yet grown up, risk being excluded from their best friend's wedding if they can't straighten up and get girlfriends.

Director: Chris Graham

New Zealand, 2006, 97 mins

Matai Samoa

Monday 4 December,

13.30 

A valuable treatment of archive footage shot by anthropologist George Milner in the 1950s which focuses on the traditional Samoan way of life. The footage is discussed by Christina Toren, a South Pacific specialist, and Reverend Lalomilo Kamu, a Samoan scholar.

Director: George Milner

USA, 1989, 65 mins

Admission free, booking required

Moana

Friday 8 December, 17.00 

Acclaimed documentary film maker Robert Flaherty tried to capture the traditional daily life of Samoans on film but found that missionaries had been there before him, and they had already abandoned many traditions. The stunning imagery of the film represents the island as a virtual paradise.

Director: Robert J Flaherty

USA, 1926, 85 mins

Tabu

Friday 8 December, 18.30 

Murnau's sensual last film, set and shot in the South Seas, began as a collaboration with the documentary filmmaker Robert Flaherty. A simple Pacific Islands folk tale of two young lovers who violate a local taboo and have to flee their village with tragic consequences.

Directors: FW Murnau & Robert J Flaherty

USA, 1931, 84 mins

Films

FILMS

£3, concessions £2
(unless stated)

In Search of Famine (Akaler Sandhaney)

Friday 3 November, 18.30 **SL**

Drama set against the backdrop of the 1943 famine which killed 5 million Bengalis. In Bengali with English subtitles

Director: Mrinal Sen

India, 1980, 125 mins

Letter from an Ordinary Girl

Saturday 4 November,
13.00 **BP**

With special guest
Sangeeta Datta.

This short film revolves around a series of letters a young girl in 1930s Calcutta sends to a famous writer.

Director: Sangeeta Datta

UK, 2006, 27 mins

Admission free, no pre-booking

Singing Pictures – Women Painters of Naya

Friday 10 November,
13.30 **SL**

For generations the Patua (Chitrakara) communities of West Bengal have been painters and singers of stories depicted in scrolls. The film follows the daily lives of the Muslim Patua women from Naya near Calcutta who have formed a scroll painter's co-operative.

Directors: Lina Frusetti &
Akos Ostor

USA, 2005, 45 mins

Admission free, no pre-booking



Letter from an Ordinary Girl

Devdas

Friday 10 November,
18.30 **SL**

An adaptation of Sarat Chandra Chatterjee's 1917 novel featuring the legendary Dilip Kumar as Devdas.

In Hindi with English subtitles

Director: Bimal Roy

India, 1955, 159 mins



Devdas

Sand in the Eye (Chokher Bali)

Friday 17 November,
18.30 **SL**

With special guest
Sangeeta Datta.

Set in Bengal in the early 1900s, this is the story of a beautiful, educated young woman struggling against the oppression of widowhood.

In Bengali with English subtitles

Director: Rituparno Ghosh

India, 2003, 167 mins

The Apu Trilogy

Friday 24 November **SL**

Director: Satyajit Ray.

In Bengali with English subtitles
A ticket required for each film.

Pather Panchali 14.00

India, 1955, 115 mins

Aparajito 16.15

India, 1956, 113 mins

The world of Apu 19.00

India, 1959, 106 mins

Satyajit Ray's most celebrated works, these three films follow the fortunes of Apu, from his youth in rural Bengal through to urban life in Calcutta and the tragic results of his marrying.

Bangladesh film day

Saturday 25 November,
14.00–18.00 **BP**

Double bill of *The Clay Bird* (Matir Moina) 2002 and *Home-Land* (Ontorjatra) 2006, with directors Tareque Masud and Catherine Masud from Bangladesh.

£15, concessions £10

EVENING LECTURES

Daggers, Daring & Devotion: the literary image of Old Bengal

Thursday 2 November,
18.30 **BP**

Professor Tony Stewart discusses how the literature of pre-colonial Bengal illuminates the cosmopolitan nature of traditional society and how the rigid religious divisions of today, are more recent inventions.

£5, concessions £3

Modernism and the East

Thursday 9 November,
18.30 **BP**

A panel of writers and critics including Amit Chaudhuri and Pankaj Mishra discuss the influence of Easternness on Western culture and consider the development of a non-European Modernism in India and Bengal.

£5, concessions £3

In partnership with

London Review
OF BOOKS

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Storytelling with Seema Anand – Travelling stories

Thursday 9 November,
18.30–19.30 **RR**

Lively and colourful stories bridging the cultural myths and histories associated with Bengal.

30 places

Admission free,
booking required

The Other Me

Thursday 16 November,
18.30–20.00 **BP**

This special evening concert created by Dr Ananda Gupta is an adaptation of Tagore's two most popular dance operas: *Shapmochan* and *Shyama*. An extravaganza with live music, dance and a display of rare instruments.

Admission free,
booking required

FAMILY EVENTS

Bengali Blast! Bengali community family day

Saturday 25 November,
11.00–16.30 **CC**

Narratives and the rich mix of Bengali culture and arts are the inspiration for this spectacular day, including free activities, performances, workshops and displays.

Admission free, just drop in

Tales from Bengal

Sundays 12 November and
10 December, 14.00 **91**

Explore the spellbinding world of Bengal with our resident storyteller, Seema Anand. Hear the absorbing tales of intrigue and romance, danger and victory, involving heroes, heroines, demons and wild animals.

Admission free,
no booking required



Tales from Bengal

PERFORMANCES

This is not fusion: a musical journey

Thursday 2 November
20.00–21.00 **SL**

Amit Chaudhuri, writer and singer trained in the Indian classical tradition presents a new urban musical idiom with musicians on guitar, keyboard, bass and tabla.

£5, concessions £3

A Tagore music evening

Friday 3 November, 18.30 **BP**

The Medici Quartet, soprano Sally Silver and tabla player Sanju Sahai perform works including Tagore settings by Naresh Sohal and a virtuoso tabla performance.

£7, concessions £5

Funded by the
Tabor Foundation

South Asian Music Youth Orchestra

Sunday 12 November,
18.30 **BP**

Include works inspired by Rabindranath Tagore.

£5, concessions £3

Funded by the
Tabor Foundation

Bengal's treasures: songs of Tagore and Nazrul

Saturday 18 November,
15.00 **BP**

The group Dhvani present an hour of Bengali songs by Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam. Followed by a screening of the documentary *Kazi Nazrul Islam* (110 mins 1998).

£5, concessions £3

Lectures, talks & special events

THE PAST FROM ABOVE

Pioneers of aerial archaeology

Thursday 16 November,
13.30 **SL**

Charlotte Trümpler, Ruhrland Museum Essen, looks at the pioneers of aerial photography including Georg Gerster.

Admission free,
booking required

Iraq and archaeology

Thursday 16 November,
18.30 **SL**

Featuring guest speaker, Dr Donny George, formerly President of State Board of Antiquities and Heritage in Iraq and Director of the National Museum, Iraq.

£5, concessions £3

Flying visits:

The Past from Above

Thursday 23 November,
13.30 **SL**

Lesley Fitton and Sam Moorhead, British Museum, introduce Georg Gerster's photographs featured in *The Past from Above* and discuss the issues they raise.

Admission free,
booking required
Sign interpreted

From city skyline to monastic cell: Christian landscapes of Europe, Africa and the Near East

Friday 8 December, 13.30 **SL**

Rowena Loverance, British Museum, discusses Christian landscapes featured in *The Past from Above* exhibition.

Admission free,
booking required



Cerne Abbas Giant, Dorset, United Kingdom

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LECTURES

Genghis Khan: life and legend by John Man

Saturday 18 November,
12.00 **SL**

800 years after the proclamation of Temujin as Genghis Khan, author John Man illuminates the man behind the myth. Followed by a book-signing session.

Admission free,
booking required

Frederic Raphael: Some talk of Alexander

Thursday 30 November,
18.30 **BP**

Are the classics still relevant at the start of the 21st century? Or are they outdated, obscure, and concerned almost entirely with the activities of dead white males? Frederic Raphael, author and Oscar-winning screenwriter, discusses his book *Some Talk of Alexander: A Journey Through Space and Time in the Greek World*. In collaboration with Thames & Hudson.

£5, concessions £3

PERFORMANCES

The Memory Palace

Friday 1 December, 18.30 **RR**

Award-winning magician Chris Power uncovers a long-kept secret buried deep within the 'Memory Palace' of the Museum's Reading Room.

100 places

£5, concessions £3

Camden Concert Band

Friday 8 December,
18.15 and 19.15 **FH**

A Christmas concert featuring a wide variety of music.

Conductor: Richard Martyn

Admission free, just drop in

FAMILY EVENT

Crack the CODEX at the British Museum

Weekends from 25 November, daily 20 – 31 December, 11.00–16.00 (Museum closed 24 – 26 December)

Play your own version of Codex, Channel 4's brand new adventure game programme presented by Tony Robinson. Crack the code by taking our trail around Museum objects for your chance to win a prize. Available in the Great Court.

Free, no pre-booking





Kanō Kyūei, *People crossing Ryogoku Bridge in Edo*, from a set of three handscrolls, ink and colour on paper, about 1750–67

JAPAN

Japan prehistory to present

2, 7, 9, 14, 16 November,
11.00–12.00 **92**

This series of five gallery talks celebrates the re-opening of the Japanese Galleries. A wide range of topics is covered, from prehistory to the present day.

For the full programme contact
huchida@
thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

Admission free,
no pre-booking

The Way of Tea

Fridays 10 November and
8 December, 13.00 & 15.00 **92**

A free demonstration of the Japanese tea ceremony in the newly re-opened Japanese Galleries. Presented and supported by the Urasenke Foundation.

Admission free, just drop in

A Japanese Menagerie: Animal Pictures by Kawanabe Kyōsai

Tim Clark,
£16.99 (hardback)
Available online
or in the
Museum shops



PRINTS & DRAWINGS EVENTS

French art from Clouet to Seurat

Friday 3 November,
14.00–16.30 **SL**

This session introduces the development of French painting and architecture in the 15th–19th centuries.

Tutor: Hilary Williams
140 places


£15, Members and
concessions £12

Meeting Avigdor Arikha in person

Friday 17 November,
14.00–16.30 **BP**

Meet the artist and art historian, Avigdor Arikha. He presents two films which he made with the BBC, talks with the film director, Patricia Wheatley, and is introduced by Stephen Coppel, curator of *Avigdor Arikha from life: Drawings and Prints 1965–2005*.

300 places
£15, concessions £12

 Catalogue
available online
or in the
Museum shops
(£20 paperback)



Drawing techniques throughout the ages: Clouet to Seurat

Saturday 18 November,
14.00–16.00 **SR**

Try your hand at silverpoint, chalks, *aux trois crayons*, charcoal, quill pen & ink and more. Materials provided.

Tutor: Hilary Williams
25 places

£20, Members and
concessions £15

AFRICA

FABRICA: mystic tales of fabrics and patterns from Africa

Friday 8 December, 18.00 **25**

Multimedia artist Beyonder presents three monologues inspired by objects in the Sainsbury African Galleries.

Admission free, no pre-booking

Diaspora Diaries

Monday 11 December,
18.30 **SL**

The narrative of this unique documentary focuses on the authentic voices and stories of the members of London's African Diaspora community.

Director: Beyonder
UK, 2006, 60 mins

Admission free,
booking required

Study opportunities

Making things better: the cosmologies of wellbeing

A programme of seminars and lectures in partnership with University College London Anthropology Department

Thursdays 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 November, 7 December, 16.00–17.30 **SL**

Exploring anthropological perspectives on local cultural responses to the issues which affect us all, as raised by the British Museum's *Living and dying* exhibition in the Wellcome Trust Gallery.

Admission free, no pre-booking
Places are limited

For weekly programme, see www.ucl.ac.uk/anthropology/socanth/socanth_seminars_medical.htm

Changing climates, Evolving humans

Saturday 11 November, 09.45–17.15 **BP**

Harsh climates such as deep ice ages have carved and hewn dramatic landscapes. Have changing climates sculpted humans too? Find out what made humans leave Africa, what routes did they take, and when did they reach Asia, Europe, Australia and the Americas? Suitable for all levels of interest.

Lunch is provided.
Admission free, booking required



The Ancient world – student day

Thursday 16 November, 11.00–15.00 **BP**

This day, for students of Classics, Classical Studies, Ancient History and Archaeology, uses the collections of the British Museum to enhance students' understanding of ancient Greece and Rome.

300 places

Admission free, booking required



Bucchero ware water jug (hydria) – Etruscan, about 550–500 BC, From Chiusi, Tuscany, Italy

Etruscan Bucchero in the British Museum and the origins of mass production

Friday 8 December, 18.30–20.30 **BP**

In this year's Eva Lorant memorial lecture Dr Phil Perkins (OU) argues that bucchero pottery was the first example of mass production.

£12, includes wine and refreshments

For tickets contact +44 (0)20 7323 8195 or friends@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk

Syria study day

Saturday 9 December, 10.00–17.00 **BP**

Syria became one of the major crossroads of civilisations – from the Egyptians and Hittites to the Crusaders and Ottomans. Join our experts for a fascinating introduction to the culture and heritage of Syria, from ancient to modern times.

300 places

£20, Members £18, concessions £15

Supported by




Turquoise mosaics from Mexico

Saturday 9 December, 10.00–13.30 **SL**

This study session will provide a succinct and fascinating introduction to the magnificent Aztec/Mixtec turquoise mosaics in the British Museum, featuring important new findings and illustrated by stunning images.

£15, Members and concessions £12

 **Turquoise Mosaics from Mexico** £12.99 (paperback)
Available online or in the Museum shops

