

## Hot tickets for 2018

NASA turns 60, Antarctic dinosaurs lumber into view, fruit waste transforms fashion and Madeleine L'Engle's sci-fi classic *A Wrinkle in Time* hits the screen. Around the world, museums and galleries will explore everything from our relationship with time to the brain's beauty, Fatimid science and the wonder of graphene. **Nicola Jones** reports.

## **Mad Minds**

Victor Hugo's Houses, Paris Until 18 March

In the nineteenth century, psychiatry was evolving. While patients in asylums such as London's Bethlem Hospital (nicknamed Bedlam) suffered indignities and abuse, a new movement encouraged ethical treatments. Instead of chains and isolation, it encouraged freedom of movement and self-expression. Practitioners such as Scottish physician William Browne started to pay closer attention to the art and writing of people with mental illnesses. And psychiatrists

became the first collectors and critics of these works, which some have seen as representing artistic drive at its rawest. This show includes pieces amassed by Browne, who pioneered ideas of art therapy at Crichton Royal Hospital in Dumfries, UK, alongside similar collections from Germany and Switzerland.

## **Painted Surfaces**

Iziko South African National Gallery, Cape Town Until 1 April 2018

A chance to peer beneath the surface of paintings by some of South Africa's greatest artists, including Stanley Pinker, Irma Stern, Frederick I'Ons and George Pemba, awaits at this exhibition. The results of a three-year collaboration by institutions including the University of Cape Town and the University of the Western Cape, it explores the artists' techniques and the histories of their works through infrared photography, ultraviolet light, X-ray imaging and microscopic analysis. Infrared images, for example, reveal that the tin support of I'Ons's Krantzdrift: Landscape with Cattle was an enamel shop sign advertising Peek Frean biscuits, which helped to date the work to the late nineteenth century.