

Summary of Exhibitions for 2017



*Enlightened Princesses: Caroline, Augusta, Charlotte,
and the Shaping of the Modern World*

February 2–April 30, 2017

This is the first exhibition to explore the instrumental roles of Hanoverian princesses Caroline of Ansbach (1683–1737), Augusta of Saxe-Gotha (1719–72), and Charlotte of Mecklenburg-Strelitz (1744–1818) – all of whom married into the British royal family – and how they shaped the nation’s society and culture during a time of significant political transformation. Through their wide-ranging intellectual, social, and political interests, these princesses bolstered the greatest philosophical, scientific, and cultural luminaries of the day; brought the arts, enlightened conversation, and experimentation into their palaces and gardens; and actively supported British industry, trade, and imperial ambition, which together spurred unprecedented progressive dialogue and social change that continues to reverberate today.

Organized by the Yale Center for British Art in partnership with Historic Royal Palaces in the United Kingdom, the exhibition brings together nearly three hundred objects from public and private collections across Britain, Europe, and the United States. It will feature works by the artists Hans Holbein the Younger (1497–1543), Mary Delany (1700–1788), Allan Ramsay (1713–1784), Joshua Reynolds (1723–1792), George Stubbs (1724–1806), and Thomas Gainsborough (1727–1788); craftsmen and designers Anna Maria Garthwaite (1690–1763), Matthew Boulton (1728–1809), and Josiah Wedgwood (1730–1795); and architects William Kent (1685–1748) and William Chambers (1723–1796), among many others. Elaborate court costumes and jewels, musical manuscripts, botanical and anatomical illustrations, architectural drawings and garden designs, royal children’s artwork, and the princesses’ own scientific instruments will also be showcased. *Enlightened Princesses* will debut at the Center in New Haven on February 2, 2017, and will subsequently travel to Kensington Palace in London, once home to Caroline and Charlotte, where it will be on view from June 22 to November 12, 2017.



Art in Focus: The British Castle – A Symbol in Stone

April 7–August 6, 2017

The Center will continue its signature *Art in Focus* exhibition series with *The British Castle – A Symbol in Stone*, which brings together a selection of paintings that examine anew the history, architectural development, and literary associations of the English castle, both real and imagined. Highlights will include depictions of Windsor Castle, the largest and oldest inhabited castle in the world, and home to the British monarch; Corfe Castle, whose ruins after the English Civil War remain a symbol of

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modern democracy and the will of the people; and Dover Castle, which served as a stronghold against French invasion prior to the Norman Conquest through the Second World War.

Now in its tenth year, *Art in Focus* is an annual initiative for the Center's Student Guide Program, providing undergraduates at Yale University with curatorial experience and an introduction to exhibition practices. Student curators select objects, write text panels and object labels, and make decisions about installation under the supervision of Center curators and staff. In researching and presenting this exhibition, the students will be supervised by David Frazer Lewis, Postdoctoral Research Associate; Linda Friedlaender, Senior Curator of Education; and Jaime Ursic, Assistant Curator of Education. The student curators are Irene Chung, BR '17; Zoe Dobuler, TC '17; Julia Fleming-Dresser, TD '19; Claire Goldsmith, ES '18; Caroline Kanner, JE '18; Daniel Leibovic, TC '17; Catherine Liu, ES '18; and Nicholas Stewart, JE '18.



A Decade of Gifts and Acquisitions

June 1–August 13, 2017

A suite of exhibitions will feature the most recent additions to the Center's collections. In honor of the Center's fortieth anniversary, the displays will incorporate selections from the last of Paul Mellon's gifts to the Center, which include several works with which his wife Rachel Lambert Mellon lived until her death, in 2014. Gifts from other significant donors, such as Joseph McCrindle, also will be featured, as well as donations of important modern and contemporary prints, and a group of works by the painter John Golding from the artist's estate, which trace his development as an abstract painter.

These exhibitions are curated by Elisabeth Fairman, Chief Curator of Rare Books and Manuscripts; Matthew Hargraves, Chief Curator of Art Collections and Head of Collections Information and Access; and Lars Kokkonen, Assistant Curator of Paintings and Sculpture; under the direction of Scott Wilcox, Deputy Director for Collections.



"Things of Beauty Growing": British Studio Pottery

September 14–December 3, 2017

Bringing together nearly 150 ceramic objects from Europe, Japan, and Korea – including jars, bowls, pots, chargers, vases, and monumental urns – this exhibition will survey the array of forms that have defined the British studio pottery movement from the 1920s to the present by exploring the connections between form and function. The exhibition will include masterworks by Bernard Leach (1887–1979), Michael Cardew (1901–1983), Lucie Rie (1902–1995), Ladi Kwali (ca. 1925–1984),

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Alison Britton (b. 1948), Magdalena Odundo (b. 1950), Edmund de Waal (b. 1964), and Clare Twomey (b. 1968). More than thirty portraits of contemporary potters by photographer Ben Boswell (b. 1961), a selection of which are being created specifically for this project, will also be on display.

“Things of Beauty Growing”: *British Studio Pottery* is being organized by the Yale Center for British Art in partnership with The Fitzwilliam Museum, University of Cambridge, where it will be on view from March 20 to June 18, 2018. The exhibition is co-curated by Martina Droth, Deputy Director of Research and Curator of Sculpture at the Center; Glenn Adamson, Senior Research Scholar at the Center; and Simon Olding, Director, Crafts Study Centre, University for the Creative Arts, United Kingdom. The organizing curators at The Fitzwilliam Museum are Victoria Avery, Keeper, and Helen Ritchie, Research Assistant, Department of Applied Arts.

ABOUT THE YALE CENTER FOR BRITISH ART

The Yale Center for British Art houses the largest collection of British art outside the United Kingdom. Presented to the University by Paul Mellon (Yale College, Class of 1929), the collection reflects the development of British art and culture from the Elizabethan period onward. The Center’s collections include more than 2,000 paintings, 250 sculptures, 20,000 drawings and watercolors, 40,000 prints, and 35,000 rare books and manuscripts. More than 40,000 volumes supporting research in British art and related fields are available in the Center’s Reference Library. In May 2016, the Center reopened to the public following the completion of a multiyear conservation project of its iconic Louis I. Kahn building.

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