

An abstract painting with thick, expressive brushstrokes in a variety of colors including yellows, oranges, browns, greens, and purples. The composition is dense and textured, with some areas appearing more saturated than others.

WHAT'S ON SPRING 2017

LEICESTER MUSEUMS, GALLERIES & FESTIVALS

ART · DESIGN · HERITAGE · DANCE · MUSIC · THEATRE · PARADES

Leicester 

Little Selves

25 March – 25 June

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery



Peter Clayton, Ernest Gimson

Explore the fascinating world of miniature painting

Little Selves is an exhibition of small portraits by invited contemporary artists and members of Leicester Society of Artists alongside selected work from students in schools in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

W: leicestersocietyofartists.co.uk

Finding a Face: Portraits from the Leicester Art Collection

To complement the Little Selves exhibition is a showcase of portraits in the museum's collection. Meet old friends by famous artists and discover a new favourite.

W: visitleicester.info/museums



Arts Council
ENGLAND



Sublime Symmetry: The Mathematics behind De Morgan's Ceramic Designs

On now until 5 March 2017

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Discover the mathematics behind the work of William De Morgan, the celebrated Victorian Arts and Crafts designer.

Showcasing over 80 magnificent works, including ceramics from the De Morgan Collection, his designs on paper on loan from the V&A, plus examples from the museums' collection.

The pieces have all been chosen to demonstrate the mathematical concepts which are the basis for his beautiful and colourful ceramic designs. The exhibition is complemented by an events programme plus interactive games, with a variety of free learning resources for budding mathematicians young and old.

Visit our website for details of an exciting schools programme and teacher information pack aimed at Key Stage 2.

W: visitleicester.info/sublimesymmetry

Art Fund

THE DE MORGAN FOUNDATION



Made in Leicester

Exhibition now open

Abbey Pumping Station

Our new mini-gallery showcases some famous Leicester-made products of the past, from Imperial typewriters to a very rare 1908 Clyde Car.

W: visitleicester.info/museums

The Great Art Quest

14 March – 20 March

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

A special showcase of art by students from four Leicester colleges working with illustrator Bob Moulder and storyteller Andy Messer. Don't miss some fantastic creative responses to the artwork on show in the Victorian Art Gallery.

W: visitleicester.info/museums





Anglo-Sikh Wars: Battles Treaties & Relics 1845-49

11 March - 4 June

Newarke Houses Museum & Gardens

For the first time ever, a hidden era of British and Sikh history will be coming alive through a unique exhibition in Leicester.

Using showcased relics and augmented reality technology, this exhibition brings alive the battles and politics that shaped the deadly power struggle between the British and Sikh Empires played out between 1845 and 1849 and considers their modern-day legacy.

W: vittleicester.info/museums



Sikh Heritage: Paintings by Sarup Singh

4 March - 23 April

Newarke Houses Museum & Gardens

A showcase of works by the internationally renowned Leicester-based artist Sarup Singh MBE, exploring the rich religious and cultural heritage of Sikhism through his distinct portraits.

Please note exhibition open on weekends, plus weekdays by arrangement only. Please contact the museum to check on opening hours.

Supported by the Panjabi Arts & Literary Academy UK.

W: vittleicester.info/museums



New staircase for New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

A striking new staircase is transforming the museums entrance. The design, reflecting the pattern of a fossilised ammonite, meets new health and safety standards and also joins a new passenger lift to improve the overall visitor experience.

W: vittleicester.info/museums

St. George's Festival

Saturday 22 April

From 12noon - 5pm

Orton Square and Cultural Quarter

Enjoy the annual family friendly festival on Orton Square with music, dance and live performances on the square and in venues across the Cultural Quarter. The event promises a day of non-stop

entertainment for all the family; full of activities to try out and fun things to do including the fancy dress parade and the popular dragon hunt.

W: visitleicester.info/stgeorgesfestival





Farmers Market

Thursday 2 March, 6 April and 4 May

Gallowtree Gate

Your chance to buy fresh local food directly from the producers every month on Gallowtree Gate.

W: leicestermarket.co.uk

Leicester Town and Gown 10k

Sunday 5 March

Victoria Park

Join this new chip timed 10k run through Victoria Park and the University of Leicester for Muscular Dystrophy UK.

W: townandgown10k.com/leicester

Holi Festival

Saturday 11 March

Spinney Hill Park & Cossington Street Recreation Ground

The arrival of spring is marked by this “festival of colour” and includes the lighting of bonfires, prayers and throwing coloured dye.

W: visitleicester.info/festivals

St. Patrick's Celebration

Sunday 12 March

Parade through city centre

Parade from Holy Cross Church, New Walk at 12noon to Jubilee Square. Organised by The Emerald Centre, featuring local Irish community groups led by a traditional pipe band.

W: visitleicester.info/festivals

Champions League Fanzone

Tuesday 14 March

12noon – 8pm

Jubilee Square

Leicester City play Seville in the knock out stages of the Champions League. Seville fans will be welcomed with a pre-match fanzone including entertainment, big screen, food stalls and bar.

Note: The match will not be shown on big screen.

W: visitleicester.info/festivals

Continental Market

Wednesday 29 March – Sunday 2 April

City centre

Mouth-watering international foods at the award-winning Continental Market.

W: leicestermarket.co.uk

Leicester at the Cross

Friday 14 April

City centre

Marking this significant Christian festival, the programme will include a dramatic presentation of the events of Good Friday.

W: holyltrinityleicester.org





Funfair

Saturday 15 – Sunday 23 April
 Saturday 27 May - Sunday 4 June
Humberstone Gate West
W: visitleicester.info

Let's Dance International Frontiers

Saturday 29 April – Saturday 13 May
Venues across Leicester
 LDIF returns for a seventh year bringing innovative dance from around the world to Leicester. Celebrating both emerging and established dancers and choreographers, 2017 features the return of Urban Bush Women with an exclusive performance alongside trailblazing dance company PHILADANCO.
W: ldif.co.uk

Vaisakhi Parade

Sunday 30 April
Parade from Holy Bones to East Park Road
 Celebrating the initiation ceremony of the Khalsa Brotherhood that first took place on the 13 April 1699.
W: visitleicester.info/festivals



Joint Morris Organisation's National Day of Dance

Saturday 13 May
 10.30am – 4.30pm
Leicester City Centre & Jubilee Square
 A national gathering of 60 Morris groups from all over the country. The event finale will be a massed dance display at 3.45pm on Jubilee Square.

The Spark Festival

Monday 22 – Monday 29 May
Various venues
 The Spark is the largest children's festival in England, presenting the best theatre, dance, music, visual arts and digital media events for young people and their families. A chance to play, dance, make great art and see fantastic theatre. This year's festival takes place in theatres, schools, libraries, parks and community venues across Leicester.
W: sparkfestival.co.uk



Leicester Heritage Fair

Saturday 27 May
 10am – 4pm
Bishop Street Methodist Church
 Meet your local heritage societies and see their work.

Museum activities and performances for families

Storytelling Saturday

Saturday 4 March

11.30am – 12pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Enjoy story time with our delightful museum story teller.

Dino doodle day

Saturday 4 March

11am – 4pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Come along to have a doodle in our dino gallery!

Steam with the team

Saturday 4 March

12noon – 4pm

Abbey Pumping Station

Tours whilst the beam engines are in steam including areas usually inaccessible.

British Science Week: Activity day

Saturday 11 March

11am – 3pm

Abbey Pumping Station

A day of activities based around 'change', this year's British Science Week theme.

Archaeological illustration workshop

Saturday 11 March

11am – 1pm & 1.30pm – 3.30pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Join Leicester University's Debbie Miles-Williams for an introduction to Archaeological Illustration.

What happened at the baths?

Saturday 11 & 25 March, 8 April 2pm

Jewry Wall Museum

Free guided tour from the Friends of Jewry Wall Museum.

Feed the bugs

Saturday 18 March

11am – 12pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

You can help with feeding, learn some facts and even handle some of our insects.

Fossil in focus

Saturday 18 March, 22 April & 20 May

11am – 1pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Discover fossils from our natural history collections, with the opportunity to handle it and learn a fact or two!

Gifts for Mother's Day

Saturday 25 March 12pm & 2pm

Newarke Houses Museum

Create your own perfumed sachets for Mother's Day.

Model railway day & craft activities

Saturday 1 April

11am – 4pm

Abbey Pumping Station

Model railway layouts will be on display in the marquee and railway inspired crafts for children.

Children's BookBus

Saturday 1 April, 11am – 3pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Get into reading and visit the BookBus at the museum.

Art Awake Alice: Meet us in wonderland!

Saturday 1 & Sunday 2 April

11am – 1pm & 2pm – 4pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Fall down the rabbit hole and join us in the Victorian Gallery for another fantastic Art Awake workshop.

Storytelling in the Victorian Gallery

Sunday 2 April

11.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm & 3.30pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Storyteller Paul Gobey tells tall tales of wonder and excitement in our Victorian Gallery.

Life after Rome

Sunday 9 April

11.30am – 3.30pm

Jewry Wall Museum

During the fifth century our Roman city became a Saxon town. How did this happen? Friends of Jewry Wall Museum take a look at the transition.

Sketch day

Monday 10 April and Tuesday 30 May
11am – 4pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Pick up your materials from reception and join other sketchers exploring our amazing art collections.

**Easter family event:
Medieval eggstravaganza**

Tuesday 11 April
11am – 3pm

The Guildhall

Bring your own little jesters and princesses to the Guildhall and make your own medieval Easter merriment!

Easter animal day

Wednesday 12 April
11am – 4pm

Belgrave Hall Gardens

Take part in the Easter trail and say hello to our gorgeous animals and enjoy the craft activities.

Easter egg-stravaganza

Easter Saturday 15 April
11am – 3.30pm

Newarke Houses Museum

A fun packed Easter family event with crafts, trail, colouring and prizes!

Get creative: Wild Nile

Saturday 15 – Monday 17 April
11am – 1pm & 2pm – 4pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Explore springtime by recreating the vitality and vibrancy of the Ancient Egyptian River Nile.

Edible engineering

Tuesday 18 April
11am – 3pm

Abbey Pumping Station

Fun with food: make a soup engine to take home, build bridges using spaghetti and marshmallows.

St George's Day

Wednesday 19 April
11am – 4pm

Belgrave Hall Gardens

Join us for a day of swords, stories, dragons and wimples.

Arty party

Thursday 20 April
11am – 3pm

The Guildhall

Fun craft and arty day for all ages come and get messy and creative at the Guildhall!

Blue lights day

Saturday 29 April
11am – 4pm

Abbey Pumping Station

Discover emergency vehicles past and present, plus our narrow gauge railway will be running.

Green man: Mask making

Monday 1 May
11am – 1pm & 2pm – 4pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Celebrate spring by making your own Green Man mask and explore the origins of this representation of life and nature.

**The Rites of Spring:
Folky fun day & ceilidh**

Monday 1 May
Fun day: 12.30pm – 4pm
Ceilidh: 12.30pm – 5pm

The Guildhall

A folky fun day for all the family with Maypole, Morris dancing, crafts and trails. Plus opportunity to dosey doe in the Great Hall with Ceilidh band 3Around3.

Storytelling Saturday

Saturday 6 May
11.30am – 12pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

More tall tales and enchanting stories from our wonderful museum storyteller.

Pterrific pterosaurs

Friday 26 May
11am – 1pm & 2pm – 4pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Celebrate paper aeroplane day by creating your own paper pterosaur.

The Dark Age warrior

Sunday 28 May
11.30am – 3.30pm

Jewry Wall Museum

Get up close with the weapons and armour of the Viking age and find out all about the fearsome fighters of that time.

Activities and performances for adults

Let's Jazz it UP: Mid-Week Mantra

Wednesday 1 March 12.30pm – 1.30pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Presented by Shruti Arts with Rekesh Chauhan (Piano) and Jesse Bannister (Saxophone).

Tea and history: For all occasions

Friday 3 March 1.30pm – 3pm

Newarke Houses Museum

Looking at how we celebrate birthdays, weddings and calendar events.

Tannahill Weavers

Saturday 4 March 7.30pm (doors 7pm)

The Guildhall

This dynamic quartet play Scottish traditional music at its best!

Lunchtime talk:

Famous women in geology

Wednesday 8 March 12.30pm – 1.30pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Exploring the forgotten females who forged significant steps in our understanding of geology.

Comedy: Ask an archaeologist

Thursday 9 March 7.30pm (doors 7pm)

Jewry Wall Museum

An experiment. An archaeologist sits in a room and answers your questions on any subject as honestly as possible.

Sikh Empire and the causes of the Anglo Sikh Wars: Bobby Bansal, documentary maker and author

Saturday 11 March 1pm - 3pm

Newarke Houses Museum & Gardens

Lecture looking at the Sikh Empire and what led to the first Anglo Sikh War in 1845.

Stanley Opera in concert

Saturday 11 March 7.30pm

The Guildhall

Concert of music from opera and popular West End musicals including a full performance of Trial by Jury, Gilbert and Sullivan's 30-minute comic operetta.

COVEN:

International Women's Day concert

Monday 13 March 8pm (doors 7.15pm)

The Guildhall

Coven are a collective of three of the British folk scene's finest, most formidable and forthright female acts; O'Hooley & Tidow, Lady Maisery & Grace Petrie.

Big history quiz

Wednesday 15 March 7.30pm (doors 7pm)

Jewry Wall Museum

Test your knowledge of history with an impressive backdrop – the remains of the second century Roman Bath House.

Modern calligraphy workshop

Saturday 18 March

10am – 1pm & 1.30pm – 4.30pm

Newarke Houses Museum

Try your hand at this ever increasingly, popular move-on of Copperplate.

Empire in the balance: Chillianwallah and Gujarat

Wednesday 22 March 6pm – 7.30pm

Newarke Houses Museum & Gardens

The two battles which formed part of the second Anglo Sikh War in 1849 will be compared and contrasted by Amarpal Singh Sidhu-Military historian and author.

Derek Grant presents:

Blowin' in the Wind

Friday 24 March 7.30 pm

The Guildhall

When Joan Baez, Bob Dylan and friends sang of love, the times certainly were a-changin'. Come on a journey through some of the greatest songs of our time.

Heritage Sundays: Tours and open days

Last Sunday of the month from 26 March

11am – 3pm

Explore buildings normally closed to the public including The Magazine and historic locations around De Montfort University.

Tell-Tale Theatre present: Uncle Richard

Sunday 26 March 5pm (Doors 4.30pm)

The Guildhall

A chance to see the reprise of the sell-out show, written to mark the reinterment of Richard III.

The lions teeth:

Sikh artillery from the Anglo-Sikh Wars

Saturday 1 April 1pm - 3pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Talk by Neil Carleton, Senior Documentation Officer, V&A who has studied the history and development of Sikh artillery during the 18th and 19th centuries.

Reading animal bones: The Highcross excavations

Sunday 2 April 11am

Jewry Wall Museum

Idoia Grau Sologestoa of the University of Sheffield presents her research which suggests significant change in methods of animal husbandry during the 15th to 17th centuries.

Let's jazz it up: Mid-week mantra

Wednesday 5 April 12.30pm – 1.30pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Evocative sounds of the Indian bowed instrument (Tar-Shehnai) in the able hands of Kirpal Singh Panesar, contrasted by the lively Western classical guitar with Siddharth.

Gold leaf calligraphy workshop

Saturday 8 April 10am – 4pm

Newarke Houses Museum

A day to learn the art of illumination using gilding techniques and real gold leaf.

Penny dreadful! Or, Mrs Lovett's revenge!

Sunday 16 April 3pm

The Guildhall

There are chills and chuckles in abundance with this original one-woman show featuring Sweeney Todd's partner in crime, Mrs Lovett!

The archaeology of medieval Leicestershire and Rutland

Saturdays 22 April – 27 May 11am – 1pm

Jewry Wall Museum

A series of six lectures on the archaeology of the Medieval period locally by Peter Liddle MBE.

Baithak:

An evening of Indian classical music

Sunday 23 April

7pm – 9pm

New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

Enjoy a relaxed and intimate evening of Indian classical music featuring talented and renowned musicians.

Hannah James: JigDoll

Monday 24 April 7.30pm (doors 7pm)

The Guildhall

A rarity in folk music, Hannah is a singer, musician and innovative clog dancer. JigDoll combines all of these disciplines in a beautiful new show.

A beginners guide to medieval Leicester

Friday 28 April 2pm

The Guildhall

Join our Senior Curator to discover more about life in medieval Leicester.

The Rites of Spring: Douglas MacGregor & Jim Ghedi

Monday 1 May 7pm (Doors 6.30pm)

The Guildhall

Finger-picking folk at its very best. Plus support from Mythm.

Tim O'Brien

Wednesday 3 May 8pm (doors 7.15pm)

The Guildhall

Winner of two Grammys and double winner of the International Bluegrass Music Award.

The Rheingans Sisters

Saturday 6 May 8pm

The Guildhall

Fiddle-singers Rowan and Anna grew up in the Peak District, surrounded by traditional music and part of BBC Folk Award nominated trio Lady Maisery.

Don't go into the Cellar:

Murder by gaslight

Friday 12 May 7.30pm

The Guildhall

Murder by Gaslight is a ghoulish audience with two of most infamous poisoners in British history - William Palmer and Harvey Crippen.

Museums at Night:

To catch a binding tale

Saturday 20 May 7.30pm – 10pm (doors 7pm)

Jewry Wall Museum

Hear readings of some best remembered poems with a historical theme whilst enjoying a selection of wine and cheeses.

Museums at Night:

One night, two sites & four tours

Saturday 20 May

7pm – 10.30pm

Abbey Pumping Stations & Belgrave Hall

Special experiences and tours to discover these unique sites and to learn the history of the Leicester's riverside area.

Tracing your family tree

Sunday 21 May 2pm

Newarke Houses Museum

Been inspired by TV programmes to trace your own family history? Join Blue Badge Guide Virginia Wright to find out more.



Abbey Pumping Station

Corporation Road
Leicester LE4 5PX
T: 0116 299 5111

Open daily:
11am – 4.30pm
Open November –
January for special
events, group bookings
and tours.



Newarke Houses Museum & Gardens

The Newarke
Leicester LE2 7BY
T: 0116 225 4980
Monday – Saturday:
10am – 5pm
Sunday:
11am – 5pm



Belgrave Hall & Gardens

Church Road
Leicester LE4 5PE
T: 0116 229 8181

Gardens open April –
September, every
Wednesday and the first
complete weekend of the
month, 11am – 4.30pm.
The Hall is open for
special events
throughout the year.



The Guildhall

Guildhall Lane
Leicester LE1 5FQ
T: 0116 253 2569

Open daily:
11am – 4.30pm
On certain days, parts
of the Guildhall may be
closed for weddings.



Jewry Wall Museum

St Nicholas Circle,
Leicester LE1 4LB
T: 0116 225 4971

February – October
Open daily:
11am – 4.30pm
Open November –
January for special
events, group bookings
and tours.



The Magazine

Oxford Street
Leicester
T: 0116 225 4980
Open for special events.



New Walk Museum & Art Gallery

53 New Walk
Leicester LE1 7EA
T: 0116 225 4900

Monday – Saturday:
10am – 5pm
Sunday:
11am – 5pm



The Record Office for Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland

Long Street
Wigston Magna
Leicester LE18 2AH
T: 0116 257 1080
W: leics.gov.uk/recordoffice
Please call or see website
for opening hours.



Visit Leicester Information Centre

51 Gallowtree Gate
Leicester LE1 5AD
T: 0116 299 4444

Monday – Saturday:
9.30am – 5.30pm
Sundays and Bank
Holidays: 10am – 4pm