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Fashion Museum Bath



Shoephoria!

until 18 April 2022

Bath & North East
Somerset Council

Improving People's Lives

Welcome

The Fashion Museum Bath is one of the world's great museum collections of historical and contemporary dress.

The headline exhibition, *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*, shows how fashions have changed throughout the ages, from the 1600s to the present day. The annual *Dress of the Year* selection shines a spotlight on contemporary fashion.

Until 18 April 2022 we will be exploring the story of footwear with *Shoephoria!* while from 14 May *You Choose* will focus on items selected by our visitors.

From autumn 2022 the Fashion Museum will be on the move. See the following page for more information and how you can support us.

We hope you enjoy your visit to the Fashion Museum!



'One of the world's best fashion museums...'
Condé Nast Traveler

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▶ Fashion Museum
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fashion_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk

Front cover image:
Two-tone leather platform lace-ups by Shoes by Topper, London, 1973

Back cover image:
Over-sized slogan T-shirt, baggy fit shorts and baseball cap by Cross Colours, 1992

This page:
Bottle green asymmetrical dress by Comme des Garçons, 1996 with choker necklace by Yves Saint Laurent Rive Gauche, 1991



Our future

This year will be the last chance to see the Fashion Museum in its present location. Following 60 wonderful years at the Assembly Rooms, the Fashion Museum will be moving to a new home.

We are currently looking for new premises for the Fashion Museum in Bath with several possible locations under consideration.

Keep an eye on our website and social media channels for the latest information on our move and the announcement of our future location.

The Museum will be closed for a while before moving into our new home. We do not yet know how long the closure will be for; but don't worry, while the galleries are closed we'll be bringing you an exciting array of digital content to keep you up to date with all our activities and our world-class collection.



Dress of the Year

The Fashion Museum's collection is kept up to the minute with its annual *Dress of the Year* selection.

Each year, the Museum invites a top name from the fashion industry to select an outfit that encapsulates the prevailing mood of fashion, represents the past year and captures the imagination. The chosen design then becomes part of the Museum's world-class collection and is displayed in the headline exhibition *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*.

Right: Ivory silk evening dress, with 'feather' and bead embroidery. Sarah Burton for Alexander McQueen. Chosen as Dress of the Year 2011 by Hamish Bowles



A History of Fashion in

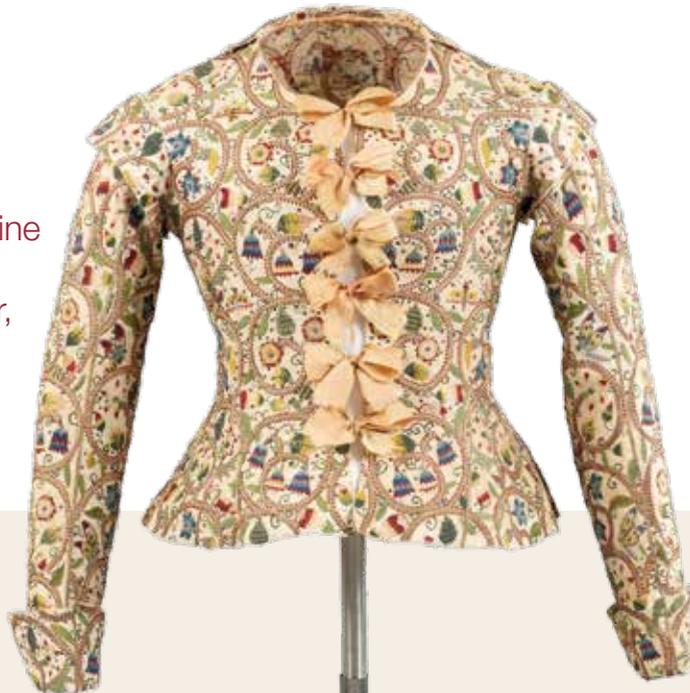
1000

Objects

The Fashion Museum Bath presents 100 'star' objects from its collection in the headline exhibition *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects*. Taken together, these objects showcase a history of fashion from the 1600s to the present day.

Images left to right:
 Multi-coloured silks and spangle embroidered woman's waistcoat, 1610s
 Ivory crinkle weave evening gown with red velvet feature back by Donguy, Paris, 1930s

Silver beaded mini-dress by Calvin Klein, 1991
 Blue feather fan with tortoise-shell sticks, 1900s



Fashion touches everyone's life – it is intrinsically linked to society – and *A History of Fashion in 100 Objects* references moments in history, as well as personal stories.



Shoephoria!



Showcasing more than 350 pairs of boots and shoes, *Shoephoria!* traces the evolution of shoe style, materials and making over the last 300 years.

From the oldest shoes in the collection – a pair of red velvet mules from the 1690s – to sneakers and trainers from the 2000s; and from footwear belonging to Queen Victoria and Noel Coward to designer shoes by Manolo Blahnik, Vivienne Westwood and Alexander McQueen, this stunning exhibition offers a close-up look at the various styles and stories that make up the history of footwear.

Left: Maroon red patent leather extreme platform boot, about 1972

You Choose

Opening 14 May 2022

What does fashion mean to you and what would you like to see on display at the Fashion Museum?

These are the two questions we have been asking as part of our exciting new exhibition for summer 2022. We have invited individuals and groups across Bath and North East Somerset to work with us to co-curate *You Choose*, a community-led exhibition that our choosers feel reflects them and their take on fashion and dress history.

A narrative of personal choice and reflection binds together 11 brand new displays enabling us to present fresh and first-hand stories about the museum collection and give our choosers a bigger voice and a visibility in the Fashion Museum galleries.



Events programme

See fashionmuseum.co.uk for further information on all our events.

Family activities

Free drop-in family events. Children must be accompanied by an adult. All times 10.30am–12.30pm & 1.30–3pm in the Assembly Rooms, unless stated otherwise.

Sneakers Sneak Peek
22 February

Knitting Nancy, or French Knitting
9 August

Shoe Surprise
12–19 April

Summer Posies
16 August

All Dressed Up
31 May

Pattern Play
23 August

Funky Flip Flops
26 July

Catwalk Crazy
25 October

Summer Wear
2 August

Events for adults

Look out for themed events including a Kinky Boots and Drag Cabaret Night to celebrate *Shoephoria!*

fashionmuseum.co.uk



Left: Red thigh high 'kinky boots', by W J Brookes, Earl's Barton, Northampton



Assembly Rooms

The Assembly Rooms was designed to be a place for dancing and music. When it was completed in 1771 it was described as 'the most noble and elegant of any in the kingdom', with the Ball Room accommodating large social gatherings. Today, the building contains the finest set of 18th-century chandeliers in the world.

Private Hire

The Ball Room, Tea Room, Card Room and Great Octagon are all available for private hire for weddings, conferences, dinners, parties and other events.

Visit Bath's Historic Venues bathshistoricvenues.co.uk for more information or call 01225 477786.

 [BathsHistoricVenues](https://www.facebook.com/BathsHistoricVenues)

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Learning at the Fashion Museum

There are many ways to learn at the Fashion Museum. Please take a look at our learning pages on the website which feature videos and activities.

Follow us on social media to find out when we will be delivering onsite lessons, which range from a teaching session to a self-guided tour.

[fashionmuseum.co.uk/learn](https://www.fashionmuseum.co.uk/learn)

Museum Shop

The shop sells a carefully chosen selection of gifts, fashion accessories, jewellery and stationery to accompany the Fashion Museum's special exhibitions programme.

The comprehensive book range covers everything from fashion history and stand-out designers, to specialist pattern and children's activity books.



The Assembly Rooms Café

The café serves hot and cold drinks, sandwiches and cakes. It is open every day, except when booked for an event. Please see our website for details.



Visiting us

The Fashion Museum is located in the Assembly Rooms, near The Circus and Royal Crescent, less than 15 minutes' walk from the Roman Baths and 20 minutes from the rail and bus stations.

The Assembly Rooms is owned by the National Trust and managed by Bath & North East Somerset Council, which owns and runs the Fashion Museum.

The museum galleries are fully wheelchair accessible. Please see [fashionmuseum.co.uk](https://www.fashionmuseum.co.uk) for our Accessibility Guide.

Please book online at [fashionmuseum.co.uk](https://www.fashionmuseum.co.uk) and for opening times



Fashion Museum

Assembly Rooms,
Bennett Street
Bath BA1 2QH

Tel: 01225 477789

24-hour info: 01225 477867

Information:
fashion_enquiries@bathnes.gov.uk

Groups:
groups_bookings@bathnes.gov.uk
Groups Tel: 01225 477173

Cafe: 01225 444477

Shop: 01225 477712



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*Fashion Museum Bath will be leaving its current home autumn 2022, see website

