

MAIDSTONE
MUSEUM



**Hire
the
Past**



**Inspire
the
Present**

Touring Exhibitions Portfolio curated by Maidstone Museum

Collections-led exhibitions available for hire

Maidstone Museum develops and tours exhibitions drawn from its renowned collections and research.

Offering expertly curated shows for hire by museums, galleries, corporate and cultural venues, these exhibitions form part of the Museum's wider cultural programme.

Designed as self-contained touring shows, they combine visual impact with clear exhibition narratives shaped by curatorial expertise.

Each exhibition is available for a hire fee of £2,250 per four-week hire period (flexible options also available).



Established in 1858, Maidstone Museum cares for over 600,000 objects of international significance, enabling the development of touring exhibitions of national and international relevance.

Albert Goodwin: Visionary Landscapes



This exhibition explores the travels and influences of Maidstone-born landscape artist Albert Goodwin (1845–1932). Drawing on watercolours from the largest collection of Goodwin paintings in public ownership, it examines his distinctive approach to landscape and his place within British art at the turn of the 20th century.

A prolific exhibitor and member of the Royal Watercolour Society, Goodwin showed nearly 800 works during his lifetime. He was championed by John Ruskin and trained with the Pre-Raphaelite brotherhood. His emotive and recognisable landscapes reflect the artistic influences of luminaries from J.M.W. Turner to Ford Madox Brown.

The exhibition presents handpicked original works and is suited to museums, galleries, and institutional environments seeking a thoughtful, academically grounded exhibition that rewards close viewing.

Exhibition Highlights

Featuring artworks from the largest collection of Goodwin works in public ownership
Approximately 50 original watercolours
Includes 4 x interpretive graphic panels (450 x 760 mm)

Curator's Perspective

“Working in both watercolour and oils, Goodwin excelled in painting topographical and landscape scenes. Using colour, form, and tone through light and shade with exceptional skill, earning from contemporaries the title of ‘the legitimate successor of J. M. W. Turner.’”

Collections Manager – Maidstone Museum

As part of this touring exhibition this artwork has been kindly loaned from the Bentlif Trust Collections housed at Maidstone Museum.

Japan: A Floating World in Print



This exhibition introduces audiences to Japanese ukiyo-e prints from the Edo and Meiji periods, exploring one of the most influential visual traditions in Japanese art.

Drawn from Maidstone Museum's internationally significant Japanese collection, the exhibition presents works by leading print masters including Hokusai, Hiroshige, and Utamaro, depicting subjects such as beautiful women, dramatic landscapes, actors, and warriors. Iconic images such as The Great Wave and Red Fuji are included, offering a visually strong and culturally authoritative overview suitable for a wide range of venues.

Exhibition Highlights

Original ukiyo-e prints by major Edo and Meiji period artists

Iconic imagery and artists familiar to broad audiences

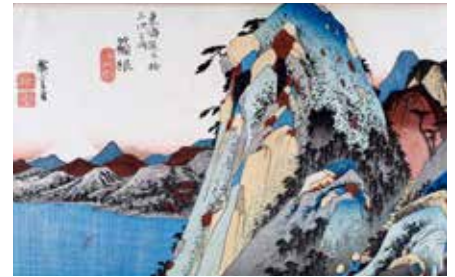
A choice of 50 prints (available from a selection of themes – beautiful women, landscapes, warriors and Kabuki actors)

Curator's Perspective

"This display highlights ukiyo-e prints by Edo and Meiji-period masters. The works offer a remarkable insight into everyday life, artistic innovation, and visual culture in Edo and Meiji-period Japan. This exhibition highlights both the technical sophistication of woodblock printing and the enduring appeal of its imagery, from dramatic landscapes to idealised figures."

Collections Manager – Maidstone Museum

Hiroshige's Tōkaidō: A Japanese Journey



A focused, narrative-led exhibition built around the work of Utagawa Hiroshige (1797–1858), one of the most celebrated artists of Japanese woodblock printing.

Structured as a sequence of landscapes, the exhibition unfolds along Japan's historic Tōkaidō Way. This route links the military capital of Edo (Tokyo) with the imperial capital of Kyoto, presenting a clear and coherent journey through place, travel, and observation.

This focused format makes the exhibition particularly well suited to venues seeking a strong narrative, a single “hero” artist, and visually striking content.

Exhibition Highlights

The complete series of 55 prints from Hiroshige's 53 Stations of the Tōkaidō Road, printed by Hoeidō in 1833 (earliest edition)

Clear journey-based narrative accessible to broad audiences

High visual impact for public, institutional, or corporate settings

Curator's Perspective

“The popularity of Hiroshige's work has endured for generations, and his influence can be seen in the work of artists such as Vincent van Gogh and Claude Monet, as well as in the nineteenth-century Western movement of Japonisme. For artists in Japan and around the world, Hiroshige's work continues to be a source of inspiration.”

Collections Manager – Maidstone Museum

William Alexander: The Man who Drew China

Coming late 2026



This forthcoming exhibition explores the work of William Alexander, the artist who accompanied Britain's first embassy to the interior of China between 1792 and 1794.

Working from direct observation, Alexander produced detailed drawings and watercolours that recorded landscapes, architecture, and everyday life with a clarity often described as almost photographic. These images offered British audiences their earliest sustained visual impressions of China.

Alongside this material, the exhibition presents Alexander's work produced in Britain, where he focused primarily on architectural subjects. Shown together in depth for the first time, these two bodies of work reveal striking differences in approach, purpose, and subject matter.

Exhibition Highlights

The first exhibition to bring together Alexander's Chinese and British works in significant number
Flexible touring format, including an option with bilingual (English and Chinese) interpretation and enhanced focus on the China material

A clear contrast between observational, figure-rich Chinese scenes and technically precise British architectural views

Curator's Perspective

"William Alexander's work provides a unique record of cultural encounter between Britain and China at a pivotal moment in global history. In China, he worked rapidly from observation, producing images that capture people, behaviour, and place with remarkable clarity. In Britain, work focused more on measured architectural subjects, with less emphasis on human presence. Seen together, these contrasting approaches reveal how Alexander adapted his art to vastly different cultures in the late 18th and early 19th centuries."

Collections Manager – Maidstone Museum

As part of this touring exhibition this artwork has been kindly loaned from the Bentlif Trust Collections housed at Maidstone Museum.



Why tour with Maidstone Museum



Maidstone Museum offers touring exhibitions that invite audiences to encounter original works through carefully shaped exhibitions that add depth and character to the spaces in which they are shown.

Host venues can expect:

- Exhibitions grounded in a recognised museum collection and curatorial research
- Professional interpretation suitable for public, institutional, or corporate contexts
- Clear technical documentation to support feasibility assessment
- Flexible hire periods and clear pricing - £2250 per four-week hire period
- Ongoing liaison during the planning and installation phase

Next steps and contact

We would be delighted to discuss any aspect of hosting one of our touring exhibitions, from suitability and scheduling to technical requirements.

Email: exhibitions@maidstone.gov.uk

Tel: 01622 602847

Web: museum.maidstone.gov.uk

MAIDSTONE
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**Your Space.
Our Collection.
Endless
Inspiration.**