

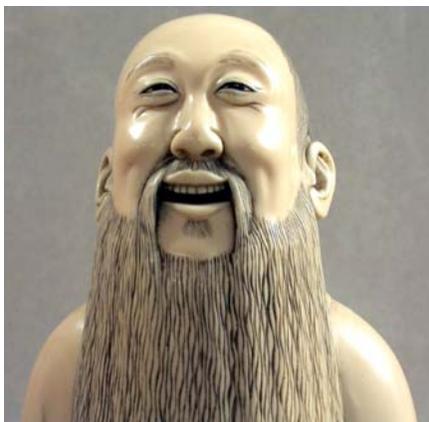
China in Yorkshire



During 2008, museums in Yorkshire will respond to the increased public interest in China generated by the Beijing Olympics. China in Yorkshire, facilitated by the Renaissance Yorkshire Hub, will bring together, enhance and communicate events, activities and exhibitions being planned by museums in Yorkshire to celebrate Chinese identity in the region. China in Yorkshire will explore the influence of Chinese history, culture and art on Western Society and showcase the regions most stunning Chinese and Chinoiserie collections to new audiences.

The Yorkshire Hub events and activities have been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council England, Yorkshire. Each of the exhibitions will be supported by a major community engagement programme, including creative workshops, a community history project and the opportunity to co-curate the exhibitions. Alongside the exhibitions, museums will run events and activities for schools and the wider community, a training and development programme for museum staff and volunteers and an audit and research project.

The Grice Ivories Collection at the Graves Art Gallery, Sheffield, May – August 2008



This exhibition will feature the stunning Grice Chinese Ivories collection, which comprises over 150 antique carved pieces dating from the 18th to 20th centuries and is one of the few collections of Eastern art in the North of England. It is one of only two important and internationally known collections of Chinese ivories in the UK and was last on display at the Graves Art Gallery in the 1990s.

In this new exhibition, local Chinese community groups will play a key role in co-curating the show, providing personal meanings and interpretation. This approach will help to provide the cultural context of ivory works of art in Chinese society, as well as the religious, social and historical background against which they were made and collected both at home and abroad.

China Comes to Cliffe Castle, Keighley, June – September 2008

Cliffe Castle Museum is housed in a Victorian Industrialist's mansion dating from 1828 and re-modelled in 1875. Its rooms and gardens will form a creative and inspirational trail showcasing the best of Bradford's Chinese collections. British born Chinese artists will be commissioned to develop the trail and provide a contemporary response to the exhibition and an artist residency will also take place for 2 weeks.



Image: Courtesy Bradford Museums, Galleries & Heritage

China in York at York Castle Museum, February – December 2008

This exhibition will focus on York's Chinese and Chinoiserie ceramics collections. These items will be used as the source and inspiration to reflect the influences of Chinese culture on the life of York which at present is almost unacknowledged. Local Chinese communities in York will play a key role in the interpretation of the exhibition and will be encouraged to contribute their own objects and expertise.

Chinese Treasures at Lotherton Hall, Leeds, June – October 2008 & China, Local and Global at Leeds Central Library, August 2008



Leeds' outstanding Designated Chinese collection will be showcased through 2 exhibitions. The main exhibition at Lotherton Hall will explore themes such as *To & Fro*, *Festivals & Faiths*, *Food & Drink*, *Fashion & Finesse*, *Performance & Play* and *Clay & Ink*. Local collectors and businesses will be involved to ensure that the topics are illustrated with contemporary material as well as with the older pieces from the collections. The exhibition at the Central Library will have a focus on photographic images, with comments and interpretations by a wide range of individuals, including many from the local Chinese community

Image: Courtesy Leeds Museums and Galleries

A number of other exhibitions around the region will also become part of a wider China in Yorkshire collaboration:

Ceramics and Chinese Influences at Cannon Hall Museum, Barnsley, July – September 2008

This exhibition will showcase some of Cannon Hall Museum's Chinese influenced ceramics alongside a range of activities and events including dragons and Tai Chi in the grounds.

**Chinese ceramics, Chinoiserie furniture and silver at Fairfax House, York,
June – December 2008**

An exhibition drawn from its collections of 17th and 18th century Chinese ceramics, English Chinoiserie furniture and silver will focus on patterns, motifs and styles, as well as the influence of the East India trade in forming the taste for drink and art forms throughout the Western world. Some of the work produced in a series of community events which will complement the exhibition will also be displayed in the house.

Image: Famille verte 'dragon' dish, porcelain, Kangxi (1662-1722). Part of the Noel Terry Collection. © Fairfax House.



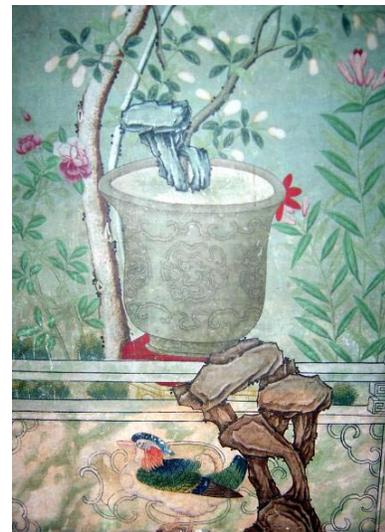
Chinese Printmaking Today at Cartwright Hall, Bradford, June – September 2008

This exhibition will feature works by leading Chinese artists, highlighting the dynamic transition to modernity currently taking place in China and will include woodblock printing, which has a long and distinguished history in China where it was invented 1500 years ago. The exhibition will show how contemporary artists engage with a traditional art form and how artists tackle a range of subjects from the art of the book, to rural and urban themes, politics, the human figure and the avant-garde and will include huge hanging rolls, sheet prints and book-form illustrations. The exhibition has been organised in association with the Muban Foundation, London which holds the finest collection of woodblock prints outside China.

From East to West at Harewood House, Leeds

Harewood House will be researching and presenting a Chinoiserie Rococo room interior, including the re-instating of 1770s Chinese wallpaper and conserving the accompanying Chippendale Chinoiserie furniture. The room will be complemented by a display of Chinese and Chinoiserie objects and the production of a DVD about the conservation and installation of the wallpaper and the history of Chinese wallpapers. A contemporary Chinese artist will also be commissioned to respond to Harewood House and a community involvement programme will be developed to complement the displays.

Image: Courtesy Leeds Museums and Galleries



The Silk Empire at North Lincolnshire Museum, May – September 2008

Printing, gunpowder and the compass...we constantly find that the Chinese discovered things first and then they were reinvented in the west. This exhibition looks at Science and Technology in the amazing civilization that was Ancient China.

Explore Chinese Medicine at the Thackray Museum, Leeds, throughout 2008



The Thackray Museum will provide exciting activities for families based around the theory and practice of Chinese medicine such as acupuncture, massage and Qigong, herbal medicines, food, and tea. It is hoped that partners for the project will include local Chinese communities, Leeds Mandarin Chinese College and the Huqingyu Tang Chinese Medicine Museum in China, the only Chinese herbal medicine museum in China

Image: Courtesy Thackray Museum

China and Our Waterways at the Yorkshire Waterways Museum

The Yorkshire Waterways Museum will host an exhibition around our waterways links with China, particularly around the theme of import/export.
