



William Morris Gallery launches its Archive Collection for LDF in collaboration with Liberty, spotlighting modern craft from the heart of London

William Morris Gallery and Liberty today announce the Archive Collection, a new range of limited-edition products including homewares, jewellery, accessories and clothing. The Archive Collection builds upon both parties' longstanding connection as champions of the Arts and Crafts Movement and producers of some of Britain's most iconic and enduring designs. Sales will support the education and community programme of William Morris Gallery.

As part of the collection, William Morris Gallery and Liberty have commissioned five UK-based contemporary designers to reimagine objects from the Gallery's archive that were significant to the life of William Morris, pioneer of the Arts and Crafts movement. Each of these special products embodies the spirit of handmaking, working with natural materials and finding joy in labour – principles which underpinned William Morris' own approach to design. Products include the 'William Morris Satchel' by Kingsley Walters, 'Philip Webb Drinking Glass' by Stewart Hearn, 'Arts and Crafts Shirt' by Blackhorse Lane Ateliers, 'Water House Mac' by Cawley Studio and 'Sussex Chair' by Wilkinson & Rivera.

Liberty has also created a series of special products that celebrate the work of May Morris, an important designer and artist, who worked closely with her father. The 'May Morris Necklace and Earrings' are based on a short necklace made by May Morris in c.1904 that is held in William Morris Gallery's collection. Liberty is also launching 'The Art of Craft', a new capsule collection of ten fabrics taking inspiration from May Morris, featuring archival designs and 'May's Orchard', a new print created especially for this collection. The prints have also been used by William Morris Gallery to create an extensive range of accessories and stationery with prices ranging from £3 to £40.

Products will be available to purchase in a curated area at Liberty, at the William Morris Gallery and online from both [William Morris Gallery](#) and [Liberty](#).

"Throughout this project we have aimed to provide a new platform for independent designers and makers who embody the spirit and principles of William Morris. The association between William Morris and Liberty spans over a century and this is an important moment in rekindling that relationship, which has such an important place in design history." **Hadrian Garrard, Director, William Morris Gallery**

"The spirit of Liberty design is to create whilst being inspired and informed by an understanding of the past. Our archive is a constant place of discovery used by our London design team, with its incredible richness and diversity. This collaboration has allowed the designers to learn from the experts and archive of the William Morris Gallery, maintaining the important link whilst rising to the challenge of an ambitious goal; creating new designs which honour the legacy of William and May. Each piece within this collection has revived their beloved Arts and Crafts style, to bring our customers designs that celebrate and innovate." **Mary-Ann Dunkley, Design Director for Liberty Products & Liberty Fabrics**

"We're proud to support this project that celebrates the redevelopment of William Morris Gallery, the rich history of William and May Morris, and spotlights local makers and businesses in Waltham Forest." **Councillor Grace Williams, Leader of Waltham Forest Council**

Please see below for further information on individual products, including where to purchase.

Sussex Chair by Wilkinson & Rivera
£6,495



Limited edition chairs by the award-winning studio Wilkinson & Rivera. This contemporary chair is a reimagining of the hugely influential Sussex Chair designed by Philip Webb for Morris & Co in the 1860s.

Wilkinson & Rivera is a British-American design and manufacturing studio with roots in London and New York. Founded by Grant Wilkinson and Teresa Rivera, the studio straddles the worlds of design and fine art, with work that is sculptural in form and functional by nature. The husband-and-wife duo pay homage to traditional craftsmanship, dovetailing contemporary ideals with time-honoured techniques.

Available at Liberty London. Enquiries can be made at William Morris Gallery.
For further information on Wilkinson and Rivera please visit www.wilkinson-rivera.com

Philip Webb Drinking Glass by Stewart Hearn
£80 per glass (Sold individually)



This lightweight, handblown glass made by Stewart Hearn of London Glassworks is an interpretation of a glass designed for William Morris by Philip Webb in the 1860s for his new home, Red House and subsequently retailed by Morris. Versions of the original object are held in the collection of William Morris Gallery and the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York.

Stewart Hearn of London Glassworks is an award-winning artist, craftsman and designer, specialising in bespoke handblown glass. Each work is made entirely by hand using an optic mould, which involves dipping the hot glass before blowing to create ribs in the body of the glass.

Available at William Morris Gallery.
For further information on Stewart Hearn of London Glassworks please visit www.stewarthearn-shop.com

Water House Mac by Cawley Studio
£650 (Available in S/M, M/L and XL)



Taking as its starting point a photograph of William Morris wearing a smock in c.1876, Cawley Studio has adapted this silhouette to an oilskin coat. Available in two colourways, navy or ecru, the unisex design is lined with a Liberty Fabric from the new 'Art of Craft' collection.

Cawley Studio was founded by Hannah Cawley in 2017 and is known for using high quality, natural fabrics and celebrating British manufacturing. Silhouettes are designed to be functional, timeless and have a place in everyday life. Each piece is individually hand cut and made in London.

Available at William Morris Gallery and Liberty.
For further information on Cawley Studio please visit www.cawleystudio.com

Arts and Crafts Shirt by Blackhorse Lane Ateliers
£395 (Available in S/M and M/L)



Inspired by an artist smock worn by the influential architect, designer and founder of William Morris Gallery, A H Mackmurdo, this unisex shirt is crafted from fine woven Japanese chambray and features a William Morris x Liberty lining. Made by Blackhorse Lane Ateliers who specialise in craft denim with a focus on sustainability.

Blackhorse Lane Ateliers, based in Walthamstow, is London's only craft denim maker, creating garments using raw, selvedge and organic denim. Blackhorse Lane Ateliers opened its doors in April 2016, leveraging its founder Bilgehan "Han" Ates' 25 years of experience in the textile industry.

Available at William Morris Gallery and Liberty London.

For further information on Blackhorse Lane Ateliers please visit www.blackhorselane.com

William Morris Satchel by Kingsley Walters
£495



Based on a canvas satchel belonging to William Morris, this contemporary take by Kingsley Walters is crafted from canvas that has been exclusively batch-dyed by Dundee fabric specialists Halley Stevenson and finished with hand cut vegetable tanned leather. Available in midnight blue with black leather trim and Morris brown with tan trim and leather strap.

Whilst studying tailoring, **Kingsley Walters** became captivated with leather craftsmanship and the versatility and longevity of leather as a material. Walters founded Kingsley Walters in 2015 and creates capsule collections of practical and durable pieces, utilising traditional methods and locally sourced materials. Each product is handmade and stitched with beeswax coated thread.

Available at William Morris Gallery and Liberty London.

For further information on Kingsley Walters please visit www.kingsleywalters.com



May Morris Red Garnet Necklace and Earrings by Liberty
Necklace £1,600
Earrings £1,400 - £1,500

Crafted from 9ct gold, natural red garnet, natural blue iolite and pearl, this handmade matching necklace and earring set is based on an original necklace made by May Morris in c.1904. May would have set the gemstones herself, probably using a gas torch and hand tools.

Available at William Morris Gallery and Liberty London.



The Art of Craft by Liberty
Price per metre: £29.95

Classic Arts and Crafts motifs, intricate detail and rich hues populate Liberty's new capsule collection of ten fabrics, conceptualised and designed in the Liberty Fabrics studio.

The collection features 'May's Orchard', an entirely new print created especially for this collection, as well as archival William Morris designs and past patterns that were inspired by his work.

Available at William Morris Gallery and Liberty London.



Rose Branch and May's Garden Silk Scarves by Liberty
£95

A true heritage icon, these two new Liberty silk scarves have been crafted from silk twill and feature designs inspired by the work of May Morris. These contemporary interpretations of traditional Arts and Crafts styles were meticulously hand-painted in the Liberty London studio.

The Rose Branch Silk Scarf is available in 45cm x 45cm, in cream and navy, and the May's Garden Silk Scarf is available in 70cm x 70cm, in petrol blue and green.

Available at William Morris Gallery and Liberty London.

Notes to Editors

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About William Morris Gallery

William Morris Gallery is the only public gallery devoted to the designer, craftsman and radical socialist William Morris. Housed in the Grade II* listed building that was once Morris' family home, the Gallery displays the world's largest collection of his work, alongside contemporary exhibitions and an active events and learning programme. William Morris Gallery is owned and operated by Waltham Forest Council.

William Morris Gallery, Forest Road, London E17 4PP

www.wmgallery.org.uk



About Liberty Fabrics

Liberty Fabrics has been at the cutting-edge of design and decorative arts since 1875 and now forms an international wholesale business, working with retailers, brands and designers across womenswear, menswear, childrenswear and homewares. Designed by an in-house team in the heart of London, printing takes place at our mill in northern Italy, which uses both innovative digital technology and age-old techniques. From signature, obsessively fine-tuned Tana Lawn cotton and luxurious silk to lightweight linen, Liberty Fabrics are brilliant canvases for bespoke creations of all kinds.

www.libertyfabric.com

About Liberty Products

Synonymous with the city its shop stands in, Liberty is a brand driven by discovery. Born in 1875 from the adventurous and disruptive spirit of Arthur Lasenby Liberty, the brand has remained true to its heritage and is famed for its print, fabrics, and design. Liberty continues to be associated with the world of arts and culture, building on its founder's legacy to seek out the new and the beautiful. Today, Liberty is recognised for its cultural collaborations, inspiring curation, and directional design. The iconic Regent Street shop encompasses six floors of fashion, beauty, Little Liberty childrenswear, accessories and homewares - bringing together the world's leading premium and luxury brands and housing them alongside its own Liberty range.

www.libertylondon.com