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THE COMMONWEALTH ISSUE

ARTS

FASHIONED FROM NATURE

21 April 2018 – 27 Jan 2019

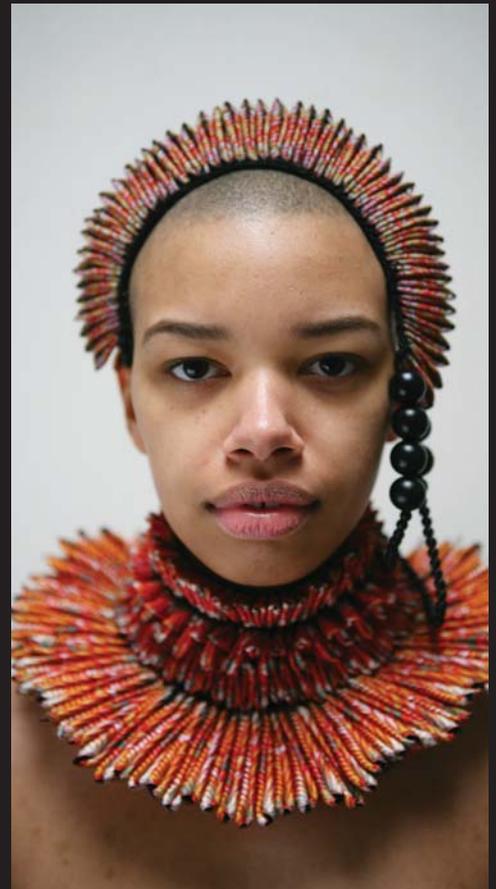
Victoria and Albert Museum, Cromwell Road, London SW7 2RL

A pineapple fibre clutch-bag, a movie star's Calvin Klein dress made from recycled plastic bottles and a cape of cockerel feathers are amongst the 300 beautiful, intriguing and unsettling objects from the V&A's Fashioned from Nature exhibition. Tracing the complex relationship between fashion and the natural world since 1600, the exhibition demonstrates

Cape of curled cockerel feathers, Auguste Champot, France, ca. 1895 © Victoria and Albert Museum, London



how fashionable dress has drawn on the beauty and power of nature for inspiration throughout history, with exquisite garments and accessories from Christian Dior, Dries van Noten and Philip Treacy. The exhibition looks to the past 400 years of fashion to explore what we can learn from fashion practice in the past. Items include an 1875 pair of earrings formed from the heads of two real Honeycreeper birds – a hugely popular item sold in enormous volume at the time – and an 1860s dress decorated with the iridescent green wing cases of hundreds of jewel beetles. For information visit www.vam.ac.uk



Speckled Crimson Ruff by Michelle Lowe-Holder, 'Flock & Fold' Collection AW11. Photography by Polly Penrose

HOPE TO NOPE: GRAPHICS AND POLITICS 2008-2018

Until 12 August 2018

Design Museum, 224-238 Kensington High Street, London W8 6AG



Women's March, Wellington, NZ, © Andy McArthur



International Women's Day, © Steve Rapport

The global financial crash of 2008 followed by today's political landscape has shaken people's confidence in the prevailing order. Other areas of the world have witnessed similar upheavals, with events such as the Arab Spring and the refugee crisis having far-reaching political implications. These events have caused people to become more politically engaged than they have been for years, and social media has meant that they can disseminate political iconography as never before. Hope to Nope will explore the diverse methods that have been used to construct and communicate political messages over the past ten years. As traditional media rubs shoulders with the hash-tag and the meme, never has graphic design been more critical in giving everyone a political voice. For information visit www.designmuseum.org

PETER SACKS: MIGRATIONS

18 April to 19 May 2018

Marlborough Fine Art,
6 Albemarle Street, London
W1S 4BY

Marlborough Fine Art has a solo exhibition of new works by South African-born, US-based artist Peter Sacks. Sacks's paintings have a strong personal significance and are influenced by countries where the artist lived part of his life, including South Africa, India, South America, France and the US. Peter was exiled from South Africa and had many friends imprisoned or killed because of apartheid, which is one of the strongest concepts in his work. His large-scale paintings always include fragments of textiles, texts written by him, fabric from around the world, embroidery and traces of objects. Works are handmade, some taking years to make, overt in their physicality and materiality in an increasingly digital world. For information visit www.marlboroughlondon.com



Peter Sacks, *Outpost 2*, 2017, 183 x 183 cm. Courtesy of the artist and Marlborough Fine Art



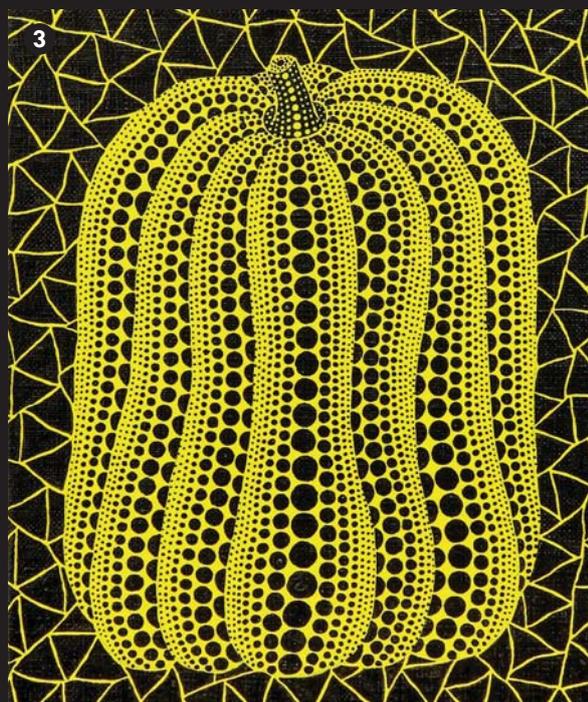
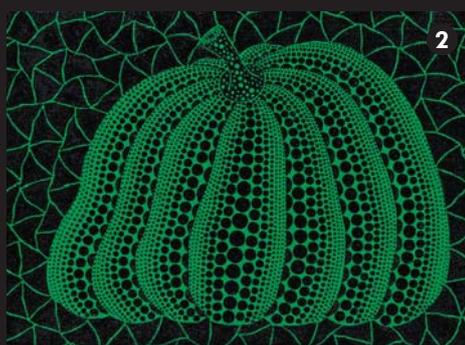
Peter Sacks. Courtesy of the artist and Marlborough Fine Art.

YAYOI KUSAMA: SMALL PUMPKIN PAINTINGS

Until 1 June 2018

Omer Tiroche, 21 Conduit Street, London W1S 2XP

Small-scale pumpkin paintings by Japanese artist Yayoi Kusama are now on view and for sale at the Omer Tiroche Gallery. One of Kusama's best loved and most iconic motifs, the pumpkins are a visual embodiment of her childhood as well as her present psychological state. The artist's obsessive use of this motif is interpreted as an attempt to control her fears. For information visit www.omertiroche.com



1. Yayoi Kusama, *Pumpkin*, 1991, Acrylic on Canvas, 18 x 14 cm
2. Yayoi Kusama, *Pumpkin*, 2000, Acrylic on Canvas, 15.8 x 22.7 cm
3. Yayoi Kusama, *Pumpkin*, 2003, Acrylic on Canvas, 22.7 x 15.8 cm