



**Gardiner
Museum**

RUE PIGALLE

TRAVEL | CRAFT | COMMUNITY

**London in Clay:
A Curated Journey for
Gardiner Museum Patrons**

MAY 7-14, 2026

Join us in Spring 2026 to discover London through clay

Discover London through the lens of contemporary craft. This exclusive journey offers privileged access to leading museums, private studios, and behind-the-scenes spaces, accompanied by talks and receptions that bring you closer to the makers and curators defining the field. Scheduled during **Ceramic Art London** and **London Craft Week**, the itinerary immerses you in two of the city's most anticipated celebrations of clay and design.



Meet Your Guides



Dr. Sequoia Miller

Sequoia Miller is the Chief Curator & Deputy Director at the Gardiner Museum. He holds a PhD in the History of Art from Yale University; an MA in Decorative Arts, Design History, and Material Culture from the Bard Graduate Center; and a BA in Cultural Studies and Art History from Brandeis University. His recent curatorial projects include *Magdalene Odundo: A Dialogue with Objects* (2023), *Shary Boyle: Outside the Palace of Me* (2021), and *Ai Weiwei: Unbroken* (2019). Prior exhibitions include *The Ceramic Presence in Modern Art* (2015) at the Yale University Art Gallery, which was accompanied by an award-winning catalogue. Sequoia has taught at the University of Toronto, Rhode Island School of Design, and Yale University. Prior to his academic and curatorial work, Sequoia was an award-winning ceramist who exhibited and led workshops broadly across the United States.



Isabelle Fish

Isabelle is the founder of Rue Pigalle, a travel community for patrons of craft. Based in Toronto, she hosts trips to discover places and support local communities through crafts and arts.

With extensive research, local knowledge and much planning, Isabelle connects Rue Pigalle guests to the craft experts and finest artisans in a setting of authentic local culture.

Our Values

- Curiosity
- Community
- Learning
- Stewardship

Your Home in London



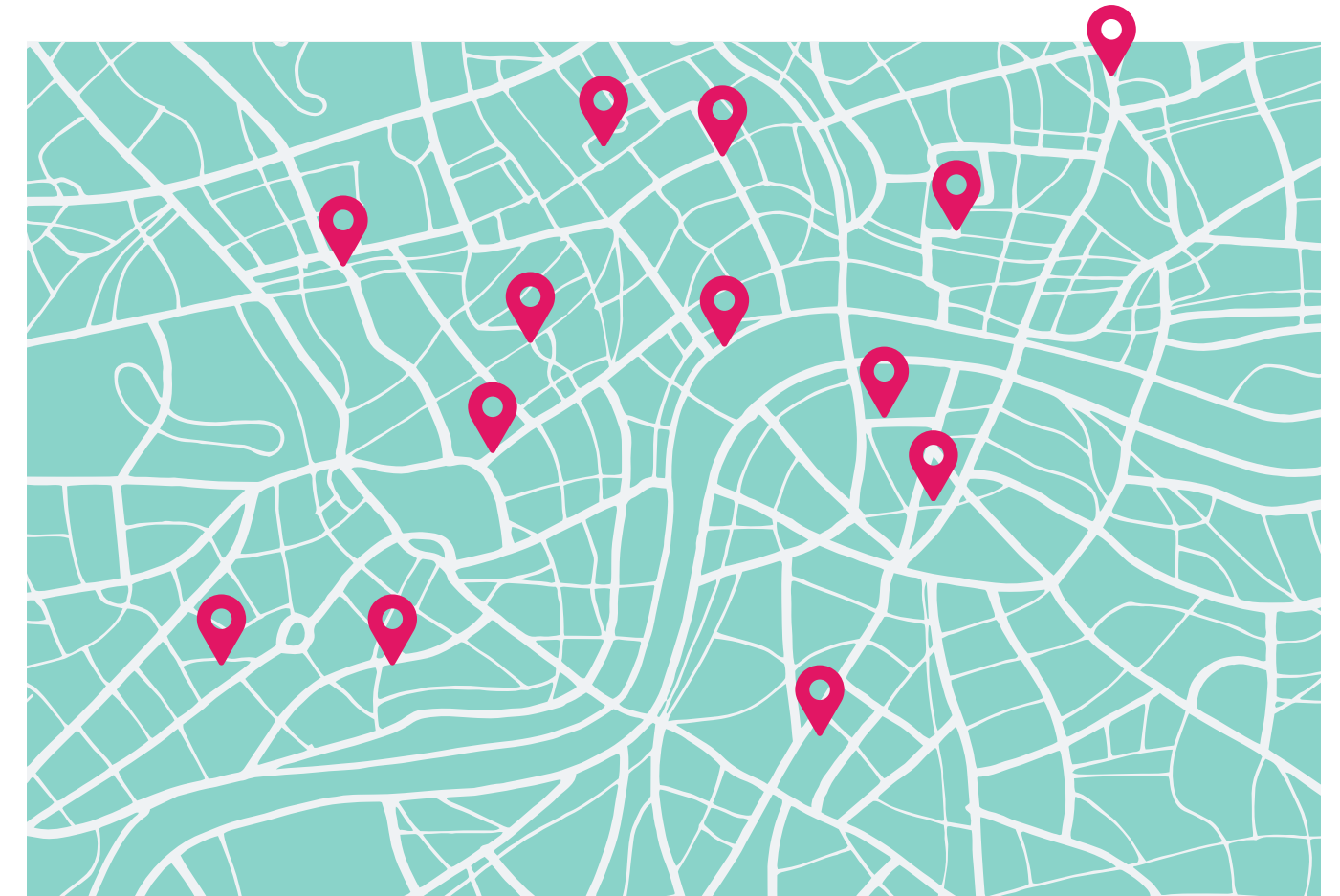
The Rubens at The Palace

With proud royal heritage, [The Rubens](#), located on Buckingham Palace Road has a traditional, full-service, five-star offering. There are several dining options including The English Grill, which serves refined British cuisine, and The Palace Lounge, where you can enjoy classic Afternoon Tea overlooking the Royal Mews.

Look forward to being greeted by liveried doormen and checked-in by the hotel's charming receptionists.

Options include: Deluxe room, single or double occupancy. Breakfast included.

Key Access at a Glance



Locations

Dalston, East London
Marylebone
Mayfair
Tulse Hill, South London

Fairs & Previews

Ceramic Art London
London Craft Week
MAAK Auction

Galleries

Cockpit Studios
Jaggedart
Myerscough Gallery
Vessel Gallery

Museums

Victoria and Albert Museum
Victoria and Albert East Storehouse
The Wallace Collection

Artists & Curators

Alexander Collins
Dr. Caroline McCaffrey
Edmund de Waal
Elisabeth Bogdan
Kate Malone

The Journey, Day by Day



© Emile Holba

Day 1

THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2026

D

Meet and greet at the hotel, followed by the Preview Night of Ceramic Art London

After a late afternoon meet at the hotel to say hello to the group, the trip starts with panache at the preview night of [Ceramic Art London](#). Staged by [The Craft Potters Association](#), this incredibly popular fair annually attracts dedicated collectors, curators, galleries and enthusiasts for clay. Guests will receive the exhibitors list in advance together with commentary by **Sequoia** and **Isabelle** who will steward two, smaller groups, for a more intimate experience. You'll have your favourites to return to, so we've put in plenty of time to revisit and browse at your own pace.

We'll have dinner local to the hotel and then retire to get some respite in readiness for the programme ahead.

Day 2

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026

B D

Meeting an icon of the British ceramic world

The morning is dedicated to a British ceramic artist that needs no introduction. The work of **Kate Malone**, MBE has been acquired extensively by museums across the world. Important private collections, and her large-scale and public commissions allow her creativity to be enjoyed by many. Famous for her crystalline glazes and philanthropy, Kate will host a private visit to her glaze library in Dalston, East London, where she and her husband set up a cluster of ceramic studios back in the 80s that still thrive today with a passionate group of makers. We'll hear about Kate's glazing techniques, her travels, and unrivalled ceramic career.



Return to Ceramic Art for an afternoon of exploration

There is so much to see at Ceramic Art, a return to the fair is a must. The afternoon is spent at leisure to give you a chance to browse at your own pace and engage with your favourites.

A favourite gallery of Isabelle's is [jaggedart](#), located in the village-like atmosphere of Marylebone. The selection of artists is gentle and environmentally focused, and the gallery space offers a convivial environment to chat with the director about works. You will enjoy cocktails and a private reception at the gallery.

Stroll down a cobbled lane to dinner 108 Brasserie for a globally-inspired menu of classic but refined dishes.



Dr. Caroline McCaffrey, a celebrated author and ceramic specialist will give the lecture: *A Ceramic Chasse: The Extraordinary Art Collection of Lady Charlotte Schreiber (1812-1895)*. The lecture profiles this unique antiquarian, collector, and connoisseur who dedicated her life to art, history, and cultural philanthropy. After more than thirty collecting trips across the world, she donated thousands of objects to the Museum, making her one of the greatest women collectors of the 19th century. We will be in the ceramic galleries and able to observe some of the pieces from Lady Charlotte's collection.

Lunch will be taken at the Museum.

Day 3

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2026

B L D

V&A Ceramics tour and lecture

The morning is spent at the [Victoria and Albert Museum](#), which houses an extensive collection of historic and contemporary ceramic works of art and encompasses a thorough history of fine ceramic production. Renovated in 2010, the contemporary ceramic galleries track important new directions of international studio practice in sculptural forms and scale, and feature seminal installations such as [Edmund de Waal's Signs & Wonders](#).



Discover the newly opened Myerscough Gallery

A visit to the [Myerscough Gallery](#) in an old Victorian schoolhouse is programmed for the afternoon. Founded in 1998, the Gallery is a leading voice in contemporary craft and material-led practice. Through its programming, the Gallery explores the significance of the handmade, emphasizing materially grounded and conceptually rigorous works.

Day 4

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026

B L

MAAK Auction Preview

The secondary market in ceramic pieces is in full expansion, thanks in part to the efforts of **MAAK Auction House**. We spend the morning with **Marijke Varrall-Jones**, Founding Director of **MAAK** for a private tour of the collection that will come under the hammer a few days after our visit. Marijke started her ceramic career at Bonhams when the department represented the pinnacle of the international market for studio ceramics (led at the time by a friend of the eminent artists Lucie Rie and Hans Coper). Twenty years on and Marijke has built a significant reputation holding regular studio ceramic auctions and presenting important sales such as The Collection of Victoria, Lady de Rothschild.

V&A East storage picks

Our afternoon is dedicated to the newly opened **V&A East Storehouse**, a radical new concept in accessing museum collections where objects can be preordered to view in advance. Guests will contribute to the wishlist for our group's bespoke experience.

A free evening and dinner at your leisure.



© V&A Press Office



Day 5

MONDAY, MAY 11, 2026

B L D

Curator-led view of the Sèvres at the Wallace Collection

[The Wallace Collection](#) is one of Britain's most treasured national museums, housing a unique collection of objects accumulated by the Marquesses of Hertford and Sir Richard Wallace, largely throughout the nineteenth century. Our visit to the Museum will be led by **Alexander Collins**, Wallace Collection Curator of Decorative Arts, and **Elisabeth Bogdan**, Subject Leader History of Design, Sotheby's Institute of Art London. It will feature an immersive session that examines art objects of eighteenth century French painting, furniture, and porcelain.

Curator led tour and lecture about the Sotheby's Institute Kiddell Collection of Fakes, Forgeries and Reproductions

After lunch, Elisabeth Bogdan will lead a presentation and handling session of the infamous **Kiddell Collection of Fakes, Forgeries and Reproductions**. This Collection is a critical resource for scholars, collectors, and students. It offers insight into the history and culture of forgery and contextualizes the production of reproductions.

In the evening we head to [Vessel Gallery](#) in West London for cocktails in a space best known by connoisseurs of glass, which has in recent years expanded their selection of contemporary ceramics.

Dinner will be held in the beautifully decorated Brasserie Notting Hill.

Day 6

TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2026

B L D

Customized tour of London Craft Week locations

With so much to see in this city-wide program, we will tailor a tour just for you once the programme is published. We'll be in touch with guests ahead of time to create a bespoke day itinerary.

A must see will be the **Secret Ceramics sale** at [Christie's](#), where a huge range of ceramic artists donate their work to raise funds to pay for clay clubs for youth with limited access to arts education. **Kate Malone** is the Artist Ambassador and one of the founding board members of this compelling new charity called [FiredUp4](#). They partner with a UK-wide youth charity network focusing on opportunities for young people from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. It's a fun fundraiser where clients buy anonymously, with the name of the artist revealed post purchase.

After a busy day an evening with dinner at your leisure is scheduled.





Day 7

WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2026

B L D

A Special Tour of Cockpit Studios

Originally an eighteenth-century cockfighting arena, the yard was taken over by a cabinet maker in 1745. [Cockpit](#) is now an award-winning social enterprise and home to over 175 independent creative businesses in London.

We'll be welcomed by CEO **Jonathan Burton** before we head off for a selection of workshop visits, including paper weaving inspired by Japanese traditions, ceramic sculpture in constructed porcelain, woven sculptures which communicate belonging, and embroidery that reflects travel.

A local lunch will be at the delicious La Fromagerie, an award-winning establishment for cheese and wine.

Studio Visit with Edmund de Waal

For many ceramic connoisseurs a bucket list visit will be this last afternoon together at the studio of **Edmund de Waal CBE**.

A world-renowned English contemporary artist, potter, and author, Edmund's career and commentary have made a huge impact on contemporary making and thinking. Edmund's extensive studio in an industrial complex in Tulse Hill, South London is a serene yet prolific creative space where he works with a collective of ceramic artists on his installations and exhibitions.

Our farewell dinner will take place at Josephine Bistro, a neighbourhood French bistro with a special focus on flavours and dishes from Lyon. Bon appétit et au revoir.



Day 8

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2026

B

Fly Home

To allow you to revisit memories from the trip, a photo album will be shared with you following the conclusion of the trip.



Travel is richer when you connect—with artists, with place, and with other extraordinary patrons of craft.



WHY THIS TRIP?

- Intellectual Engagement
- Cultural Depth
- Meaningful Connections
- Community
- Perspective
- Kind Impact Travel

LIMITED TO 8-12 GUESTS

This is a tightly curated program, limited in scale to allow for meaningful access and exchange. The itinerary is structured with precision; each visit selected to prioritize depth over breadth.

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY

Let the Gardiner Museum and Rue Pigalle lead you to what's rare, real, and unforgettable.

For more information or to book your trip:

Please email **Isabelle Fish** at isabelle@ruepigalle.ca

Please consult our Terms & Conditions on the following page

Images in this brochure are for illustration purposes

What You Need to Know

PRICE

Staying at [The Rubens](#), at the Palace, 39 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0PS

Single Occupancy: CAD \$12,220

Double Occupancy: CAD \$10,350

This includes:

- 7 nights at The Rubens at the Palace hotel. Deluxe room - single or double occupancy. Continental breakfast and taxes included.
- Meals included: 5 dinners + 5 lunches. Soft and alcoholic beverages are excluded
- Cocktail events at galleries or studios
- Transportation on the ground: Public transportation in London (tube or bus)
- Entry and tour at Ceramic Art London
- Visit to the V&A ceramic galleries with curator + lecture
- Visit to MAAK auction house + refreshments
- Visit to the V&A East Storehouse
- Visit to Wallace collection with curator + lecture
- Visit to Sotheby's Institute with curator + lecture + handling session
- One Day Pass for London Craft Week
- Visit to Cockpit studios with CEO presentation and 4 studios tour
- Visit to Edmund de Waal studio

Travelling with a group of 8-12 guests.

The trip will be led by Dr. Sequoia Miller, Chief Curator & Deputy Director at the Gardiner Museum, together with Isabelle Fish of Rue Pigalle. Isabelle will be on hand 24/7 during the trip to assist the guests with any questions or special requests.

Each guest will receive a detailed daily itinerary, an information package with background information about each venue visited as well as a list of not-to-miss exhibitors at CAL.

Price does not include:

- International air travel and transfer at your point of departure and return;
- Meals not specified;
- Hotels gratuities and extras;
- Passport fees and visa fees;
- Purchases or shipping of purchases;
- Soft and Alcoholic beverages;
- Spa treatments;
- Credit card payment handling fees;
- **Travel Insurance is not included and is mandatory – proof will be required**

PAYMENT TERMS

All bookings handled by K Benn Travel, TICO #3132835.

A non-refundable deposit of 30% of the cost of the trip is due upon booking. The balance of the payment is due March 23, 2026 and is non refundable.

Should a minimum number of 8 guests not be reached by March 23, 2026, the trip will be cancelled and the deposit will be refunded. No other payment will be due in relation to the trip cancellation.

Payment is accepted by credit card or by direct bank transfer (both with an additional handling fee that will be added to the final invoice). Please read our Traveller Terms & Conditions attached.

WHAT TO EXPECT

Our goal is to make your trip as unique, enjoyable and enriching as possible. To that end we have taken great care in not over-booking the days.

Time for travel and recovery has been built into the itinerary.

We do our best to accommodate private requests during the trip and adjust the itinerary to personal wishes when possible.

- All our trips include a lot of walking, stairs, paths, etc... that might not be suitable for guests with reduced mobility or requiring assistance.
- Solo travellers are warmly welcomed.
- Travelling with a group you don't know can be daunting. To break the ice we organize a digital meet-and-greet with all guests prior to the start of the trip. It is also the opportunity to ask any questions you may have.

We are available 24/7 before and during the trip to answer your questions and assist you in any way we can to make your experience as enjoyable and interesting as possible.

Traveller Terms & Conditions

These Traveller Terms and Conditions (the "Terms") apply to each trip ("Trip") as organized and guided by the Gardiner Museum in association with Rue Pigalle Rue Pigalle Inc. ("Rue Pigalle") and taken by you, the traveller ("You").

By proceeding to book a Trip you understand and agree to be bound by the provisions of these Terms.

1. Disclaimer

The Gardiner Museum is collaborating with Rue Pigalle to deliver this Trip. Rue Pigalle is an independent travel experience insider that organizes and guides Trips. However, Rue Pigalle does not sell Trips or any travel-related services, is not a travel agent or a wholesaler/reseller of travel services. **You understand and acknowledge that the Trip is sold directly by K Benn Travel. Neither the Gardiner nor Rue Pigalle are party to any contract between you and K Benn Travel. In the event of a dispute between You and K Benn Travel, you understand and agree that neither the Gardiner nor Rue Pigalle are under any obligation to become involved in the dispute. Neither the Gardiner nor Rue Pigalle are an agent of K Benn Travel. Please consult K Benn Travel's terms and conditions for more information.**

2. Itinerary

The Gardiner and Rue Pigalle make every effort to ensure that the information and content provided about the itinerary for Trip (the "Itinerary") is current and accurate. However, neither the Gardiner nor Rue Pigalle shall be held responsible for any inaccuracies or omissions. You understand and acknowledge that the Itinerary is subject to change. Rue Pigalle

reserves the right to modify, alter or substitute all or any part of the Itinerary according to local conditions, the desire and needs of travellers or circumstances or events outside of the control of Rue Pigalle, without compensation.

3. Changes, Cancellations and Refunds

You and K Benn Travel are responsible for any changes to Your booking for the Trip. You must contact K Benn Travel directly to modify or cancel a booking for the Trip and to request any reimbursement or refund that may apply.

4. Special Requests

Rue Pigalle will do its best, but does not guarantee, to accommodate Your special needs and requests. Any such request(s) must be made at the time of booking the Trip with K Benn Travel.

5. Insurance

You understand that neither the Gardiner nor Rue Pigalle arranges or provides any insurance, either travel, life, medical or liability, for any illness, accident, injury, loss, or damage that may arise in connection with Your participation in the Trip. You will arrange for and pay Your own medical emergency expenses and all subsequent medical expenses in the event of any illness, accident, or injury in connection with the Trip.

6. Suppliers

The Trip may include services, experiences and activities provided by third-party suppliers (each a "Supplier"). **Rue Pigalle makes no representation, warranty or guarantee regarding the reliability,**

suitability, performance, or ability of any Supplier or the availability, quality, timeliness, condition, or safety of any service or goods provided by a Supplier, including the acts and omissions of their respective employees, representatives or agents.

7. Your Conduct

Your participation in the Trip is subject to all applicable laws and regulations. You agree that You will not: promote or engage in any unlawful or illegal activities during the Trip; or engage in any behaviour or activity that unduly interferes with or disrupts the Trip or the experience of any other traveller.

8. Assumption and Acknowledgment of Risks

You acknowledge and understand that participation in the Trip involves certain risks and dangers of accidents, serious personal and bodily injury, including (without limitation) death, and property loss or damage. You have considered and evaluated the nature, scope, and extent of the risks involved and voluntarily and freely chooses to assume these risks.

You also acknowledge and understand that participation in the Trip may involve physical activity, such as brisk walking and climbing stairs, and affirm that You are in sufficient health to participate in the Trip.

9. Limitation of Liability

TO THE EXTENT PERMITTED BY APPLICABLE LAW, YOU EXPRESSLY UNDERSTAND AND AGREE THAT RUE PIGALLE SHALL NOT BE LIABLE TO YOU FOR ANY DIRECT, INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, SPECIAL CONSEQUENTIAL OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES, WHICH MAY BE INCURRED BY YOU IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE TRIP, HOWEVER CAUSED AND UNDER ANY THEORY OF LIABILITY, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, PERSONAL INJURY, PROPERTY DAMAGE OR ANY INTANGIBLE LOSS.

THE LIMITATIONS ON RUE PIGALLE'S LIABILITY TO YOU IN THIS SECTION SHALL APPLY WHETHER OR NOT RUE PIGALLE HAS BEEN ADVISED OF OR SHOULD HAVE BEEN AWARE OF THE POSSIBILITY OF ANY SUCH LOSSES ARISING.

10. Release and Indemnification

To the maximum extent permitted by applicable law, You agree to release, defend and indemnify the Gardiner and Rue Pigalle and its parent companies, affiliates, subsidiaries, directors, officers, employees, insurers, agents, assigns and successors, of and from any and all causes of action, lawsuits, losses, damages, injuries (including personal and bodily injuries, death and injury to property) howsoever caused (whether by negligence or otherwise), claims, demands, sums, costs, expenses (including legal fees and disbursements), and any other liability of any kind, of or to You or any other person, directly or indirectly arising out of or in connection with, (a) Your breach of these Terms; (b) Your participation in the Trip; (c) Your interaction with any other traveller or person on the Trip; or (d) Your breach of any laws, regulations or third party rights.

11. General



The failure of Rue Pigalle to claim a breach of any term or condition of these Terms shall not constitute a waiver of such breach or the right of Rue Pigalle to enforce any subsequent breach of such term. No failure or delay of Rue Pigalle in exercising any right under these Terms shall constitute a waiver of that right.

If any provision of these Terms is held to be unenforceable or illegal, such decision shall not affect the validity or enforceability of such provision under the circumstances or the remaining provisions of these Terms and these Terms shall be reformed only to the extent necessary to make them enforceable under such circumstances.

These Terms shall be governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario without regard to its conflict of law principles. The courts located in the Province of Ontario shall have exclusive jurisdiction to adjudicate any dispute arising out of or relating to these Terms and each party hereby consents to the exclusive jurisdiction of such courts.





**Gardiner
Museum**

-  [GARDINERMUSEUM.ON.CA](https://gardinermuseum.on.ca)
-  [GARDINERMUSEUM](https://www.instagram.com/gardinermuseum)
-  MIRANDA@GARDINERMUSEUM.ON.CA

RUE PIGALLE

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