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JEWELRY

London's V&A Museum announces upcoming Cartier exhibit

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The showcase will come to a close in November 2025. Image credit: V&A

By ZACH JAMES FOR LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

London's The Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) is promoting a major luxury event.

The museum has announced plans to host the U.K.'s first exhibition dedicated to jewels and watches from French jewelry maison Cartier in nearly three decades. Charting the brand's history through a collection of more than 350 high-end pieces from the early 20th century and on, the showcase is slated to run from April 12 to Nov. 16, 2025.

"Cartier is one of the most famous jewelry houses in the world," said Helen Molesworth and Rachel Garrahan, curators of the exhibition, in a joint statement.

"This exhibition will explore how Louis, Pierre and Jacques Cartier, together with their father Alfred, adopted a strategy of original design, exceptional craftsmanship and international expansion that transformed the Parisian family jeweler into a household name," they said. "With its world-class jewelry collection, the V&A is the perfect stage to celebrate the pioneering achievements of Cartier and its transformative ability to remain at the centre of culture and creativity for more than a century."

King's ransom

Among the exhibition's highlights are jewels and gemstones, as well as watches, clocks and other precious objects from the V&A and Cartier archives. Previously unseen drawings sourced from the V&A and Cartier archives are also included, along side works from the Royal Collection, major U.K. and international museums and other private collections.

Among the items on display are the "Williamson Diamond" brooch commissioned by Queen Elizabeth II, the Scroll Tiara commissioned in 1902 and worn by the Queen and pop star Rihanna, Mexican film star Mara Flix's snake necklace forged in 1968 and legendary American actress Grace Kelly's engagement ring.



The exhibition will be split into three sections focused on creativity, style and ingenuity. Image credit: Cartier

"We are excited to be able to share with visitors some of Cartier's most famous creations as well as revealing previously unseen objects and archive material that further enriches our understanding of a jewelry house that continues to influence the way we adorn ourselves today," said Ms. Molesworth and Ms. Garrahan, in a statement.

More information regarding exhibition tickets is available online. Last month, V&A signed a partnership with The Peninsula Hotels (see story).

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