



University
of Glasgow | The
Hunterian

Impact Report 2011



Introduction

The Hunterian is Scotland's oldest public museum and arguably the world's first purpose-built Enlightenment museum. As in 1807, the year of our foundation, The Hunterian's primary role is to support and facilitate our University's aims and objectives for research, teaching and public engagement. Today, through our collections, expertise and programmes, we are dedicated to facilitating the University of Glasgow's ambitions to enhance its position as one of the world's great broad-based, research intensive universities. In 2011 we concluded the first phase of our major programme of change to realign our mission more closely with that of the University, creating new strategies, governance and management structures to ensure an enhanced offer to our stakeholders and users and to re-engage with our core audiences in the learning community.

Under the direction and guidance of our new Hunterian Strategic Development Board, chaired by Sir Kenneth Calman and composed of senior management of the university and respected peers from the wider museums sector, The Hunterian has made great advances in 2011. We have created new teaching and work related learning programmes; we have delivered highly acclaimed new galleries and special exhibitions; we have extended access to our collections through expanded visitor hours and, as part of a collaboration between nine Scottish university museums, created a new on-line portal to Scottish university collections; and we have launched new audience development and patronage initiatives in the shape of a new Hunterian Friends group and University of Glasgow alumni events. One of the most important developments, I feel, is a change in perceptions within the University to its museum and gallery service. The evolution of a new identity for The Hunterian as the hub of a 'cultural campus' for staff, students and visitors to the University is a very welcome one. It was no coincidence that Sir George Gilbert Scott's designs for the new University of Glasgow development of 1870 at Gilmorehill placed The Hunterian at the centre of the new campus. We still occupy those distinguished galleries built for our collections and remain today and in the future at the heart of the modern research-intensive university community. On a personal level I would like to thank our Board members, University Services and academic staff colleagues and, most importantly, the staff of The Hunterian, for helping our service to make such a strong impact in 2011.

Professor David Gaimster
Director

'The University of Glasgow is extremely proud of The Hunterian collection, which is internationally recognised as one of Scotland's most important cultural assets. The collection is a unique and exciting resource for research and teaching, and is instrumental in attracting scholars and visitors to Glasgow from all over the world.'

Professor Anton Muscatelli,
Principal and Vice-Chancellor, University of Glasgow



Research Excellence

The Hunterian aims to contribute to and facilitate the research impact of the University of Glasgow. Through re-alignment of our mission, organisational structures and governance in 2011, we are now in a much stronger position to fully support the University in its core research and learning objectives. We have established an **Academic Advisory Board**, with representatives from cognate subject areas across the University, to inform our research strategy and drive new opportunities for academic engagement with our collections. In addition, our public programme is now increasingly research driven. Special exhibitions and associated educational activities are being developed to take account of the research interests of related academic units around campus, ensuring our output is closely aligned to their research needs and exploited by their staff and students for teaching and learning. Research outcomes will continue to influence our priorities for UK and international exhibition loans. A dedicated collections management and care team has been formed as part of the overall realignment in support of driving collections access and use by researchers and the wider learning community.

Revealing Hidden Collections

The Hunterian was the venue for the national conference of University Museums in Scotland (UMIS) in October 2011. The meeting explored the current and changing relationship between universities and their museum and gallery services and the future challenges of the sector. It also provided the platform for the launch of a new search portal to all of Scotland's university museum collections. Scottish universities hold a high proportion of Scotland's nationally important collections – more than 1.8 million items, including 32% of the country's history of science materials, 31% of the nation's coins and medals, 24% of its fine art, 20% of natural science collections and 18% of its world culture collections. As a result of *Revealing the Hidden Collections*, a two year collaboration between nine Scottish university museums, some of the nation's most important collections are now searchable through the UMIS search portal at www.umis.ac.uk/revealing. The project was funded by a £240,000 grant from the Scottish Funding Council.

Mackintosh Architecture

2011 was a productive year for the Mackintosh Architecture project which completes in 2014. This major research project, funded by the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC), is led by The Hunterian. Construction of the web-site, the public face of the project, is well underway www.mackintosh-architecture.gla.ac.uk. Some 82 projects out of a total of over 200 by the practice of Honeyman, Keppie & Mackintosh have now been investigated; 568 drawings photographed and catalogued; and over 700 images of the buildings uploaded. Funding for the conservation, cataloguing and photography of 200 additional drawings related to the project were secured from The Pilgrim Trust.

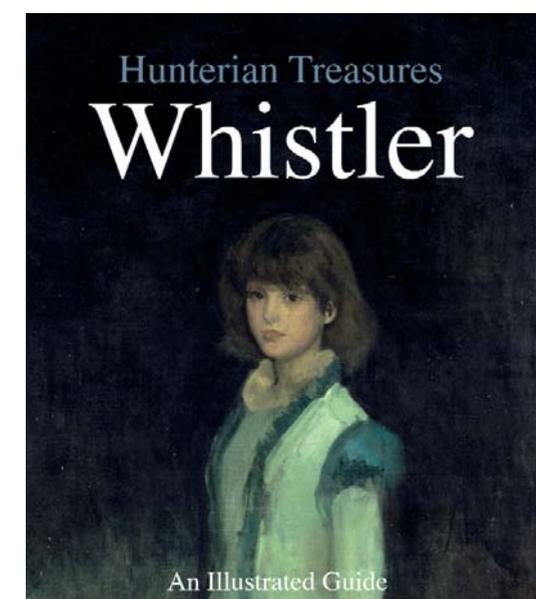
Hunterian Treasures

The Hunterian, in collaboration with its retail partner, Glasgow University Heritage Retail Ltd (GUHRL), produced the first in a new series of *Treasures* publications, which showcase the wide-ranging historic collections of the University of Glasgow. *Hunterian Treasures: Whistler* provides a fully illustrated introduction to one of the most creative and significant artists of the 19th century, James McNeill Whistler. The Hunterian is home to the greatest collection of Whistler's work in the UK. The second *Treasures* volume, featuring The Hunterian's rich collection of artefacts from the Roman frontier in Scotland, will be published in 2012.

Hunterian curators continue to publish widely in academic and professional journals. Collections pages on our website hold more information.

‘The scope and quality of The Hunterian's collection, and the activity of its staff to make it accessible countrywide and worldwide, are most important contributions to the cultural and scientific life of Britain and the world.’

Neil MacGregor, Director, The British Museum



Research Excellence World Class Collection

MGS support for Pathology and Zoology Collections

Funding, awarded in 2011 by Museums Galleries Scotland (MGS), will enable The Hunterian to reunite its historic pathology and anatomy collections on campus for the first time in 60 years. The collections, currently housed in the Department of Pathology at Glasgow Royal Infirmary, will be relocated to a new purpose-built facility in the Thomson Building, home to the University Laboratory for Human Anatomy. The project will provide a much enhanced research teaching and professional training resource, together with the opportunity to create an improved programme of public engagement with anatomy collections.

In addition, funding in 2011 from MGS (Recognition Capital Fund) has enabled an upgrade of The Hunterian Zoology Museum to allow better access and facilities for research and teaching in Life Sciences subjects.

Mackintosh Sketchbooks

Sketching was a lifelong preoccupation for C.R. Mackintosh, as professional tool and leisure activity. Twelve sketchbooks survive of which six are in The Hunterian collection. These have been conserved, digitised, catalogued and made available on-line for the first time with the support of a grant from MGS www.huntsearch.gla.ac.uk/Mackintosh/sketchbooks

The earliest sketchbook contains student studies of building construction details from around 1888. Four travel sketchbooks document Mackintosh's trips through Scotland and England. They contain drawings of historic and vernacular buildings, architectural details, and exquisite botanical studies. The last notebook records site visits, including refurbishments at The Hill House, late architectural projects in Scotland, and some minor works in London. In all, nearly 300 pages of drawings are now available to be explored.

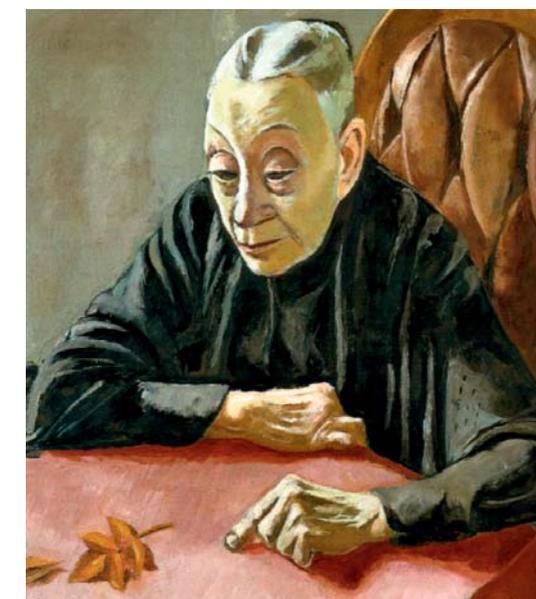
'These collections were formed to provide a public resource for research and learning. They remain so today as part of one of Britain's most significant university museums.'

Christopher Brown, Director, Ashmolean Museum, Oxford

Major Acquisitions

With major grants from the Art Fund and the National Fund for Acquisitions, The Hunterian secured two important additions to its internationally renowned collections in 2011, firstly a rare copper and enamel candlestick by Margaret and Frances Macdonald and secondly an oil portrait by Austrian Expressionist artist Marie-Louise von Motesiczky. The Hunterian is home to the largest single holding of the work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and to The Mackintosh House, the reassembled interiors from his Glasgow home. The striking candlestick (mid 1890s), produced by Mackintosh's wife Margaret Macdonald and her sister Frances, is an outstanding example of the Macdonald sisters' craftsmanship, produced in Glasgow at the height of their collaboration. The Hunterian already owns the one known design for the object. The von Motesiczky portrait (*Fraulein Engelhardt*, 1926) is an excellent example of Expressionist painting and complements The Hunterian's major holding of

German Expressionist prints. Marie-Louise von Motesiczky (Vienna 1906-1996 London), a gifted painter, is only represented currently in a handful of museums in Britain. Both acquisitions provide significant opportunities to develop new research strands.



An Excellent Student Experience

The Hunterian aims to create a rich learning offer and an intellectually stimulating learning environment for all University of Glasgow students, from undergraduate to postgraduate researcher and lifelong learner. The Hunterian's encyclopaedic collections can create multiple opportunities for teaching, work related learning and knowledge exchange in the arts, humanities, social, life and natural sciences. Our new Learning Plan, combined with our expertise in collections and public programming, offers our students a unique experience of managing cultural assets, communicating our knowledge and engaging the public. The Hunterian's active collaboration in the University's Masters in Museum Studies programme makes this Post-Graduate Teaching course one of the most attractive of its type in the UK and globally.

The Hunterian Learning Plan

Through extensive consultation with the Colleges and Schools across the University, we have realised our main ambition for 2011 and developed a Hunterian Learning Plan, which offers new opportunities for engagement at all levels of the student career. The strategy enables The Hunterian to develop a creative economy of professional direction and student participation. Closely aligned to supporting the University's Graduate Attribute framework, innovative work related learning and placement opportunities will contribute to the employability of our students. The appointment in 2011 of a Student Engagement Officer is key to the expansion of this offer and its efficient delivery, ensuring an excellent experience for each student and a unique experience for our visitors.

'Being a MUSE has been an excellent experience and has helped me in so many ways - it will greatly aid my future career in the Museum business'

Laura Beare, MUSE guide, 4th Year Student, joint History and English Literature

Hunterian MUSE tours

In June 2011, The Hunterian introduced timetabled public gallery tours led by student MUSEs (Museum University Student Educators) under the *Club 21* work related learning programme created by the University's Careers Service. Following induction from Hunterian curatorial and visitor service staff, the MUSEs conducted tours of The Hunterian Art Gallery and The Mackintosh House. The programme was expanded in September to include tours of the *Antonine Wall* gallery and the special exhibition *Colour, Rhythm and Form: J.D. Fergusson and France*. The popular 30-minute tours offer an excellent work related learning experience to the students and a unique interpretative perspective on our collections for our visitors. The public response has been enthusiastic and the scheme will be developed and expanded further in 2012.

New initiatives for Postgraduate researchers

One of The Hunterian's key ambitions is to engage the research community in its collections. During 2011 The Hunterian has been collaborating with the College of Arts to launch a new Hunterian 'Associates' programme for postgraduate research students. Associates will develop their experience and skills in knowledge exchange and public engagement, using their doctoral research to offer new interpretations of Hunterian collections and gallery spaces. This will broaden their perspective of the research process and encourage creativity in applying and disseminating their research beyond the confines of traditional academic discourse.

Hunterian Exhibition Work Placement (MSc in Museum Studies)

The Hunterian has joined forces with the Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute (HATII) in the School of Humanities to create a strong professional practice strand to the University's increasingly popular MSc in Museum Studies. The collaboration repositions Glasgow Museum Studies as a leading academic and practice-based postgraduate taught degree. 2011 saw the launch of The Hunterian exhibition development and research placement option, offering students insight and practical experience of exhibition development and delivery. Students work closely with Hunterian professional teams for the duration of their placement.



Global Reach and Reputation

The Hunterian is a cultural asset with wide national and international reach. Not only are our galleries, special exhibitions, publications, public programme and loans activity a window on the University of Glasgow, they are driven by the latest research and have wide international impact. We aim to develop creative and innovative projects that exploit University of Glasgow research for enhanced public understanding of the arts, humanities, and earth, life and medical sciences. Through our collections-centered approach and the building of strategic partnerships we will develop new methodologies and set benchmarks for knowledge exchange and public engagement in the university museum sector. A key objective is to create more opportunities for public access and use of our collections.

New exhibition galleries

Following a closure of almost two years, for fabric repair and conservation, The Hunterian Museum re-launched in September 2011 with a spectacular new gallery dedicated to the Roman frontier in Scotland, *The Antonine Wall: Rome's Final Frontier*. The gallery, sponsored by Museums Galleries Scotland and by the University of Glasgow Chancellor's Fund, showcases our unique collection of monumental sculpture and other Roman artefacts recovered from the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site. Together they illustrate not only the story of building and abandonment of the most northerly border in the Roman Empire, but reveal something of the impact, both political and cultural, the monument made on the landscape and on those living in Iron Age Scotland. *The Antonine Wall* encourages debate and new research. This is our role as a university museum to create new resources for the study and teaching of our heritage and to stimulate new lines of enquiry. Michael Russell, MSP and Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning, officially opened the new permanent gallery, which has been applauded by our visitors, by archaeological experts and our peers in the museum world.

Special Exhibition Programme

The Hunterian's programme of special exhibitions aims to enhance public understanding of our collections and University of Glasgow research. There were two headline exhibitions in 2011 - *John Cage: Every Day is a Good Day* and *Colour, Rhythm and Form: J.D. Fergusson and France*.

Every Day is a Good Day (February to April 2011) was the first UK major retrospective of the visual art of American composer and artist John Cage (1912-1992). Organised by Hayward Touring from the Southbank Centre, London, on behalf of the Arts Council England, the exhibition had close support and guidance from the John Cage Trust.

'There is so much to admire in this courageous and thought-provoking gallery at The Hunterian. It is well worth beating a path to Glasgow to visit it.'

Peter Lewis, *Museums Journal*, Review of Hunterian Roman gallery, January 2012

September saw the opening, in The Hunterian Art Gallery, of *Colour, Rhythm and Form: J.D. Fergusson and France*, a major retrospective featuring the work of Scottish artist J.D. Fergusson (1874-1961), a key member of the internationally renowned group known as the Scottish Colourists. The only exhibition to mark the 50th anniversary of Fergusson's death, *Colour, Rhythm and Form* highlighted the relationship Fergusson and fellow colourists F.C.B. Cadell, S.J. Peploe and G. L. Hunter had with France. For Fergusson it was a lifelong interest which inspired some of his most substantial works. Of huge interest to our visitors were three important paintings by the Scottish Colourists, on loan from the French Government and never before seen in Scotland.

Focus space exhibitions in The Hunterian Art Gallery showcase University of Glasgow research, particularly in art history, archaeology and other subjects closely related to Hunterian collections. *Breaking the Renaissance Code: Emblems and Emblem Books* (June to October 2011) gave visitors a rare opportunity to see rare and beautiful books from the Sir William Stirling Maxwell collection normally housed in University Library Special Collections. *The Art of the Poster* (October 2011 to January 2012) featured 20 striking 19th-century artistic posters from The Hunterian's extensive print collection. Works from The Hunterian's unrivalled Mackintosh Collection were shown alongside contemporary works by Toulouse-Lautrec, Jules Cheret, and Alphonse Mucha.

Special programmes

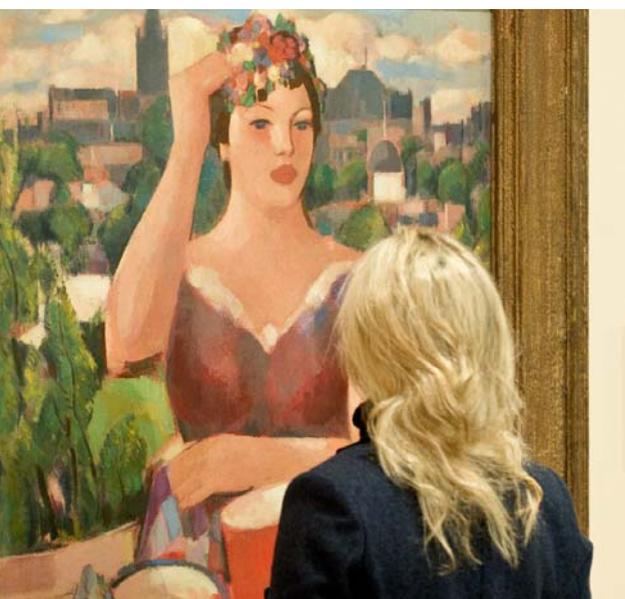
The Hunterian, in partnership with the Glasgow Science Festival, ran a five day programme of events as part of The Wellcome Trust Dirt Season. The initiative provided a great opportunity for The Hunterian to showcase its medical, pathology, scientific instrument and archaeology collections to audiences in an informal and engaging way.

International Loans

The Hunterian continues to build its national and international loans programme and a number of exhibitions at prestigious museum venues around the world featured key loaned works from The Hunterian in 2011. The exhibition *The Cult of Beauty: The Aesthetic Movement 1860-1900*, featured works from Hunterian collections and attracted over 138,000 visitors to the Victoria and Albert Museum in London, between April and July. It then moved to the Musee d'Orsay in Paris and later to the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. *Chardin 1699-1779* at the Museo del Prado attracted outstanding audience numbers and wide media coverage. The Hunterian model of the Newcomen Steam Engine was loaned to the Science Museum in London, where it was a star object in the new *James Watt and our World* Gallery. The *James Cook* exhibition at the Historisches Museum in Bern included artefacts from The Hunterian and attracted 67,000 visitors. Several objects associated with Joseph Lister and his work on antisepsis were loaned to the Wellcome Trust in London for their show *Dirt* which was seen by over 140,000 visitors between March and August.

'This exhibition is a must-see for anyone with an interest in Scottish art history. It will also make your feet tingle and your heart race.'

Jan Patience, *The Herald*, Review of *Colour, Rhythm and Form*, 10 September 2011



Global Reach and Reputation

Building and Engaging Audiences

The Hunterian is committed to local engagement and to building new audiences. 2011 saw us achieve one of our long held ambitions, to open to the public on Sundays. Since September we have moved to new visitor focused opening hours with the Museum, Art Gallery and Mackintosh House now open all weekend.

The Hunterian has identified the University of Glasgow student and alumni bodies as priorities for audience development. To help achieve this we have been working hard in 2011 to raise our profile with the students across campus. A strong presence at open days and Fresher's Fair, with the deployment of 'pop-up' museums was a key part of this effort. During the year The Hunterian hosted two dedicated University of Glasgow alumni receptions to promote awareness of University of Glasgow collections and our plans for the future, one at Leighton House Museum in London and another following close on the opening of the *Antonine Wall* gallery. The events were fully subscribed.

Hunterian Friends

2011 saw the successful launch of The Hunterian Friends as a main vehicle for developing a network of community support and patronage for The Hunterian and its collections. The Friends scheme offers members a range of exclusive benefits and opportunities to participate more directly and actively in the work of The Hunterian. A recruitment event, held in November 2011 with guest speaker, journalist and broadcaster Kirsty Wark, attracted great interest. Kirsty spoke passionately about her links to the University and The Hunterian and her love of the collections. The first 100 members had joined before the end of the year. Our first Members evening was held in December 2011, featuring talks on our lead special exhibition *Colour, Rhythm and Form*. A calendar of exclusive Members events are planned for 2012.

New website

The Hunterian unveiled a new website in September 2011 to coincide with the re-launch of the Museum and the opening of the new Roman Gallery www.glasgow.ac.uk/hunterian New collections and research pages will be developed over the next few months. We also continue to communicate via Facebook (Hunterian Museum and Art Gallery) and Twitter (@hunterian)

Media interest

The Hunterian collections have worldwide appeal and media interest remains high. Dr Neil Clark, our Curator of Palaeontology, featured in a BBC2 television documentary, *Dino Stampede*, also shown in Australia and the United States, featured a team of international scientists aiming to solve a prehistoric mystery – what sparked the only known dinosaur stampede in history?

The Hunterian's Charles Rennie Mackintosh collections were featured on Australian public radio and on French television.

Glasgow Tourism

The Hunterian is one of Scotland's greatest cultural assets. We continue to work with partners across Scotland and particularly within the City of Glasgow to attract visitors to the city, enhancing tourism and, ultimately, economic growth. The Hunterian plays an active role in Glasgow's Leading Attractions and the Mackintosh Heritage Group.

'Becoming a Friend of The Hunterian is a wonderful way to support the University, the city and Scotland.'

Kirsty Wark, Broadcaster and Journalist



Facts and Figures

The Hunterian venues attracted a total of 91,938 visitors in 2011.

The Hunterian Museum was closed for most of the year to allow fabric repairs to be completed, which had a significant impact on our visitor figures. It re-opened in September with the launch of a new permanent gallery, *The Antonine Wall: Rome's Final Frontier*. Encouragingly, since re-opening, we have seen an increase of 40% in Museum visitor numbers as compared to the same period in 2009.

Visitor numbers to the Art Gallery continued to grow in 2011 and we welcomed 72,750 people through our doors. Special exhibitions *John Cage: Every Day is a Good Day* resulted in a 5% increase in visitors in February, and *Colour, Rhythm and Form: J. D. Fergusson and France* attracted a 19% increase in Gallery visits from September to December.

In total 26,006 people visited the Mackintosh House over the year, which is also an increase on the previous year.

Key supporters

The Hunterian relies heavily on the support of individuals, trusts and private companies to care for our world class collections and make them widely accessible. This year we would like to thank in particular the University of Glasgow, Scottish Funding Council, Museums Galleries Scotland, National Fund for Acquisitions, National Art Collections Fund, The Art Fund, University of Glasgow Chancellor's Fund, The Pilgrim Trust and The Ferguson Bequest.

The Hunterian Fund

Hunterian fundraising efforts were given a significant boost this year with the establishment of a Hunterian Fund by the University's Development and Alumni Office. Every gift to The Hunterian helps us care for our world class collections and enables us to make them more accessible to the general public and for educational use. The Hunterian Fund targets support for conservation, strategic acquisitions, education and access and for special exhibitions.

Income and Expenditure

Financial Year August 2010-July 2011

Income	£
University of Glasgow	1,272,000
Scottish Funding Council	725,000
Endowments	52,000
Research	176,000
Commercial	267,000
Total	2,492,000

Expenditure	£
Exhibitions & Programming	669,000
Collections & Galleries	627,000
Governance & Management	362,000
Building Collections	150,000
Research & Curation	684,000
Total	2,492,000

'The Hunterian is one of the City's greatest cultural assets with both permanent galleries and special exhibitions proving popular with visitors from around the world.'

Scott Taylor, Chief Executive, Glasgow City Marketing Bureau

Looking Ahead

The new strategic development plan of 2010-11 set out The Hunterian's strategy for supporting and facilitating the University of Glasgow's 2020: *Global Vision* agenda for excellence in research and the student experience and for enhancing the global reach and reputation of the University. We have achieved all our goals for that period and are now about to realise several key capital investment projects, new teaching and work related learning initiatives and to embark on the most extensive phase of development of our services since the move from the Old College in the city centre to Gilmorehill in 1870.

2012 will see the re-presentation of the University's art collection in The Hunterian Art Gallery that will create new narratives and an expanded selection of work informed by the research and teaching interests of the University. The general visitor experience will be significantly enhanced by the refurbishment of the entrance space with improved reception, shop and public amenities. The re-launch of the Art Gallery in September will be led by the

opening of a special exhibition dedicated to Rembrandt's Passion pictures. For the first time The Hunterian will bring together key works on this theme from collections around the world.

The University and The Hunterian have been working very closely with Glasgow Life throughout 2011 to attract support from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) for the development of the Kelvin Hall as a shared museum collections facility. This innovative conversion of a Glasgow landmark will enable public access to an impressive range of the city's multiple museum collections. The establishment of a university collections study centre at Kelvin Hall will transform The Hunterian's capacity and ability to contribute fully to the University of Glasgow's 2020: *Global Vision* for excellence in research, teaching and the student experience and for public engagement. The Kelvin Hall master plan for creating greater access to collections in a prime city centre location enables The Hunterian to radically enhance its learning offer and develop new audiences. Co-location of The Hunterian's study collections, which total over one million items, at a single venue is intended to foster new initiatives in interdisciplinary research and learning. Kelvin Hall will deliver the University of Glasgow's strategic vision for The Hunterian as a leading global university museum and gallery service setting benchmarks in collections research, teaching, training and in public participation. The Round One bid for a project development grant was successful in 2011. A Round Two bid for a substantial contribution towards the capital costs of this relocation will be submitted before the close of 2012.



'The Hunterian is not just Scotland's oldest museum but one which continues to excite and delight.'

Michael Russell MSP,
Cabinet Secretary for Education and Lifelong Learning

The Hunterian

Founded in 1807, The Hunterian is Scotland's oldest public museum and largest collection outside the National Museums. The Hunterian is one of the leading university museum and gallery services in the UK and its collections have been Recognised as a Collection of National Significance.

Built on the pioneering anatomist and obstetrician William Hunter's founding bequest, the collections encompass over one million objects including scientific instruments used by James Watt, Joseph Lister and Lord Kelvin; an outstanding assemblage of Roman monumental sculpture from the Antonine Wall; major natural and life sciences holdings; Hunter's own extensive anatomical teaching collection, one of the world's great coin rooms; unique objects collected on James Cook's Pacific voyages; a major collection of Scottish art; and one of Britain's top graphic art collections.

The Hunterian is also home to the world's largest permanent display of the work of James McNeill Whistler, the largest single holding of the work of Charles Rennie Mackintosh and The Mackintosh House, the reassembled interiors from his Glasgow home.

The Hunterian continues in its Age of Enlightenment mission to be a central resource for research and teaching in the arts, humanities and natural and medical sciences, attracting scholars and visitors from around the world.

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