Our Hearts On Our Sleeves

Drawing on the Valentine’s extensive collection of historic and contemporary costume and textiles, this new exhibition celebrates Richmond’s devotion to diverse creative expression.

Put Your Hands on History

Our new handling collection in the 1812 Wickham House cellar highlights activities in six themed chests – laundry, cooking, lighting, ornamentation, joinery and sewing.

Garnett’s at the Valentine

The second location of Garnett’s Café is coming to the Valentine Garden this spring, bringing generous sandwiches, fresh salads, delicious soups, good coffee and homemade desserts.
On a Friday night in February, Richmond's Coalition Theater hosted a staged reading of Harry Kollatz Jr.'s play *The Persistence of Memory*. First performed in 1997, the play recalls a series of events that took place in 1966 when the city of Richmond came close to commissioning an anodized aluminum sculpture from famed surrealist artist Salvador Dalí (1904-1989). The proposed sculpture was a tribute to Confederate Captain Sally Tompkins (1833-1916) and would have been the first statue on Monument Avenue to honor a woman. Dalí’s bizarre and self-aggrandizing vision for the statue was ultimately rejected, and the avenue remained an exclusive showcase of white male Confederates until the 1996 unveiling of Paul DiPasquale’s statue of the Richmond-born sports hero and human rights activist Arthur Ashe (1943-1993).

The controversy that surrounded the installation of the first tribute to an African American on Monument Avenue prompted the 1997 performance of Kollatz’s play. The city’s more recent contribution to the national dialogue concerning race and historic markers may well have provoked its recent revival. Time and time again Richmond residents have come together to share strong and often conflicting points of view about the artworks that dot the city’s landscape and denote the city’s values. Despite these challenges, the city persists in its commitment to public art. Current conversations about pending public art projects were top of mind as I began to mine the Valentine’s collection for Richmond stories of art and fashion to share in the spring 2017 rotation of costume and textiles in the Nathalie L. Klaus and Reynolds Family Galleries.

The organizing principle of the exhibition *Our Hearts On Our Sleeves* began as a celebration of Richmond’s love of local art, seen through the lens of fashion and textiles. But as I worked my way through the Valentine’s collection for examples of artistic dress and fiber art, I discovered new evidence of the many ways in which the city is nurtured, challenged and sustained by individual and communal creative expression. I began to see the parallels between a state-owned statue honoring a Confederate general and a quilt handed down for generations by the family that enslaved its makers; between a child’s sampler embroidered with a moralizing admonishment against theatre-going and a memorial church built in honor of those lost in a theatre fire; between a chain mail evening gown made by a VCU art student and a public performance in support of advocacy for incarcerated youth.

Public art is also personal. It speaks to us daily, posing questions about our values, our permanence, our memory, our identity. Like dress and domestic textiles, which are characterized by their functionality and ubiquitous presence in everyday life, public art is not “art for art’s sake,” but art for “our sake.” For this reason, we are delighted to present in the Nathalie L. Klaus and Reynolds Family Galleries a selection of lessons learned and questions posed by artistic dress and textiles made, worn and used for more than 200 years in Richmond. Thanks to generations of donors who understood the communal value of wrestling with the personal questions that art and history together inspire, the Valentine is able to share these questions and lessons of Richmond’s past with its present in the interest of its future. As this exhibition seeks to demonstrate, through a passionate commitment to public art and private expression, Richmond wears its heart on its sleeve.

*Our Hearts On Our Sleeves* is on view in the Nathalie L. Klaus & Reynolds Family Galleries from April 28, 2017–January 28, 2018. The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of Mr. and Mrs. Philip W. Klaus, Jr., Ms. Susan L. Klaus, Mr. James W. Klaus, Jane L. Schwarzschild and V. R. Shackelford III, Nordstrom, Altria Group, Beecroft & Bull, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth A. Myers, Sr. and the Richard S. Reynolds Foundation.
MEMBERSHIP & ANNUAL GIVING UPDATE

Give Us Some Sugar!

A Valentine membership provides a variety of ways for you to explore Richmond whether right here at the museum, or by exploring the city’s vibrant neighborhoods through our tours! More importantly, your membership ensures your part in preserving Richmond’s incredible stories.

Some sweet member benefits include:

• Free admission to the Valentine and the 1812 Wickham House
• Free parking while visiting
• Discounted walking and bus tours
• Free admission to the Archives (by appointment)
• 10% discount at Garnett’s at the Valentine and the Museum Store

Please use the enclosed envelope to join or renew your membership, or go online: thevalentine.org/give. Be sure to check off your interests in the envelope so we customize our communications with you!

Have questions? Call Haley McLaren, Director of Development, at (804) 649-0711 ext. 325.
Museum Exhibitions

This is Richmond, Virginia
Ongoing in the Main Gallery
Explore Richmond’s complex history and countless stories through five themes: Why the Fall Line? Where do we live? What do we produce? Who has a voice? and What do we value?

Creating History: The Valentine Family and the Creation of a Museum
Ongoing on the 2nd floor of the 1812 John Wickham House
This exhibition illustrates how every person creates, through personal experience, his or her own usable history. Explore the Valentine family’s collecting enterprises, Valentine’s Meat Juice and ways in which the Valentine’s interpretation of Richmond’s history has evolved.

1812 Wickham House
Ongoing
A National Historic Landmark, the home allows guests to explore aspects of life in the early-19th century. The home was purchased by Mann S. Valentine II and in 1898 became the first home of the Valentine Museum.
Guided tours offered 10:30 am–4 pm Tuesday–Sunday

Signs of the Times
Ongoing on the Gray Family Terrace
Vintage neon signs from Richmond businesses illustrate commercial growth and advertising trends, as do other artifacts mounted outdoors on the Gray Family Terrace.

Edward V. Valentine Sculpture Studio
Ongoing in the Valentine Garden
A prominent sculptor, Valentine’s works include the Recumbent Lee statue and the statue of Thomas Jefferson at The Jefferson Hotel. A visit to his restored studio offers a glimpse into the mind of the artist and into his times.

It’s All Relative: Richmond Families (1616–2016)
October 13, 2016–June 18, 2017
What defines a Richmond family in 2016? This exhibition explores the changing definition and composition of what makes a family in our Richmond community over the past five centuries.

One Love: LGBT Families
December 1, 2016–September 4, 2017
This exhibition questions the traditional definition of a family through portraits of LGBT families in the Richmond region. Presented in collaboration with Richmond Region Tourism’s OutRVA campaign and photographer Michael Simon.

Our Hearts On Our Sleeves
April 28, 2017–January 28, 2018
The fashion and fiber arts play an important role in Richmond’s creative community, enlivening Richmond’s streets, shops, galleries, museums and performance spaces. Drawing on the Valentine’s extensive collection of historic and contemporary costumes and textiles, this exhibition celebrates Richmond’s devotion to creative expression.

Nuestras Historias: Latinos in Richmond
July 27, 2017–April 15, 2018
There are approximately 100,000 Latinos in the Richmond area who represent a wide range of backgrounds and experiences. As Latinos immigrate to Richmond, they establish permanent ties to their new home and begin to transform its culture. Through interviews, objects and images, this exhibition documents the region’s diverse Latino experience.

(A)(B) photo: Darl Bickel, Richmond Times-Dispatch
(C) Rachel Leyco, Jennifer Jackson and sons Elijah and Lucas at Pocahontas State Park, 2016, photo: Michael Simon
(D) photo: Darl Bickel, Richmond Times-Dispatch
(E) Signs of the Times exhibition
(F) June Jubilee t-shirt, 1976, logo designed by William D. Gravitt, gift of Mrs. Richard S. Reynolds, III
(G) Recumbent Lee, 1870, Edward V. Valentine (H) Ligh Family, 1950s, gift of Bruce Ligh and Carol Bridge Ligh in honor of Gordon and Louise Ligh
(I) Oscar Contreras, 2016, photo: Michael K. Lease
(J) Tomb of President James Monroe at Hollywood Cemetery, 2017, photo: Liz Reilly-Brown
Programs and Events

For details and information, please visit the calendar at thevalentine.org.

Music in the Garden Live Concert Series
Come celebrate Richmond’s diverse music scene at the Valentine! We are pleased to present the 2nd annual Music in the Garden series on the first three Thursdays of June. Thanks to the generous support of the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation, each concert offers free admission. Local food, craft beer and wine will be available for purchase.

Thursday, June 1, 6–8 pm
Rattlemouth & Mighty Joshua
Thursday, June 8, 6–8 pm
Slack Family & Klaston Brown
Thursday, June 15, 6–8 pm
Kelly Kennedy & Ban Caribe

1898 Society Lunch & Lecture Series:
Gallery Talk by Kristen E. Stewart, Curator of Costume & Textiles
Thursday, June 8, 11:30 am–1 pm
To RSVP or to learn more, contact Sarah Kim, Deputy Director, at (804) 649-0711 ext. 302

Events are at the Valentine, 1015 E. Clay St., and free and open to the public unless otherwise noted.

TOURS

Don’t miss our daily tours!

Highlights of Hollywood Cemetery Walking Tours
Offered daily Monday–Saturday
April–October, 10 am–Noon
Tours begin at Hollywood Cemetery.

Along the River Bicycle Tours
Offered daily Tuesday–Saturday
April–October, 10 am & 2 pm
Tours begin at the Valentine First Freedom Center.
Offered in partnership with Richmond Rides.

City Center Walks
Offered daily Tuesday–Saturday
June–September, 10 am–Noon
Tours begin at the Richmond Visitors Center.
This tour now includes an exclusive look inside historic Monumental Church!

Canal Boats & Cobblestones Walking Tour
June 4, 2–4 pm

Hollywood & the Civil War Walking Tour
June 10, 2–4 pm

Highlights of Hollywood Cemetery Walking Tour
June 15, 6–8 pm (Evening Tour!)

Director’s Tour of Highland Park
May 21, 2–4 pm

History Hounds Explore Ginter Park Walking Tour
May 27, 10 am–Noon
Reservations required

Highlights of Hollywood Cemetery Walking Tour
May 28, 2–4 pm

Historic Cemeteryes Bus Tour
May 29, 1–5 pm
Reservations required

JUNE:

History of Shockoe Bottom Walking Tour
June 3, 10 am–2 pm

Discover a new Richmond neighborhood each month! For Richmond natives and visitors alike, the Valentine’s neighborhood walking tours explore the history and evolution of Richmond’s diverse neighborhoods. Our tours go beyond the highlights, uncovering each neighborhood’s best kept secrets while sharing the stories and memories of residents.

MAY: Northside
JUNE: Shockoe Bottom
JULY: Church Hill and Union Hill
AUGUST: Carytown and Byrd Park
SEPTEMBER: Jackson Ward
OCTOBER: The Fan

MAY:

History of Barton Heights Walking Tour
May 6 & 20, 10 am–Noon

History of Battery Park Walking Tour
May 7, 2–4 pm

The Women of Hollywood Walking Tour
May 13, 2–4 pm

Highlights of Hollywood Cemetery Walking Tour
May 18, 6–8 pm (Evening Tour!)

For complete tour descriptions and starting locations, visit thevalentine.org/tours

Tours are sponsored by Hollywood Cemetery, Richmond Region Tourism and the Ruth Camp Campbell Charitable Trust.
At the heart of the Valentine’s mission is educating and teaching history through the creative use of our historic house and museum collections. Young people and lifelong learners can now experience more fully what life was like during the 1820s and 1830s with our newest Hands on History activity areas in the 1812 Wickham House’s revitalized cellar and McClurg Bedchamber.

Who kept the household sheltered, clean, fed and safe? Visitors will learn about the free and enslaved experience while exploring city history, Federal architecture and ornamentation, and some of the tasks and trades associated with building, living in and running a house like the Wickham property in the early-19th century.

Opening to the public this spring, Hands on History offers learners of all ages the opportunity to experience our new handling collection housed in six themed chests – laundry, cooking, lighting, ornamentation, joinery and sewing. Each chest contains replica items that can be handled to demonstrate how daily life today differed from or was similar to a household like the Wickham’s two centuries ago.

This project was made possible through the support of the Windsor Foundation Trust, the Beirne Carter Foundation and the Jeanann Gray Dunlap Foundation.

David Voelkel, Elise H. Wright Curator of General Collections
Garnett’s at the Valentine

Garnett’s at the Valentine, a new sister restaurant to the Fan’s Garnett’s Café and VCU’s Ipanema Café, is coming to the Valentine Garden this spring, bringing generous sandwiches, fresh salads, delicious soups, good coffee and homemade desserts.

“We’re so excited to get into downtown like this,” says restaurateur Kendra Feather. “The garden is beautiful, and the Valentine is such an amazing Richmond institution – this is a dream.”

Garnett’s at the Valentine will initially be open for lunch from 11 am–4 pm and is set to open in late May or early June. Valentine Members will receive a 10% discount at this location.

Kendra Feather owns a constellation of other restaurants in Richmond, Virginia. Feather opened Ipanema Café on Grace Street in 1998. Garnett’s Café on Park Avenue opened in October 2009 and was awarded an Elby as the city’s Favorite Neighborhood Restaurant in 2014. The Roosevelt (with Lee Gregory) in Church Hill followed in 2011, and Laura Lee’s on Semmes Avenue opened in September 2016. Feather was also a founding partner in WPA Bakery in November 2012. She was named Restaurateur of the Year by Richmond magazine in 2013 and featured in The Virginia Table in 2015.

Shop, Explore, Then Shop a Little More!

The Museum Store continues to offer carefully curated items that are connected with local artisans and items uniquely associated with current collections and upcoming exhibitions. Art prints, letterpress cards, unique crafts and toys, jewelry, home décor, books and of course a wide selection of Richmond and Virginia items. The Valentine Museum Store Collection is currently in development and will start arriving this summer. Look for this special collection of products developed from the museum’s archives.

Valentine Members receive 10% off in the Museum Store.

(A) Patrick Henry School of Science & Arts student with a replica artifact, 2016, photo: Liz Reilly-Brown (B) Replica clothing and linens in the updated McClurg Bedchamber, 2017, photo: David Voelkel (C) Patrick Henry School of Science & Arts students with a replica artifact, 2016, photo: Liz Reilly-Brown (D) St. John’s Church, Lightbox Print Co. (E) photo: The Valentine (F) photo: Darl Bickel, Richmond Times-Dispatch (G) photo: The Valentine (H)/(U) Images courtesy of Garnett’s Café
New Hours! The Valentine and the Valentine First Freedom Center are now open Tuesday–Sunday, 10 am–5 pm

2017–2020 Strategic Plan
The Valentine's new 2017–2020 Strategic Plan is complete!

Thank you to all who contributed to our new institutional strategy. Please take a moment to review the Valentine's renewed commitment to serve Richmond by Convening the Community, Opening More Doors and Strengthening Our Core. Visit thevalentine.org/about/strategic-plan