

# LOVE: ART OF EMOTION 1400–1800

31 MARCH – 18 JUNE 2017, NGV INTERNATIONAL

GROUND LEVEL, TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS  
OPEN 10AM–5PM, DAILY



NGV

*Love: Art of Emotion 1400–1800* draws upon the NGV's diverse permanent collection to explore the theme of love in art, and the changing representations of this complex emotion throughout the early modern period in Europe.

While popular conceptions of love tend frequently to focus upon romantic love, *Love: Art of Emotion* explores love's varied manifestations across the realms of human experience, including familial relationships, religious devotion, friendship, altruism, patriotism, narcissism, materialism and nostalgia. The exhibition presents depictions of love's many variations in painting, sculpture, prints and drawings, as well as non-representational and functional objects such as costume, furniture and religious artefacts.

Featuring more than 200 works from the NGV's International Collection, some of which have never been displayed before, the exhibition demonstrates the balance between modest and grandiose, civic and domestic, micro and macro, from Vivarini's grand-scale, much-celebrated painting *The Garden of Love* to tiny pieces of jewellery, worn against the body as love tokens or in memoriam. Through these diverse objects and images, the exhibition explores notions of public display and private emotion, ostentation and intimacy, of performance and of feeling.

The exhibition also considers love in relation to its associated emotions such as desire, wonder, ecstasy, affection, compassion, envy, melancholy, longing and hope, as well as the ways in which these combine and intersect. Bringing together a diverse array of works from the Medieval to the Romantic period, *Love: Art of Emotion* examines the shifting, multifaceted expressions of this rich and perennially relevant subject.

This exhibition is produced in collaboration with the ARC Centre of Excellence for the History of Emotions and The University of Melbourne.

**Master of the Stories of Helen**  
Antonio Vivarini (studio of)  
*The Garden of Love* c. 1465–70 (detail)  
oil, tempera and gold on spruce panel  
152.5 x 239.0 cm  
National Gallery of Victoria, Melbourne  
Felton Bequest, 1948  
1827-4

## INTRODUCTION PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS

### THE MAGIC OF LOVE

Recommended for Years 4–12

Explore the theme of love in its many forms and how it inspired captivating works by artists from the Medieval to Romantic period. View and discuss paintings, sculpture, prints and drawings, as well as costume, furniture and religious artefacts to discover how they express desire, wonder, friendship, affection, compassion, envy, melancholy, longing and hope. Discuss how these concepts are experienced today and how they might be depicted in the contemporary world.

Cost \$8

### COLLECTION CONNECTIONS

Recommended for Years 4–12

Combine an exploration of the themes in the exhibition with a focus on NGVI collection highlights, from the nineteenth century to the present day, which also express the many forms of love.

Cost \$8

### LOVE TOKEN WORKSHOP

Recommended for Years 4–12

Our treasured objects are truly loved and valued, containing fragments of our personal lives and shared histories.

For this workshop students are invited to bring a beloved item such as jewellery, an ornament or a small toy which is imbued with special memories or associated stories. Through a simple casting process, the stories of these items will be shared and documented.

The object should measure no more than 20cm square and 5cm in height and not be of a permeable nature as it may be damaged by the casting process. Please bring appropriate containers and/or wrapping for students to transport their cast 'love tokens' home.

Cost \$8

## NGV EDUCATION BOOKINGS

### BOOKINGS AND ENQUIRIES

P 03 8620 2340, 9am–5pm weekdays

E [edu.bookings@ngv.vic.gov.au](mailto:edu.bookings@ngv.vic.gov.au)

W [ngv.melbourne/education](http://ngv.melbourne/education)

T @ngveducation

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